

1. Possible options to enhance the role of Area Committees

Retention of all Terms of Reference as detailed in the Council Constitution plus the addition of the following:

- a. Oversight of Common Good Funds and Trusts as appropriate.
- b. To approve Area Policies in relation to the delivery of Council services consistent with Council wide policy.
- c. To consider and prioritise revenue and capital expenditure estimates for their Area and to make recommendations to the Council in relation to these.
- d. To approve the acquisition, sale or lease of land or buildings within their Area.
- e. To set local holidays, taking into account local circumstances.
- f. To resolve issues of naming of streets and buildings within the Council's control.
- g. To maintain strong links with local communities, community organisations and local community planning structures;
 - Maintain the operation of CPGs going forward, with the Area Committees remaining as the Council's local decision making body and operating as a key strategic partnership of the CPG, with only a small number of the Members participating and representing the Area Committee. This would help to address the current perception that the partnership is unbalanced and dominated by the Council.
 - Including delivery of local level of Single Outcome Agreement (SOA)
 - Including oversight of local Economic Development Action Plan
- h. Adoption of structured service delivery reporting across all areas (e.g. performance reports (Secondary Schools currently bring annual performance reports to Area Committees)/updates on service delivery issues – in some areas Officers bring regular reports on key issues to the Business Day and there is scope to extend this to all areas)
- i. To receive minutes of all local partnership bodies in which the Council participates and maintain an overview of local partnership arrangements and activities ensuring there is consistency in the various approaches.
- j. To make local services more accountable to elected members of the Council and through them, to the local community.
- k. To ensure that, subject to local needs and opportunities, the delivery of Council services and the use of its resources reflect the policies and priorities of the Council.
- l. To improve the identification of and make services more responsive to local issues and priorities.

- m. To ensure that Council services, partner agencies and the local community work together as necessary to implement the Council's policies and to respond to local issues more effectively.
- n. To work with partner agencies to promote the aims, principles and actions relating to the policy objectives, and to ensure that these are given an appropriately high priority by the Council's services.
- o. To make recommendations on plans and proposals for local service delivery/planning within their Area, including prioritisation of expenditure, which are consistent with Council Policy and within the available financial allocations.
- p. To initiate and undertake developments which are consistent with Council policy and within the available financial allocations.
- q. To promote Council strategies, agreements and partnerships at a local level.
- r. To appoint Members of the Area Committee, when invited to do so, to local organisations and groups.
- s. To maintain strong links with community and voluntary organisations.
- t. To be consulted on any review of the Scheme of Community Councils.
- u. (Assuming funds made available by Council) Allocation/monitoring of Area (or ward) budgets.
- v. To undertake current remit of the CHORD Project Boards