

# Public Document Pack

## CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

Venue: Town Hall, Moorgate  
Street, Rotherham.

Date: Friday, 16 April 2004

Time: 10.00 a.m.

### A G E N D A

1. To determine if the following matters are to be considered under the categories suggested in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.
2. To determine any item which the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.
3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Pages 1 - 2)
4. BUILDING CIVIL RENEWAL CONSULTATION PAPER (Pages 3 - 4)
5. BENCHMARKING COMMUNITY PLANNING (Pages 5 - 7)
6. BEST VALUE REVIEW OF SUPPORT FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS (Pages 8 - 31)
7. DEBT AWARENESS PROJECT (Pages 32 - 35)
8. THE NEIGHBOURHOOD AGENDA (Pages 36 - 58)
9. COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP FUND - EXPENDITURE UPDATE (Pages 59 - 64)
10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
11. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

**DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE CABINET MEMBER FOR  
COMMUNITY PLANNING AND SOCIAL INCLUSION  
19<sup>th</sup> March, 2004**

Present:- Councillor Robinson (in the Chair) and Councillors Ali and Sangster (Policy Advisers).

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Doyle.

**20. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member for Community Planning and Social Inclusion held on 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2004 be received.

**21. VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM**

The Chairman received Reverend John Wraw, Janet Wheatley and Stuart Platts from Voluntary Action Rotherham.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss Voluntary Action Rotherham's progress, developments and links with the community and the Council.

The following matters were fully discussed:-

- Aims and objectives.
- Business Plan.
- Overall direction.
- Communications.
- Financial support from the Council.
- Improvements achieved.
- Projects hosted by Voluntary Action Rotherham.
- Work plan.
- Delivery mechanisms.
- Financial plan.
- Financial management.
- Community development aims and activity.
- Community development – shortfall in funding.
- Links with the Local Strategic Partnership.
- Exit strategies for externally funded projects.

It was agreed that representatives of Voluntary Action Rotherham would meet with the Council's officers and regular consultation reports/updates be submitted to Members.

**22. SOCIAL INCLUSION UNIT – UPDATE ON RESTRUCTURING**

The Social Inclusion Manager reported that the new Chief Executive had held a meeting for all staff in the Chief Executive's Office on 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2004 and had outlined the updated structures to be put in place.

An update was provided on Social Inclusion, particularly relating to the ACE Project, Rothercard and Welfare Rights and Money Advice.

Resolved:- That a full report be presented to the next meeting, outlining proposals for the revised role of the Chief Executive's Office and Housing and Environmental Services.

(The Chairman authorised consideration of the following two items to enable consultation to take place.)

**23. AREA ASSEMBLIES**

Initial consideration was given to the names of the seven new Area Assemblies.

Resolved:- That Area Assembly Chairmen be consulted on the names to be allocated.

**24. RACIAL EQUALITY COUNCIL**

The Chairman reported that Councillors Foden and Stone presently represented the Council on the Racial Equality Council and this needed review.

Resolved:- That this matter be reviewed in June, 2004.

**25. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Resolved:- That the next meeting be held on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2004, commencing at 10.00 a.m.

**ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS**

**1. Meeting:** - Cabinet Member for Community Planning and Social Inclusion and Political Advisors

**2. Date:** - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2004

**3. Title:** - Building Civil Renewal Consultation Paper

**4. Originating Officer:** - Phil Rees, Planning and Development Manager, ext. 2896

**5. Issue**

To summarize the Government's Civil Renewal consultation paper, to inform Members of current Government thinking in terms of support for the community sector.

**6. Summary**

The Home Secretary considers Civil Renewal to be the centrepiece of the Government's reform agenda over the next few years. It is both about "redefining the relationship of the state to the people it serves, locally and nationally, and about economic and social regeneration driven by popular engagement".

**7. Clearance/Consultation**

The consultation paper was widely circulated and regional consultation events were held up and down the country. Locally, representatives from the Network of Partnerships attended a consultation event in York.

**8. Timing**

The consultation process came to an end on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2004. A report on the outcomes of the consultation is anticipated in the Spring and will inform the development of a Capacity Building and Infrastructure Framework to support the community sector.

