

# Public Document Pack



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(Scrutiny)

## **BUDSHEAD, HONICKNOWLE AND SOUTHWAY AREA COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** WEDNESDAY 10 MARCH 2010  
**TIME:** 6.30 PM  
**PLACE:** WINDSOR HOUSE, TAVISTOCK ROAD, PLYMOUTH  
PL6 5UF

### **Members –**

Councillor Monahan, Chair  
Councillor Browne, Vice Chair  
Councillors Berrow, Drean, Lowry, Purnell, Roberts, Smith and Thompson

### **Co-opted Representatives –**

Mr A Dyer	(Resident of Budshead ward)
Mr P Ebsworth	(Whitleigh Forum)
Miss D Edwards	(Kinnfylde Flats Residents' Association)
Mr T Kirk	(DEBRA)
Mr R Sharman	(Honicknowle Commnet)
Ms V Small	(Budshead Trust)

***Members are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business overleaf***

***Members and Officers are requested to sign the attendance list at the meeting.***

**A location map of the venue is attached to the agenda\***

**BARRY KEEL  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

# **BUDSHEAD, HONICKNOWLE AND SOUTHWAY AREA COMMITTEE**

## **PART I (PUBLIC AGENDA)**

### **AGENDA**

**1. APOLOGIES**

To receive apologies for non-attendance submitted by Committee Members.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members will be asked to make any declarations of interest in respect of items on this agenda.

**3. MINUTES (Pages 3 - 6)**

The Committee will be asked to confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2010.

Please note any questions relating to these minutes can be asked under question time for members of the public.

**4. CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS**

To receive reports on business which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be brought forward for urgent consideration.

**5. POLICING ISSUES**

Representatives from the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary will report on any relevant local issues.

**6. LOCALITY WORKING (Pages 7 - 12)**

The Director for Community Services will submit a report outlining the arrangements for the transition to locality working.

**7. QUESTION TIME FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (Pages 13 - 14)**

The Committee and Officers will respond to questions from members of the public attending the Committee. Any question not answered will be the subject of a written response within ten working days.

## **8. EXEMPT BUSINESS**

To consider passing a resolution under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the press and public from the meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that it (they) involve(s) the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph(s) ... of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

## **PART II (PRIVATE COMMITTEE)**

### **AGENDA**

#### **MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO NOTE**

that, under the law, the Committee is entitled to consider certain items in private. Members of the public will be asked to leave the meeting when such items are discussed.

NIL.

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**Location for Windsor House**



Tavistock

A386

Bus Stops

WINDSOR HOUSE

INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

MACDONALDS & PETROL STATION

TAVISTOCK ROAD

**PLEASE NOTE**  
 The entrance to Windsor House is only accessible when driving in a northerly direction along Tavistock Road. If you are arriving from the North please use the route indicated on the map through the industrial estate, turning right onto Tavistock Road before turning left just after the petrol station.



TAVISTOCK ROAD

Exeter

Manadon Flyover

St Austell

City Centre

A38 - PARKWAY

A38 - PARKWAY

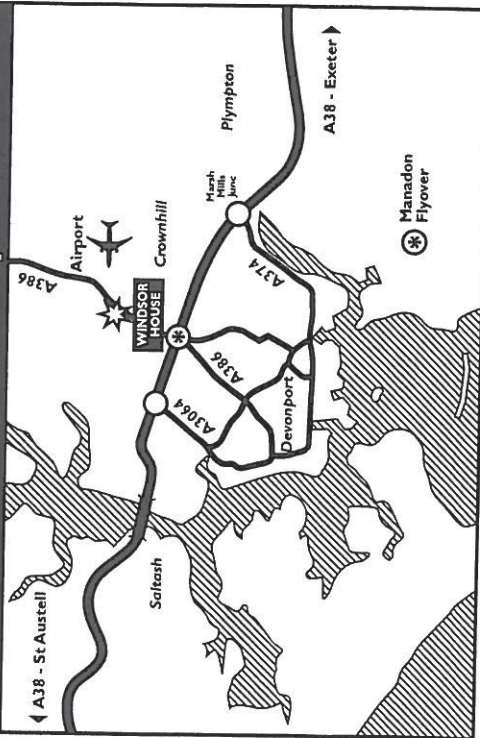
A38 - CUTLAND ROAD



**PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL**

**BUILDING LOCATION PLANS FOR WINDSOR HOUSE**

**Access Routes into Plymouth**



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## Budshead, Honicknowle and Southway Area Committee

Wednesday 20 January 2010

### PRESENT:

Councillor Monahan, in the Chair.  
Councillor Drean, Vice Chair.  
Councillors Berrow, Drean, Purnell and Thompson.

