



Committee and date
StrettonDale Local Joint
Committee

6 November 2014

7.00 pm

Item

6

Public

STRETTONDALE LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE AREA OF COVERAGE AND CHURCH STRETTON LOCAL GOVERNANCE BOARD

Responsible Officer

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1. Summary

For the last four months, discussions have been taking place at StrettonDale Local Joint Committee (LJC) meetings regarding the link with the locality commissioning work of Shropshire Council and its partners, locally this is the Church Stretton Local Governance Board.

Over this period there has also been corporate discussion regarding reducing the total number of LJC's in the county. A member led proposal has been put forward to merge those parishes in the Burnell ward that are currently outside of the LJC area, and bring them under the StrettonDale LJC area.

This report explains the detail of these discussions and a way forward proposed.

Recommendations

- A The parishes of Conover, Acton Burnell Group and Church Pulverbatch are formally incorporated into the StrettonDale LJC area (subject to Cabinet approval).
- B The LJC will aim to keep the meetings to the same number per year but understands in some cases more may be needed with the additional role created by the merger of the two organisations
- C The business of the LGB will become the part of the work of the LJC
- D Church Stretton Local Governance Board (LGB) members be co-opted onto the StrettonDale LJC in line with the co-option process detailed in the constitution of the LJC.

REPORT

2. Background

Discussions regarding the StrettonDale LJC are set against the changing landscape for Local Joint Committees and the council. There is a desire to decrease the number of committees, including specifically looking at the Shrewsbury area.

Funding for their work is also no longer available, but there are new opportunities through Shropshire Council and its move to a more commissioning council and the work that has been undertaken through the Local Governance Board in Church Stretton.

Over the last four months StrettonDale LJC and the Church Stretton Local Governance board have been discussing the best way forward locally to accommodate the locality commissioning work into the wider structures and organisations in the area. A joint meeting of the two groups took place in July and it was felt that there were sufficient advantages to joining together for improved outcomes for the people that live and work in the LJC area.

It is also proposed that the geography of StrettonDale LJC be extended to include: Acton Burnell group, Condover and Church Pulverbatch. This would mean an increase in population by 35%. The entire of Burnell ward would then be included. This would have implications for other areas that surround Shrewsbury, but options are currently being developed for these parishes.

The merger of the LJC and increase in geographical coverage of parishes will help to facilitate delivery of clear objectives and priorities and enhance the Committee's ability to influence local service delivery. This may involve the formation of sub groups / action groups as necessary.

The constitution of the LJC allows the following to take place which directly links to the changing role of the Local Joint Committee:

- To scrutinise local service delivery
- To hold other public service providers to account
- To act as a decision maker with regard to the local delivery of a range of services and to prioritise resource allocation in their area
- To act as a formal consultation mechanism for the Council over and above that taken with individual Parish and Town Councils

3. Financial Implications

Eliminating cross over and duplication of work will maximise effective use of resources. There may be a minor increase in costs if the number of meetings increases.

4. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

There are no risks associated with this proposal.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)
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Gwilym Butler

Local Member

Lee Chapman, David Evans, Cecilia Motley, Tim Barker
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Appendices

none