**9. Background**

The consultation paper defines community capacity building, and makes explicit statements about the values and principles of community development. Its primary purpose, however, is to consider the key components for community level infrastructure support, and to set out options for the way the Government can "support change in the way that community capacity building is planned and delivered locally".

**10. Argument**

The paper sets out four key components for an adequate support system or infrastructure for local communities / communities of interest. Essentially, there needs to be:

- a representative and inclusive forum (a network or partnership of local community groups)
- a physical hub or base for individual and collective community activity
- access to generic community capacity building workers
- and easy access to small grants.

The Government sets out three options to provide this support, but recognises that the best way forward may be in combining aspects of each.

- Option A is essentially about Community Planning and suggests that support could be encouraged through incentives. Given the work the Council and our partners have undertaken to support Community Planning, and our understanding that the Community Planning process is about building the capacity and strength of the community sector, it is reasonable to assume that our communities would benefit from any scheme to incentivise Community Planning.
- Option B proposes that support is provided through national voluntary and community sector organisations but is unclear about which organisations might play this role. Consequently, it is difficult to consider all the implications of this approach.
- Option C suggests investing in key local 'anchor' organisations. It is important to stress that many of our community sector organisations / partnerships are relatively new in Rotherham, and have grown to address the problems of their own neighbourhoods and localities, rather than take on the wider role of an 'anchor' organisation for the sector as a whole. Selecting which partnerships to play such a

role would inevitably be contentious. The biggest difficulty with this approach, however, is the uncertainty caused by the reliance on short-term funding. At present, everyone involved in supporting the voluntary and community sector is considering how they can best adapt to the likely funding scenarios post SRB and European Objective One. It would be helpful, however, if the Government committed resources to community capacity building on a long term basis, ending the dependence on external funding, which leads to a 'stop-start' experience for many communities as staff inevitably move from job to job as funding dries up.

In setting out these options, however, the paper does not make clear the role expected of organisations, such as Voluntary Action Rotherham, which have traditionally supported the voluntary and community sector.

Despite a lack of clarity in places, the consultation paper is to be welcomed. For Rotherham M.B.C., the concept of Civil Renewal brings together the strands of community development, democratic renewal, and Community Planning. The Council has shown a commitment to these areas of work over a number of years, which should stand us in good stead.

### **11. Risks and Uncertainties**

A 'mixed economy' approach, combining grant funding with income generation through community enterprise / ownership of assets etc. will be necessary if the regeneration partnerships we have encouraged over recent years are to have a reasonable chance of survival. It takes a long time to reach this level of capacity, however, and there is no guarantee that local partnerships will be able to maintain their current levels of staffing and support.

### **12. Finance**

The consultation looks at ways Central Government may provide infrastructure support, but at this juncture there is no reference to budgets to support this work.

### **13. Sustainability**

The issue of sustainability needs to be addressed, particularly in view of the changing external funding environment – the closure of SRB and Objective One. The South Yorkshire Coalfield Community Development Strategy Group has begun the process of identifying sustainable options for the future. The outcomes of the Civil Renewal consultation and subsequent Government spending on infrastructure support will be very important, therefore, in helping to determine a realistic way forward.

### **14. Wards Affected**

All Wards.

### **15. References**

'Building Civil Renewal – A review of Government support for community capacity building and proposals for change – A consultation paper from the Civil Renewal Unit';

'Building Civil Renewal – Government support for community capacity building and proposals for change – Review findings from the Civil Renewal Unit'.

### **16. Recommendations**

**The Cabinet Member and Political Advisors are asked:-**

- 1. To note the consultation paper, and**
- 2. To consider further reports in due course, on the outcomes of the consultation, and the wider issue of sustaining support for the community sector.**

**1. Meeting:** - Cabinet Member for Community Planning and Social Inclusion and Political Advisors

**2. Date:** - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2004

**3. Title:** - Benchmarking Community Planning

**4. Originating Officer:** - Phil Rees, Planning and Development Manager, ext. 2896

#### **5. Issue**

To inform the Cabinet Member and Political Advisors of work undertaken to ensure that benchmarks can be applied to Community Planning, to measure progress year after year.

#### **6. Summary**

The report outlines the steps taken to train staff on a multi-agency basis to implement the Active Partners Framework and evaluate community involvement in the process of Community Planning.