Co-opted Representatives: D Dyer, P Ebsworth, D Edwards and R Sharman.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Browne, Lowry, Roberts and Smith.

The meeting started at 6.30 pm and finished at 8.10 pm.

*Note: At a future meeting, the committee will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.*

#### 40. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

Resolved that Councillor Drean be appointed as Vice-Chair for this meeting.

#### 41. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

#### 42. MINUTES

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2009 be confirmed as a correct record.

#### 43. CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of Chair's Urgent Business.

#### 44. POLICING ISSUES

A representative from Devon and Cornwall Police provided the Committee with an update on policing issues in the area, including the following –

- (i) there was continued decrease in crime overall, though an increase in violent crime in Honicknowle and Whiteleigh;
- (ii) the police held a surgery in Tesco, Transit Way every two weeks;
- (iii) there was to be an additional PCSO in Honicknowle shortly, bringing the number to two;
- (iv) there were problems with motor bikes causing anti social behaviour in the Honicknowle and Whiteleigh areas; the police were carrying out pro-active stop checks and taking a robust stance against such activities, including seizing a motor bike at the weekend;
- (v) there had been a decrease in calls to police regarding Whiteleigh Green who were hoping that this was due to increased police presence, rather than people not bothering to call; people were encouraged to contact the police if there were problems;
- (vi) speed checks in Taunton Avenue had been carried out;
- (vii) there had been an eviction at Winchester Gardens;
- (viii) there had been successful drug warrants issued in Ernesettle;
- (ix) work was ongoing in Kinnaird Crescent;
- (x) regarding issues of speeding in Southway Drive, the limited success of enforcement work had led to this work being discontinued;

- (xi) following traffic accidents involving neighbourhood officers in Southway, the rest of the team would be covering their work;
- (xii) police were working with youth in Southway.

In response to questions raised, those present were advised –

- (xiii) as it was considered by some committee members that the speed check in Taunton Avenue had been carried out in the wrong place, the police representative agreed it would be possible to undertake another speed check where suggested, i.e. the bottom end of Taunton Avenue near Oakham Road bus stop;
- (xiv) eviction at Winchester Avenue –
  - the positive action taken at Winchester Avenue was due to excellent partnership working between the police, other agencies and Whitelgih residents;
  - the police wished to encourage the public to call them so that there could be progress with similar issues;
  - Whitleigh residents thanked ward councillors for keeping them well informed;
- (xv) the Southway surgery would continue next week and would be advertised;
- (xvi) the recent adverse weather had caused a lot of accidents, but police had coped with the changed priorities.

(Vice Chair was in the Chair for the above items.)

**45. THE PLYMOUTH SPORTS FACILITY STRATEGY (concentrating on the North of Plymouth)**

The Assistant Director of Community Services (Culture, Sport & Leisure) submitted a report which outlined the aims of the draft Plymouth Sports Facility Strategy. The Assistant Director's representatives advised that –

- (i) it was necessary to know what was currently in place, where the gaps were and what was needed for the future;
- (ii) it was now possible to ask questions about what sporting facilities were required when developments were taking place which would help to lead to informed decisions regarding S106 issues;
- (iii) as an example of what the research had established, there was a significant requirement for bowls facilities in the north of the city, but most of the outdoor bowls provision was based in the south of the city;
- (iv) once consultation on the strategy had been completed and the results analysed, an action plan would be developed;
- (v) it was considered that there would be opportunities through the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) initiatives to meet some of the community's sporting requirements and negotiations with school governing bodies would be undertaken based on the evidence now available.

In response to questions raised, those present were advised that –

- the Council sought to protect green spaces and sports fields in the city;
- the Playing Pitch Strategy was a subsidiary strategy of the Plymouth Sports Facility Strategy and aimed to protect existing playing pitches, e.g. the university site at Ernesettle;
- the Aquatics Strategy was another such strategy and was currently out for consultation;
- the possibility of a swimming pool facility for the community was an option that would be considered through the BSF at John Kitto Community College, dependent on support from the governing body;



- the Life Centre would be an excellent facility with the capability of providing 4 x 25m pools; building was due to commence in February 2010 and the facility should open in November 2011;
- improved swimming facilities at Marjons were due from April 2010, making available 70 hours a week for public use; there was also provision of a new gym;
- with regard to the Widewell playing fields, it was understood that the Council had included covenants covering retention and maintenance of the playing pitches on this site.

