CORPORATE RESOURCES POLICY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

MEETING, 12TH AUGUST, 2008

Present – Councillors Morris (Chairman), Mrs Thomas (Vice-Chairman), R. Allen, Hayes and J. Walsh

Also in Attendance

Mr. S. Arnfield - Director of Corporate Resources

Ms. N Connell - Manager, Neighbourhood Renewal Team

Ms. A. Hughes - Neighbourhood Renewal Officer

Mr. A. Patel - Unit Manager Business Competitiveness

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Adia and Shaw.

Councillor Morris in the Chair.

7. INFORMATION ABOUT POST OFFICE CLOSURES IN BOLTON

Further to minute 6 of the meeting of this Policy Development Group held on 18 th July, 2008, the Director of Corporate Resources submitted a report which provided further information about the closure of post offices in Bolton.

The report reminded members that the following seven branches were proposed for closure as part of the Post Officers Network Change programme were:-

- Astley Bridge;
- Ainsworth Lane:
- Morris Green;
- Daisy Hill;
- Hart Common and
- Chorley Old Road.

The Director reported that the seven closures had now been confirmed.

The report went on to provide details of the historical closures in the Borough and further information about the branches to be closed.

Sections three and four of the report provided information about the potential actions which could be taken to attempt to reduce the impact of the closures upon local communities including action taken by other local authorities. To assist the Group in considering whether any services could be provided at other nearby locations, maps were provided at Appendix C which plotted the properties in close proximity to the branches due to be closed.

It was agreed that further investigation be undertaken into how the Council could assist in incorporating the services provided by the post offices into the Authority's services and that a report on the proposed strategy and way forward be submitted to a future meeting of this group.

(The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 2.15 pm.)