#### **7. Clearance/Consultation**

The use of the Active Partners Framework in the context of Community Planning has been supported by the Community Development and Involvement Partnership of the Rotherham Partnership and is referenced in the draft Community Planning Model. The Active Partners Unit in Leeds (part of the Yorkshire Forum supporting the voluntary and community sector at a regional level) has helped to apply the framework to Community Planning and has welcomed our initiative in doing so. The way we have approached the training on a multi-agency basis is to be cited as best practice in Active Partners Unit publications.

#### **8. Timing**

The Active Partners Framework is essentially about benchmarking and, therefore, is best applied at the early stages of development of an organisation or project. For this reason the C.D.I.P has built it into Part One of the Community Planning process, where community representatives first come together to plan Community Planning activities. The methodology, however, requires people to look back, to evidence strengths and weaknesses and acknowledge successes and problem areas. In this respect it can also be of service to established community partnerships and groups, and agencies involved in community engagement.

#### **9. Background**

There are different ways of evaluating community involvement. The main evaluation systems were summarised recently in a report commissioned by the South Yorkshire Coalfield Partnership. Despite the existence of these different systems, however, there is little evidence on the ground of their application to community groups and partnerships. This may be because selecting a suitable system can be difficult for communities, when they are already engaged in a wide range of other activities. The lack of easy-to-use tools to implement the evaluation systems - moving from the theory to the practice - has also proved a problem.

#### **10. Argument**

The Active Partners Framework was developed for Yorkshire Forward to assess community involvement in regeneration projects such as SRB. In view of this, it made sense for the Community Development and Involvement Partnership to explore the Active Partners Framework as a means of assessing community involvement in Community Planning. Negotiations with the Active Partners Unit in Leeds, led to the development of a range of practical tools to facilitate the implementation of the Active Partners Framework in the context of Community Planning.

To ensure that this evaluation system can be rolled out across the borough, the Council's Planning and Development Manager organised a series of training events to develop a pool of skilled facilitators. This training was paid for by external funding drawn down by

Voluntary Action Rotherham, and enabled representatives from a variety of organisations to attend between November 2003 and March 2004. A list of the organisations represented appears as Appendix A to this report.

The aim is for these facilitators to work as teams of three or four, supporting the application of the Active Partners Framework. The outcome of these evaluation exercises will be a self-assessment of community strengths, in terms of four key dimensions:

- Influence
- Inclusivity
- Communications and
- Capacity.

Action Plans will also be developed to identify steps to bring about improvements in the course of the year ahead. The facilitators will encourage the communities to share this information with the C.D.I.P. so elements of support for the community sector can be strategically planned to address identified needs.

The Active Partners Framework can be applied to a range of organisations and regeneration projects, in addition to Community Planning. Having trained a large team of facilitators, therefore, will help in applying Active Partners across a variety of organisations and settings, in step with the move towards performance management.

### **11. Risks and Uncertainties**

The Objective One Directorate requires the implementation of a different evaluation system, the Community Economic Development Framework, which uses a series of building blocks to assess a community's readiness to lead on economic regeneration. Work is currently underway, however, to join together this system and the Active Partners Framework. The Objective One Directorate has shown a willingness to explore this proposal and the Active Partners Unit in Leeds is currently looking at suitable benchmarks to assess a community's readiness to lead on economic regeneration. We are hopeful, therefore, that the two evaluation systems can be spliced together to avoid confusion for our local communities.

### **12. Finance**

The training was externally funded.

### **13. Sustainability**

By gathering a picture of the level of development through Active Partners and preparing Action Plans for improvement, the Community Development and Involvement Partnership will be better placed to consider the support needs of the community sector in a strategic manner. This should help prioritise resources and contribute to the sustainability of the sector.

### **14. Wards Affected**

All Wards.

### **15. References**

Active Partners – Benchmarking Community Participation in Regeneration – produced by Yorkshire Forward;

A guide to Frameworks and Tools for Community Involvement, Participation, Capacity Building and Development – produced by COGS for the South Yorkshire Coalfield Partnership.

### **16. Recommendations**

**The Cabinet Member and Political Advisors are asked to note the report.**

Appendix A.

List of organisations attending the Active Partners and Community Planning training – November 2003 – March 2004.