Resolved that the officers be thanked for their attendance.

46. **STEPPING STONES TO NATURE - PROJECT SUMMARY**

The 'Stepping Stones to Nature' Community Outreach Officer submitted a summary of the 'Stepping Stones to Nature' project and advised that –

- the Green Space Strategy supported this project;
- there was quite a lot of green space in the city and the aim was to encourage people to use it by working with community groups to achieve improvements;
- there was funding for the project, some of which needed to be spent by March 2010;
- one proposal was to improve the access and play amenities (natural play, e.g. seating, picnic sites) of Woodland Wood Nature Reserve;
- an invitation was extended to all present to attend a stakeholder meeting being held on 2 February 2010, an agenda for which was circulated.

Resolved that the officer be thanked for her attendance.

47. **VEHICLE SPEEDS TAUNTON AVENUE - DATA STATISTICS**

The Assistant Director of Development and Regeneration (Transport) submitted a follow-up statistical report following the speed visor survey carried out in Taunton Avenue.

Following expression of concern under the police item that the survey had been carried out in the wrong place, it was noted that the police had been asked to carry out the survey again in a different area of Taunton Avenue and a further update was awaited (see minute no. 44 (xiii)).

48. **LOCAL ENVIRONMENT FUND**

The Director for Development and Regeneration submitted a report advising of two new finance arrangements relating to this year's Local Environment Fund and highlighting that this allocation must be spent by 31 March 2010 as no carry-forwards into the next financial year were to be allowed.

Resolved that any proposals that committee members or members of the public had should be forwarded to the Chair as soon as possible.

49. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

No future items were identified on this occasion. Those present were requested to forward any requests for items to the Chair, with sufficient advance notice.

50. **QUESTION TIME FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

The Committee considered questions from members of the public on the following matters –

- (i) any progress on the Whitleigh Housing Office manager issue; an example of a problem was that at the last PACT meeting, the Whitleigh Housing Office manager had promised that after the changeover to Plymouth Community Homes (PCH) there would be monthly meetings held at the Whitleigh Housing Office but none had yet taken place;

- (ii) whether or not there was any truth regarding the following rumours in respect of Plymouth City Council (PCC) employees –
  - that PCC employees got a rebate on Council tax;
  - that free transport was laid on to take council employees to the Civic Centre;
  - that a levy would be put on Council tax to fill the council's pensions deficit;
- (iii) any progress on the Whitleigh Community Centre, minute 38 (a) referred;
- (iv) any progress with the planting of trees at the back of Taunton Avenue, minute 38 (c) referred;
- (v) consideration of the use of Chaucer Primary School, which was being closed, as a community centre;
- (vi) recurrence of the problem of refuse workers leaving rubbish on the side of roads in the Whitleigh area;
- (vii) the possibility of the community using meeting room facilities at the new church in Whitleigh;
- (viii) delay in installation of a resident's ramp.

Members responded as follows –

- (a) with regard to (i) above –
  - elected members had recently been provided with a protocol by PCH and the intention was to hold quarterly meetings between the Council and PCH;
  - it was necessary for members to have specific details that they could raise with PCH and residents were encouraged to provide them with examples;
  - the example raised this evening would be taken forward with PCH;
- (b) with regard to (ii) above –
  - PCC employees did not receive any rebate on Council tax;
  - PCC employees were not provided with free transport to work;
  - as with all pension funds, there was currently a deficit with the Council's pension fund (part of the Devon County Council pension fund) and providing pensions, to which employees also contributed, was part of the cost of employing people; the Cabinet Member for Finance, Property, People and Governance would be requested to provide a written response to the next meeting on the subject;
- (c) with regard to (iii) above, the new owner had been requested to contact the Council but had not yet done so;
- (d) with regard to (iv) above, Councillor Thompson agreed to follow up the matter again with officers;
- (e) with regard to (vi) above, ward councillors would follow up this issue with the Assistant Director of Community Services (Environmental Services);
- (f) with regard to (vii) above, it was understood that the meeting rooms at St Chad's could be used by the community but confirmation was being sought;
- (g) with regard to (viii) above, Councillor Drean agreed to follow up the matter with PCC.

