

# **A REPORT OF THE CORPORATE RESOURCES AND GOVERNANCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL – 5<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2017**

**PARTNERSHIP WORKING: BCC AND PARISH/TOWN**

## **EXECUTIVE COMMENTARY**

On behalf of the Executive and the Assistant Leaders, I would like to thank the members of the Corporate Resources and Governance Overview and Scrutiny Committee for this report which explores the relationship between the City Council and the parish/town councils within its borders.

I have long been an advocate of parish councils and the benefits they can provide to communities. Both of the parish/town councils in Birmingham and the City Council are undertaking lots of good work in their respective localities and the best outcomes for our citizens is achieved when the City Council and parish councils work together as a successful partnership. This report highlights areas where this happens successfully and where Birmingham City Council and the parish and town council work well together. I hope that these can be built on going forward. However, it also recognises areas that need to be improved and where further work needs to be undertaken to provide a more joined up service to local residents and this also needs to be addressed.

I welcome the focus on governance and the approach to deliver the policy which we can pursue within the wider context of the City Council's emerging Localisation Policy. Any commitment must of course be mindful of the resource implications of implementation and the budget constraints that the Council is facing. I have therefore agreed with the Chief Executive that the new Assistant Chief Executive will look into this in more detail as a corporate issue when he commences his role in January 2018.

Under the 8 Day Rule, with these resource implications in mind, I requested that Recommendation 1(a) and Recommendation 2 completion dates are put back until April 2018 instead of February 2018. However, this request has not been agreed. Officers will of course endeavour to meet the February 2018 completion date for these recommendations, but this cannot be guaranteed.

I welcome the recommendations in the report and will work with the Assistant Leaders to ensure that the recommendations are implemented.

Councillor Ian Ward  
Leader