13	VAR Community Development Workers
7	Area Assembly Officers
6	Community Planning Officers
6	Rotherham PCT staff
3	Voluntary and Community Sector representatives
2	Community Police Officers
2	Community Partnership Managers
2	Training providers
2	Housing Officers – Tenant Involvement Unit
2	IDP staff
2	Social Inclusion Managers
1	Borough Councillor
1	Crime Reduction Programme Officer
1	Rotherham Ethnic Minority Alliance Officer
1	Churches Together for Regeneration Officer
1	Young People's Service Officer
1	Vol. Sector Research Officer.





**Best Value Review**  
**Support for the Democratic Process**

**Member Working Group**

**Councillors**

**Glynn Whelbourn (Chair)**

**Jane Austen**

**Barry Dodson**

**Paul Lakin**

**Dave Pickering**

**Sheila Walker**

**Phillip Wardle**

**Ken Wyatt**

**Carol Mills**

**Review Sponsor**

**Officer Working Group**

**Cath Saltis**

**Dawn Roberts**

**Andrew Balchin**

**Cynthia Evans**

**Richard Garrad**

**Tim Mumford**

**Lewis South**

**Team Leader**

**Deputy Team Leader**

**Social Inclusion Manager**

**Operational Services Manager**

**Performance and Best Value Review Officer**

**Head of Legal and Democratic Services**

**Democratic Services Manager**



# Best Value Review

## Support for the Democratic Process

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# Best Value Review

## Support for the Democratic Process

### 1. Executive Summary

This Best Value Review is one of the few across the Country that has examined the activities that support the democratic process. The full range of activities which support the democratic processes in Rotherham have been reviewed in line with Best Value principles. The Review was carried out between April and December 2003 during a period of unprecedented change within the Council. For example, the establishment of a strategic partnering arrangement with a commercial organisation has resulted in changes for employees, changes in service delivery with a view to a more cost effective efficient way of working.

The review has provided an opportunity to consider current and future requirements of how best to provide support to Members, to enable them to carry out their differing and developing roles.

Elected Members have been actively involved in this review, exploring the provision of support currently available in Rotherham, and considering areas for improvement.

The introduction of new Constitutional arrangements, different decision making processes, and changing roles of Councillors has meant it is timely to review the activities that are in place to support the democratic process. The review is in part a response to the capacity issues and concerns raised in the 2002 Comprehensive Performance Assessment report. C.P.A. identified weaknesses relating to and including decision making, Area Assemblies, Member Development, planning and management of meetings.

Recent consultation documents published by The Audit Commission January, 2004, setting out key proposals including a 'Strategic Regulation' approach to C.P.A. from 2005, which provides an appropriate balance between the assessment of both the service delivery and community leadership roles of Councils. Therefore the review is also important in terms of addressing these changes before its next assessment.

In addition the review has been carried out with reference to the programme of work to deliver service improvements as laid out in the Corporate Plan and with reference to the Community Strategy, and the LPSA targets.

**The report sets out the key issues that have been considered and describes the work undertaken, through**

- **Outlining the project Brief for the Review**

- **Examining the current provision of the services encompassed by the review**
- **Presenting the outcome of appraising options for service delivery**
- **Presenting the Improvement Plan for the review**

**The details, description and analysis of the overall research findings for the review are contained in the Best Value File.**

There are a number of key recommendations for improvement arising out of the review; these have been grouped under the CPA action plan priorities. The objectives, outcomes and recommendations of the review are clearly linked to the priorities of the Council, specifically – A Place with Active, involved Communities and the priority for effective, efficient quality of services to be provided.

**It is important to point out that many of the identified issues are already being addressed.**

In light of the emerging issues identified throughout the life of the review, a number of discrete actions have been taken in parallel with the formal Best Value Review

- Review of the Councils constitution
- Review of the Area Assembly Structure
- A review of the work of Committee Services
- Members have agreed the separation of strategic functions from the operational function of Area Assemblies.
- Strategic Review of Human Resources
- Strategic Review of Legal Services
- Scrutiny Review of Community Leadership

## **Recommendation**

**The overall recommendation from the Best Value Review is to keep services supporting the Democratic Process in-house and to implement a whole series of improvements as detailed at point 8 of this report.**

## **Summary**

This review sets out to fully research and evaluate all current processes within the Council that support the democratic process. It has been undertaken in line with Best Value Principles and has identified a number of recommendations for improvement for consideration by Elected Members and management.