Resolved that a written response be provided in respect of item (v) above, in accordance with the Constitution.

## 51. **DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Resolved that the date, time and venue of the next meeting, i.e. 6.30pm on Wednesday, 10 March 2010 at Windsor House, Tavistock Road, be noted.

## Locality Working

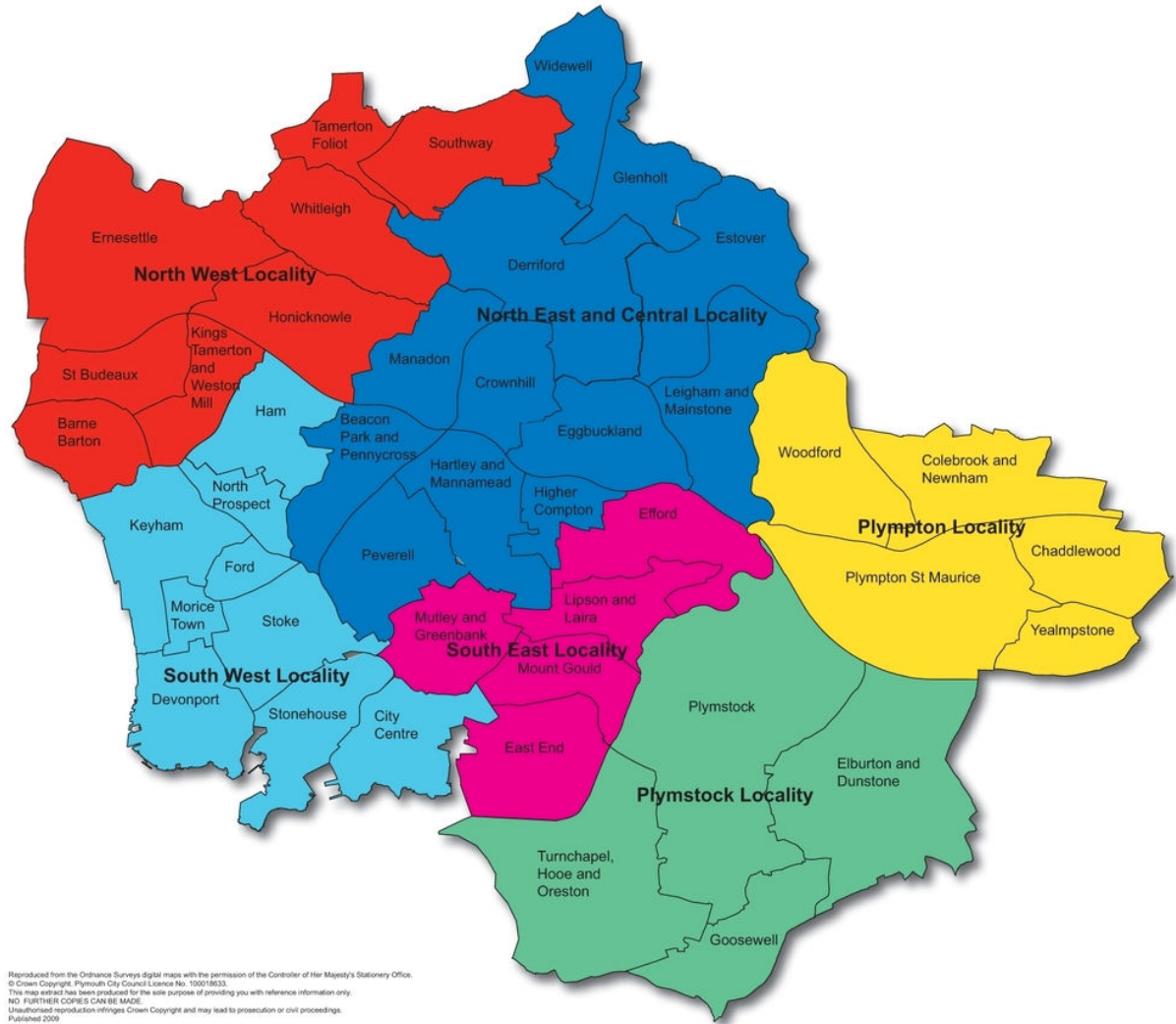
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### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 In the Autumn last year all Area Committees were consulted on proposals for 'Locality working', which aims to improve public engagement and improve the way service providers work together. A meeting of the full Council on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2010 decided to introduce Locality working from June 2010. The paper explains the transition to Locality Working and provides answers to possible questions that members of the Committee might have.
- 1.2 As a result of the decision, this is the last Area Committee cycle arranged.

