

## COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION: PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES

**Responsible Officer** Michael Hyatt, Assistant Chief Performance and Partnerships

Email: Mike.Hyatt@shropshire.gov.uk

Telephone: (01743) 252003

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### SUMMARY

Further to the Council report of 16 July, this report provides Council with the recommendation of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee for Councillor Call for Action (CCfA) procedures in Shropshire.

### RECOMMENDATION

- A. That Council approves the 'gateway approach' to CCfA

### Report

### BACKGROUND

1. At its meeting 16 July 2009, Council asked that further options should be explored before taking a decision what approach to CCfA to take in Shropshire. The report was referred to Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider further research and report back to Council with a recommendation for the method considered most appropriate for Shropshire.
2. As a reminder, CCfA has been introduced by the government to strengthen the role of the ward councillor. The focus of CCfA is on neighbourhood or locality issues and specifically the quality of public service provision at a locality level.

The CCfA is a process for a councillor to act on behalf of residents to resolve a local issue of concern, acting as a last resort for people who can not get issues resolved through any other means.

3. At its meeting 9 September, Strategic Overview and Scrutiny considered an options report and agreed to recommend the 'gateway' approach to Council as the preferred process to adopt in Shropshire. The options report is attached at appendix 1.
4. The approach will be the subject of review after 12 months, taking into account the findings of wider national studies into CCfA.

<p><b>List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)</b>          -‘Strong and Prosperous Communities’ Government White Paper , ‘CCfA Best Practice Guidance’ published by IDeA and CfPS</p>
<p><b>Human Rights Act Appraisal</b>          The recommendations are compatible with provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998.</p>
<p><b>Environment Appraisal</b> - There are no environmental issues.</p>
<p><b>Risk Management Appraisal</b>          There is a risk that if Shropshire Council does not develop and utilise a CCfA process it would not adhere to the Government white paper ‘Strong and Prosperous Communities’ and would not utilise the improvements to organisational and partnership scrutiny.</p>
<p><b>Community / Consultations Appraisal</b> -Consultation will be carried out with partnership organisations which will enable formal partnership agreements.</p>
<p><b>Cabinet Member</b> - All</p>
<p><b>Local Member</b> - All</p>
<p><b>Appendices</b> - Appendix 1 –CCfA report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee 9<sup>th</sup> September 2009 (including appendices)</p>