TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to:	Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date of Meeting:	13 December 2011
Subject:	Review of Member Communication in the Development of the Joint Core Strategy
Report of:	Mella McMahon, Director of Development
Chief Officer:	Mella McMahon, Director of Development
Lead Member:	Councillor D M M Davies
Number of Appendices:	1

Executive Summary:

In June and July the Committee raised issues over how Members were informed and involved in the development of the Joint Core Strategy (JCS). It was agreed that once the draft JCS had been agreed for consultation, that a review of JCS communications would be considered.

Recommendation:

To APPROVE the Terms of Reference for the Review and to set up a whole Committee Working Group to undertake the Review.

Reasons for Recommendation:

Effective communication is a corporate improvement objective.

Resource Implications:

Within existing resources.

Legal Implications:

None directly rising from this report.

Risk Management Implications:

None directly arising from report.

Performance Management Follow-up:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Reviews are considered six-monthly until all recommendations have been undertaken.

Environmental Implications:

None directly arising from this report.

1.0 INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

1.1 In June and July 2011 the Overview and Scrutiny Committee raised concerns over the information provided to and the involvement of Members in the development of the Joint Core Strategy (JCS). It was agreed that, after the Council had agreed the draft JCS for consultation, the Committee should consider a review of communications in the JCS process.

2.0 REVIEW OF MEMBER COMMUNICATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF JCS

2.1 The Review will be undertaken by a whole Committee Working Group. The Terms of reference is found at Appendix 1.

2.2 It is expected that, following the initial meeting of the Working Group, only one more meeting will be required to complete the Review.

3.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

3.1 None.

4.0 CONSULTATION

4.1 The Lead Member will be invited to join the Review Working Group.

5.0 RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICIES/STRATEGIES

5.1 None.

6.0 RELEVANT GOVERNMENT POLICIES

6.1 None.

7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (Human/Property)

7.1 Officer time to support the Review. Any resource implications that arise from review recommendations will be subject to normal budgetary processes.

8.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS (Social/Community Safety/Cultural/ Economic/ Environment)

8.1 None directly arising from the report.

9.0 IMPACT UPON (Value For Money/Equalities/E-Government/Human Rights/Health And Safety)

9.1 Any recommendations will be individually impact assessed.

10.0 RELATED DECISIONS AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT FACTS

10.1 None directly associated to the report or Review.

Background Papers: None

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Appendices: Appendix 1 – Draft Terms of Reference