### 2. The Locality Working Model Agreed by Council on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2010

- 2.1 Locality Working involves changes to the way the City Council and its partners engage with the public and delivers services. The 'Locality working model' aims to improve the way we work with other service providers (such as Health and Police), to respond to issues identified by communities, and to deliver solutions in liaison with councillors.
- 2.2 The Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) has identified six 'Localities' within Plymouth, so that services can organise around consistent boundaries. Each Locality consists of a number of Plymouth's 43 Neighbourhoods which are based on well-established natural boundaries, recognised by local people. A map of Plymouth Localities and Neighbourhoods is set out below.
- 2.3 Locality Service Co-ordination Teams are being set up, involving practitioners from the following key services: Community Safety, Children and Young People, Health and Adult Social Care and Street Services. Each of the six Localities will have its own Team led by a senior Locality Team Manager. The Team will be dedicated to responding to priorities which need joint agency working to resolve.
- 2.4 Each Locality Service Co-ordination Team's agenda will be set by ward councillors, working with Police and Health Sector partners. They will be responsible for identifying priorities and agreeing solutions with the Team Manager. To help identify priorities, councillors will be invited to attend Neighbourhood Partners & Communities Together (PACT) meetings and be guided by a range of other community views and issues expressed within the Neighbourhood.
- 2.5 The existing Area Committee system will be replaced by Neighbourhood level community engagement.



Map of Plymouth Localities and Neighbourhoods

### 3. Questions and Answers

#### How will residents be able to make their views known about service provision?

- 3.1 There will be a number of opportunities available within each Neighbourhood, tailored according to local circumstances. In the short term these include the following:
- ‘Partners and Communities Together’ (PACT) public meetings and events (see 3.4 below)
  - Commenting on-line, using the Council’s website [plymouth.gov.uk](http://plymouth.gov.uk) select ‘comment’ then ‘Have Your Say’
  - Contacting Councillors via the Council’s Contact Centre telephone 01752 668000 or using the Council’s website [plymouth.gov.uk](http://plymouth.gov.uk) select ‘Council and democracy’ then ‘Councillors’ and Committees the Councillors
- 3.2 Members of the public who have attended Area Committee meetings will be able to get involved in their PACT events close to where they live.

### Which Neighbourhoods are covered by this Area Committee and its Wards?

<i>Area Committee</i>	<i>Neighbourhood covered by Area Committee</i>
Budshead, Honicknowle & Southway	Crownhill Derriford Ernesettle Honicknowle Manadon Southway Tamerton Foliot Whitleigh Widewell

<i>Ward</i>	<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Neighbourhood covered by Ward</i>
Budshead	Jonathan Drean Grant Monahan Jack Thompson	Crownhill Derriford Manadon Whitleigh
Honicknowle	Mark Lowry Pauline Purnell Peter Smith	Ernesettle Honicknowle
Southway	Peter Berrow Thomas Browne Brian Roberts	Southway Tamerton Foliot Widewell

### Which Neighbourhood do I live in?

- 3.3 You can check this using the 'Plymouth Informed' web-site:  
<http://www.plymouth-informed.org.uk>: enter the site, select 'Search', enter your post code, select 'Get map', select 'Boundaries', select 'Neighbourhoods', then direct pointer to map and the Neighbourhood name will be identified. Alternatively, you can email [plyminfd@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:plyminfd@plymouth.gov.uk) advising your post code in your query, or call the Council's Contact Centre telephone 01752 668000.

### When are the next PACT meetings in our Neighbourhoods?

- 3.4 PACT events are currently arranged by the Neighbourhood Policing Team. They include public meetings, panels, surgeries and street surveys, dependent on what works best for involving local people in a particular area. This mix of engagement opportunity will continue, but with more support from the City Council.
- 3.5 Details of forthcoming PACT meetings and events are advertised in the local area by Devon and Cornwall Police and can be found on the Neighbourhood Policing website:  
<http://neighbourhoodpolicing.devon-cornwall.police.uk/Pages/FindMyNeighbourhood.aspx> , search by Neighbourhood or post code. Alternatively, contact Devon and Cornwall

Constabulary (Non-emergency calls – 24 hours – 08452 777444), supplying your Neighbourhood name or post code.

