

**SUBJECT: Method for Evaluation of the Pilot**

**MEETING: Bryn y Cwm Area Committee**

**DATE: 25<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

**DIVISIONS/WARDS AFFECTED: All**

## **1. PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To provide a reminder of the criteria that will be used to evaluate the pilot arrangements which will come to an end in September, whereby the Area Committee acts as acts as the sole political structure to support joint working at a community level.

## **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Members are invited to use this information to ensure that: discussions at that committee are focused on achieving outcomes and demonstrating the benefit it is able to bring at the interface of local knowledge and strategic county-level decision-making, and ensure an understanding of the criteria that will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the pilot arrangements.

## **3. KEY ISSUES**

- 3.1 The role of Area Committees is to provide a clear link between cluster areas and local authority decision making. It provides an opportunity for communities to have a voice and participate in local democracy. In March 2017, the local authority approved the piloting of a new model in Bryn y Cwm, whereby Area Committees were be retained as the sole structure to support joint working and adopting a strategic approach to coordinated funding opportunities.
- 3.2 Area Committees are a way to support and ensure Monmouthshire's communities are resilient with a clarity for purpose when seen from a community perspective. The model should ensure that committee is citizen focussed and able to influence at the interface between strategic and local decision-making ensuring that resources are directed to local priorities.
- 3.3 The terms of reference for the committee include championing the area by raising issues of concern to residents, organisations and businesses with the county council and other organisations, and influencing how services are delivered and spending plans for the area. It should also support the co-development of area-based plans and respond to the issues and need of Monmouthshire's Well-Being Assessment and other key legislation and policies.
- 3.4 The criteria agreed at the outset of the pilot were:
- The number of issues raised by the public appearing as an agenda item, and
  - The resulting outcome from these
  - The number of recommendations reported to the local authority by a County Councillor on behalf of the Committee; and
  - The number of representatives attending regularly from other Area Committees.
- 3.5 This will be supplemented with information from a discussions with committee members and those who have attended committee to raise issues which will be used to highlight benefits or disadvantages that were not foreseen when the evaluation criteria were established.
- 3.6 The results of this will be looked at alongside the impact of mechanisms operating in other parts of the county to understand if this model of area committees is providing benefits over and above that from other approaches. The polot will conclude in September and it is anticipated that the evaluation will be presented to the committee at the next available after this in November 2018.

**4. REASONS:**

- 4.1 To ensure effective and efficient governance and engagement at a community level and an effective interface between local issues and strategic decision-making.

**5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 None

**6 EQUALITY, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 There are no specific implications identified as a result of this report.

**7. AUTHOR:**

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