

## **Minutes of the Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board**

**1<sup>st</sup> October, 2014 at 5.30 pm**  
**at the Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

**Present:** Councillor Khatun (Chair);  
Councillors Downing, Tipper and Tranter.

**In Attendance:** Norman Fletcher (General Manager  
Neighbourhoods) and Lisa Ellis (Neighbourhood  
Services Manager)

**Apologies:** Councillors Eaves and Preece.

19/14 **Minutes**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2014 be confirmed as a correct record.

20/14 **Feedback on Consultation on Proposed Neighbourhood Engagement Model**

The Board was informed that, as part of the Council's vision to bring neighbourhood services closer to the community, a new Neighbourhood Engagement Model had been devised. The focus of the new model was to ensure a holistic approach, improving the customer journey, and to work proactively with partners to ensure that neighbourhoods were sustainable and communities had the capacity to respond effectively.

In line with this, a review had been undertaken to ensure that governance structures operating at town, ward and neighbourhood levels complemented the new model and assisted in the delivery of the Council's scorecard priorities by ensuring that their purpose was effective and measurable.

The Board noted the proposed new structure. During June and July 2014 a public consultation exercise had taken place on the

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proposed new arrangements. A variety of methods had been used to engage with the public including telephone, email and social media. The six town service improvement boards had also been consulted.

On the whole, feedback had been positive from members, partners and the public. Discussions were continuing with partners and the operation of the new model would continue to be reviewed to ensure that it remained effective and fit for purpose.

**Resolved** that a further update be submitted in April, 2015.

21/14

### Work Programme

The Board discussed its work programme for the 2014/2015 municipal year.

It was noted that the following additional items were still to be scheduled into the programme:-

- Police and Crime Commissioner visit.
- Spread of Police Resources Across Sandwell.
- Anti-social behaviour policy.

(The meeting ended at 6.06 pm)

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