

Overview and Scrutiny Committee: 23rd June 2010
Volunteering Policy

During an interview with an expert witness hosted by the LSP Task and Finish Group the subject of a volunteering policy for staff was discussed. The Group were informed that Bromsgrove District Council have a volunteering policy enabling members of staff to volunteer during a certain number of working hours in the year. This arrangement was valued by representatives of the Voluntary and Community Sector.

The LSP Task and Finish Group agreed that whilst this subject was not within the remit of their review it might be of interest to the members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. They have therefore referred the subject to the Committee for further consideration and have proposed a number of questions for the consideration of Officers as detailed below:

- 1) How is the volunteering policy working in Bromsgrove?
- 2) Are Officers from particular professions or departments tending to take up the opportunity to undertake voluntary work? (Please elaborate).
- 3) What have been the benefits for staff who have made use of the opportunity to undertake voluntary work in line with the policy? (Do the members of staff feel that it is a worthwhile exercise?)
- 4) If we were to introduce a similar volunteering policy in Redditch would staff need to be consulted? (Did consultation occur in Bromsgrove?)