

**Decision Maker:** **Adult and Community Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee**

**Date:** 25<sup>th</sup> January 2011

**Decision Type:** Non-Urgent                      Executive                      Non-Key

**Title:** **BROMLEY MOBILITY FORUM - PROGRESS REPORT**

**Contact Officer:** Leslie Marks, Chairman, Bromley Mobility Forum  
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**Chief Officer:** Mark Bowen, Director Legal, Democratic and Customer Services

**Ward:** Boroughwide

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**1. Reason for report**

In April 2010 the Adult and Community Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee agreed to the setting up of the Bromley Mobility Forum, initially for one year. This report from the Chairman of the Forum updates Members on progress to date.

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**2. RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**The Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee is asked to note and comment on the progress of the Bromley Mobility Forum.**

### Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing policy.
  2. BBB Priority: Supporting Independence.
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### Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Estimated cost £6,000
  2. Ongoing costs: N/A.
  3. Budget head/performance centre: ACS Commissioning and Partnerships
  4. Total current budget for this head: £6,000
  5. Source of funding: LBB Adult and Community Services
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### Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): n/a
  2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: n/a
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### Legal

1. Legal Requirement: No statutory requirement or Government guidance.
  2. Call-in: Call-in is not applicable.
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### Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected):
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### Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? N/A.
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments:

### 3. COMMENTARY

3.1 On 14<sup>th</sup> April 2010 the Adult and Community Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee endorsed the recommendations from the Transport Reference Group, including the establishment of a Bromley Mobility Forum, initially time limited for one year, with a focused work programme and clear Terms of Reference outlining a future business plan and clear exit strategy.

3.2 The Forum is chaired by Leslie Marks and is hosted and administered by Community Links Bromley. Membership consists of:

Two nominated representatives from each of the following independent voluntary sector forums:

Carers Forum  
Mental Health Forum  
Learning Disability Forum  
Disability Voice  
Council on Ageing  
Children and Families Forum  
Bromley BME Network

and one representative from each of the following:

Experts by Experience  
Bromley Sparks  
Leonard Cheshire  
Bromley LINK  
Bromley Borough Forum of Older People  
Youth Action Team  
LBB Adult and Community Services  
LBB Children and Young People  
LBB Environmental Services

3.3 The Forum has adopted the following Mission Statement:

“To improve the quality of life and support the independence of all people within the London Borough of Bromley experiencing difficulty with mobility and/or accessing transport.”

3.4 It's scope is to constantly review and make recommendations to improve the access and facilities for people with mobility problems, into, around and out of the Borough of Bromley and to develop co-ordinated, inclusive and united strategies to address mobility issues.

3.5 The Forum aims to:

- make Bromley a more accessible Borough for people with mobility problems in which to live, work, visit, socialise and study;
- promote independence and increase social inclusion for people with mobility problems;
- ensure that Bromley residents are aware of the Forum and that its role is promoted in all relevant media;

- make recommendations for consideration by relevant thematic partnership Boards and committees to assist them in formulating policy and in carrying out their powers and functions in the field of accessible transport. All necessary information to be made available to the Forum, to enable such recommendations to be made;
- act as an advisory/consultative body on all accessible transport issues within the borough;
- act as an advisory/consultative body on any proposed changes to transport provision;
- act as an advisory/consultative body on other planning issues, such as with TFL with a view to ensuring that the concerns of people with mobility problems are fully addressed and enabling full disability access;
- participate in the drafting, monitoring and review of the Council's local development plan as directed by the Mayor of London and any other proposals from Bromley Council or other third party, which impinges on the quality of access/mobility;

3.6 The Forum met twice in 2010. As a first step, the Forum is planning a survey of the experiences on Bromley buses of people with mobility problems and is planning to gather some experiential evidence. A trial in November of the Passenger Experience Form indicated the need to make some adjustments and this has been done. The survey will be launched during January and results assessed in March.

3.7 The Forum has also commented on the draft of the recently published Guide to Accessible transport in Bromley and on the proposed changes to the Taxicard scheme for the remainder of 2010/11. Members expressed concern at the suspension of double swiping which it was considered would have an adverse effect on Bromley users given the size of the borough, and questions were raised as to why individuals could not use their allowance as and when they wanted. Members of the Forum will have an opportunity to comment on proposals for the Taxicard scheme from April 2011 onwards when they are considered by the Council.

3.8 Members of the Forum have also identified a number of priorities for the work programme including the redevelopment of Bromley South station, Dial a Ride, street furniture which poses obstacles for people with visual impairments and disability awareness training for public transport staff.

#### 4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The Bromley mobility Forum supports the Council's priority to support independence for the people of Bromley.

#### 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 One off funding of £6,000 has been identified in Adult and Community Services Commissioning budgets for 2010/11.

<b>Non-Applicable Sections:</b>	Legal and personnel implications
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	[Title of document and date]