

## **Article 10 – Area Committees and Forums**

### **10.01 Area committees**

The Council may appoint area committees as it sees fit, if it is satisfied that to do so will ensure improved service delivery in the context of best value and more efficient, transparent and accountable decision making.

The Council has recognised the need to engage the community in Area Working which in its early stages has involved establishing 4 Area Committees with the following roles and functions:

1. To help the Council shape major proposals affecting the area and to advise the Council about the implications for the area of its objectives, plans and policies.
2. To lead the development of the local community planning process and produce a Community Plan for each area in a way which promotes the council's overall policies as well as safeguarding local interest.
3. To ensure properly co-ordinated services on a local level.
4. To encourage effective collaboration with public, private and voluntary sector partners locally to help the Council meet the aspirations of local people.
5. To provide a forum for views of local communities and to encourage discussions and debate on matters of particular relevance to the area including participating in the process of Best Value Reviews as a formal consultee.
6. To make decisions on matters within the area that have been delegated by the Executive provided those decisions are within the Council's overall policies and budgetary allocations and do not adversely affect other areas of Monmouthshire.

### **Additional Representation**

Each Area Committee may identify and agree 'communities of interest' within its area from which a representative may be invited to participate at meetings of the committee. Such invitees will not be co-opted members of the committee but may speak (not vote) on matters whenever the press and public are able to attend.