



Local Committee Protocol

Surrey County Council
Local Committee (Guildford)

22 June 2011

KEY ISSUE

To agree any amendments to the Local Committee protocol.

SUMMARY

The report summarises the framework and principles that govern how residents engage with the Local Committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to:

- a) agree and adopt the protocol attached as Appendix A.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 It is important that people who live and work in Guildford are able to influence what happens in the borough. A key aim of the Local Committee is to ensure that the aspirations and concerns of residents are taken into account when decisions are made about the local area.

1.2 Under Standing Order 41 of Surrey County Council's Constitution, Local Committees are allowed to agree their own rules setting out how residents can influence decisions and the services they receive. These include presenting a petition, asking a question about a local service and speaking for or against a Right of Way application.

1.3 The Local Committee Protocol was last amended in June 2010, when the Committee agreed to reduce the number of people required to sign a petition

being presented to the Local Committee from 100 to 50. The revised protocol also reflected the change to allow electronic petitions through the Surrey County Council website. The final change was to allow businesses to present petitions and ask questions.

2. ANALYSIS

2.1 There are no substantial changes to the Protocol appended to this report. The language has been amended in places to reflect changes in the structure of the Community Partnerships Team and to improve the clarity of the protocol.

3. CONSULTATIONS

3.1 As required by the Constitution, the Democratic Services Lead Manager has been consulted.

4. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The recommendations do not have significant financial implications.

5. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The report has no significant implications regarding sustainable development.

6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The report has no significant implications regarding crime and disorder.

7. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The protocol provides Guildford residents and businesses the opportunity to influence decisions made about local services, irrespective of their background.

8. CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 No substantial changes to the protocol are being recommended. The protocol has been successful in attracting high levels of public interest in the work of the Local Committee, by providing residents and businesses with an opportunity to influence local decisions.

9. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

9.1 The Community Partnerships Team will administer the Protocol in line with the decisions taken.

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