

## Neighbourhood Partnership Residents Forum

Thursday 24 July, 2008

Present

Virginia Rowan	Lockleaze (H&L NP)
Ann Hawker	Lawrence Weston (A&KW NP)
Margaret Durnford	Fishponds (E,FV&H NP)
Clive Stevens	Redland (B, C&R NP)
Ben Barker	Southville (GBCP)
Steve Pearce	Brislington (BCP)
Kathleen Horseman	Southmead (H&S NP)
Esther Orchard	Southmead (H&S NP)
A Lennox	Westbury on Trym (H, SB & WOT NP)
Yasmin Rafique	Easton (A, E&LH NP)

### Key points to raise with Cllr Terry Cook

Good Councillors are key to the success of the Neighbourhood Partnerships (NP)

Councillors have not been required to have a leadership role for over 50 years, some councillors will find the new role very difficult. Some may need support.

NP residents accept councillors are busy but councillors they need to be there if the NP when the Np want them.

The Council (cabinet) need to be very clear to councillors what they are expected to do and to neighbourhoods what they can expect from councillors.

The NP terms of reference are welcomed (if not totally agreed with!) but the council should be clearer about what it is they want NP's to do and what they want residents in NP's to do.

The resources to support the NP are poor. This will hamper the ability to engage residents and for NP's to do their work. This may be particularly apparent in former Neighbourhood Renewal (NR) areas where NP are seen as less money/resources that they had with NR

Some NP areas have more capacity (active volunteers) than others and don't necessarily want to be constrained by the council telling them what they can (or can't) do.

Some existing NP's are wary that the Bristol City Council idea of NP's might be less ambitious for their areas than their existing partnership is.

NP's are not clear what they can expect from the staff allocated to them. They had assumed they would have 2.5 days of a community development worker (CDW) dedicated to their NP but it appears CDW's are doing other work outside of the NP work.

The council should recognise they don't have a monopoly on 'bright ideas' and enable and empower NP's to deliver what they want to deliver and not just make NP's a service delivery agent for BCC.

Residents need lots of ways they can communicate between the NP's including meetings but also E-networks. BCC should support setting up of NP e-group.

Council and other statutory agency partners need to stop duplicating efforts to 'engage residents' and use existing networks rather than set up more. Residents are frustrated at being asked over and over by different agencies to talk to them.

Invite Terry Cook and new Deputy Chief Executive to the next NP Residents Forum on Tuesday 23 September, 2 – 5pm at the Council House.