- 3.6 An update on PACT meetings to be held in the area will be reported at the Committee meeting.

### **How were Neighbourhoods agreed?**

- 3.7 Neighbourhoods were defined back in 2001 following public consultation and councillor involvement. In particular they were to be the basis for data gathering and neighbourhood renewal initiatives. They were defined primarily on the basis of 'best fit' for neighbourhood identity purposes, reflecting both physical and community boundaries, rather than political (ward) boundaries, which in some cases did not reflect community identity.
- 3.8 Since that time data has been collected and assigned on a Neighbourhood basis, and Neighbourhoods have formed the 'building blocks' for the City, used by City Council departments, Police and Health, for a range of data and information purposes, and for more easily identifying, for example, pockets of deprivation.

### **How were Localities agreed?**

- 3.9 Neighbourhoods are too small for most administrative and service delivery purposes. With the drive to achieve better service co-ordination across public sector, whilst at the same time relating to reasonably local areas, Localities offer a way forward. The lead came from partners within the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP), which represents public, private and Third sector organisations across the city. An assessment was carried out by Plymouth Analysts' Network to develop a proposal that took into account existing working arrangements and socio-economic factors.
- 3.10 Following this assessment, Locality boundaries were agreed by the Local Strategic Partnership Executive at their meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2008, and this was endorsed by a meeting of the LSP Board on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2008.
- 3.11 A number of services have already adopted Localities as the basis for their organisational and data collection needs. Examples include Children and Young People's services, Health visitors, and Town Planning. Adult Social Care and related NHS services and Police and Community Safety are also moving that way.

### **Have people been consulted on the proposals?**

- 3.12 The proposals have been developed following public consultation between July-October last year. Although the LSP had taken a decision on Localities, no decision had yet been taken on how this might affect Plymouth City Council and other service providers. Any decision needed to go through the full democratic processes. This is reflected in the decision eventually taken by Full Council on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2010. In addition Locality working was subject to consideration through the Overview and Scrutiny process.

## **What did people say?**

3.13 The response can be summarised as follows:

- Support for the concept of a Service Coordination Team in each Locality, with representation from key services as a way of improving joining up of service delivery
- Support for the appointment of a Locality lead for each Service Coordination Team; these people to be drawn from a variety of LSP partners' senior staff
- Area Committees are generally not operating well as a means of community engagement, but that original proposals to establish new Partnerships based on Locality boundaries would not be any more effective, because Localities are too big and too diverse as an effective unit for engagement
- Community engagement is only likely to be effective at Neighbourhood level, therefore strong support for improving community engagement at this level, and a recognition that this need not be through very formal processes
- A view that meetings alone are not an effective way of engaging some people, particularly young and 'seldom heard' people
- Improved mechanisms are needed to support councillors as advocates of their communities and to get local issues resolved.

## **When will Locality working be introduced?**

3.14 Locality working is due to be launched in June 2010. The March 2010 Area Committees are the last ones arranged.

## **4. Conclusion**

4.1 The proposed model of Locality Working has potentially significant benefits for Plymouth, in respect of improved service delivery and effective use of resources. Inevitably the detail will evolve according to local circumstances, priorities and needs. Generally, however, the proposals take on board consultation feedback and they align very closely with the Overview & Scrutiny Management Board's recommendations. Proposals can be implemented without additional impact on the Council's budget and will help address its Corporate Improvement Priorities.

4.2 Any undertaking of this kind will not operate perfectly from the start, and implementation will be kept under review, with a formal review undertaken after 12 months of implementation.

Carole Burgoyne  
Director for Communities Services  
March 2010

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**BUDSHEAD, HONICKNOWLE & SOUTHWAY  
AREA COMMITTEE**

**QUESTION FROM A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC**

**Please complete:**

DATE OF MEETING 20 January 2010

NAME Mr Phil Ball

State your question briefly and clearly below:

Could the future of Chaucer Primary School as a facility for the community be made clear, i.e. could it be used as a community centre?

Answer

The site of the former Chaucer Primary School was identified to produce a capital receipt as part of the funding of the new Shakespeare School. The Council therefore intends to dispose of the site once the property market conditions become more favourable. Therefore there would be no long term opportunity for the building to be used as a community centre.

Chris Trevitt  
Head of Capital & Assets

22 January 2010

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