

Draft Terms of Reference July 2011

Cross Party Working Group for Plan Preparation

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of the cross party working group is to help the City Council develop and implement its development plans as a mainstream part of its activities, including partnership work with other agencies and bodies.

Terms of Reference

- To oversee the progress of the Core Strategy (proposed to become the new City Wide Plan) and any subsequent developments plan documents undertaken by the Council and advise or make recommendations to the Cabinet member meetings or cabinet.
- To review the content of development plan documents and, having regard to evidence; National planning guidance; best practice; corporate priorities; and resources to advise the Cabinet member (s) as appropriate.
- The joint working group shall have the ability to invite / receive presentations from interested parties where they (jointly) see fit. (Interested parties may include amongst others; community and voluntary Sector partnerships or organisations, constituent partnerships of the Community partnership, Landowners, Developers or their agents).

2. Objectives and scope

- 2.1 To lead on the development, implementation, monitoring and review of the Council's Development Plans; in partnership with local partnerships and communities.
- 2.2 To promote innovative thinking, best practice and joint working in approaches to delivering sustainable development within the boundary of the City.
- 2.3 To develop the capacity of the wider community to make informed, sustainable decisions and build on the work of the Brighton and Hove Strategic Partnership to promote greater understanding of the priorities for the city and the contribution that sustainable development can make to improving people's quality of life.
- 2.4 To work with the voluntary and community sector, business and others to promote sustainable development, integrate economic, social and environmental issues and advise on implementation within the context of the community strategy and the Council's overall vision and priorities.

- 2.5 To work with the Brighton and Hove Strategic Partnership to ensure that development plan documents are compatible with and help to facilitate delivery of the community strategy.

3 Membership

The group shall be chaired by the Cabinet Member for Planning, Employment, Economy & Regeneration plus one member from each political group (for the current term 1 Green group member; one Conservative group member one Labour group member).

4. Voting

- 4.1 It is expected that the Working Group would normally reach agreement on proposals by consensus. If, however, there is no consensus, or if any Member requests it, the matter will be put to a vote. In the event of there being an equality of votes, the Chair will have a second or casting vote.

5. Reporting and Accountability

- 5.1 The joint working group will advise, the Council's Cabinet Member for Planning, Employment, Economy & Regeneration. The Working Group will report to and ask for comments from the Environment & Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny Committee

6. Review

- 6.1 These Terms of Reference will be reviewed after the first 6 months
6.2 The work of the cross party working group will be reviewed bi-annually.