Members and officers who have been involved in this review are grateful to all those people who contributed and wish to take this opportunity to thank them for their input.

## 2. Introduction

Changes to legislation and policy, nationally, regionally and locally has led and is leading to changes in the role and method of working in Local Authorities. This inevitably has an impact on key roles of Councillors including their role in the improvement agenda. The Local Government Act 2000 introduced the distinction of roles between executive, scrutiny and area representation, and focused particularly on the community leadership role of the Local Authority and Elected Members.

Skills, experiences, knowledge and abilities of locally Elected Members have become both more important and more complex in terms of carrying out their differing roles. A well-developed democratic process rests on effective support services enabling Members to carry out their role/s, ensuring that the Council delivers high quality public services and gives strong community leadership.

The Best Value Review Officer Group were chosen for their particular involvement in activities supporting the Democratic Process. The group have been supported by a panel of Elected Members, whose role has been to constructively challenge the officer findings, act as consultees in terms of their experience of support to the democratic process. Importantly the Elected Member Working Group have also acted as facilitators to engage their Member colleagues in the review process.

There has also been significant contribution towards the review from both the Electoral Services team and from the Equality Unit within the Council.

The project plan was agreed by the Best Value Working Group and later considered by the Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee as part of the review definition document on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2003.

### 2.1 Reasons for the Review

Following the Corporate Assessment of the Council during December, 2002 there were a number of outcomes from the report which highlighted areas of concern in relation to support to the democratic process;

#### ***Main Recommendations of Comprehensive Performance Assessment***

In order to set out a clear vision for the people of Rotherham the council should

- Determine a role for area assemblies and ensure that they provide appropriate Community Leadership
- Improve the quality of decision making forums

In order to ensure it has the ability to deliver its priorities the council should

- Ensure that there is an effective system for providing support to the Leader in selection of members to key posts
- Ensure that leading members have the skills to deliver strategic guidance and constructive challenge needed in a modern local authority

## **2.2 Scope of the Review**

The scope of the review was;

- **To develop a common understanding of the skills and knowledge of both officers and members to support the democratic process**
- **Ensure we have clear plans and actions to develop and improve the support for the democratic process**
- **To measure report and communicate whether the agreed outcomes are being achieved and to challenge the effectiveness of current support.**
- **To identify the improvements needed for effective support services to address the weaknesses in the Corporate Performance Assessment**

The review encompassed;

Area Assemblies  
Scrutiny Support Services  
Electoral Services  
Committee Services  
Member Development  
Policy Advice

## **2.3 Objectives of the Review**

- To ensure that the Council is taking decisions in accordance with statutory requirements and best practice in a timely manner with all the relevant information, advice and support available.
- To ensure that support and training for Members enables them to carry out their roles efficiently and effectively. It

acknowledges that the role of Members is evolving through the ever-increasing need to work closely with partners and other agencies, and that the support given to Members should be reviewed to enable them to respond to these new challenges.

- To improve the accessibility of the democratic process to the public as a whole and encourage them to become active participants whether through the electoral process or through direct involvement in community issues and with Area Assemblies.

## **2.4 Measurable Outcomes of the Review**

- Ensure the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) concerns are addressed
- A clear definition of the role of Members and provision of the necessary support services framework to enable them to fulfil that role and to ensure that identified weaknesses are addressed
- Identifiable cost efficiencies that provide a better service to customers with reference to Local Public Service Agreement targets and the need for continuous improvement
- More efficient/transparent decision making process through sound advice and information giving
- Extend community involvement in decision making through better planning and guidance stemming from the consultation strategy
- A robust improvement plan to deliver the above

## **3. Methodology**

The particular approach for this piece of work is essentially qualitative in nature. However, it has been necessary to gather quantitative data in order to establish the baseline position in relation to the cost, sustainability, equality and stakeholders associated with support for the democratic process.

The sustainability assessment considered whether activity associated with support for the democratic process will ensure sustainable community engagement.

The equality assessment examined how successful or otherwise the Council is in engaging the harder to reach members of our community in the democratic process.

We have worked within the framework of the Prince 2-project management method. This entails the setting up of a project board that receive exception reports and monitors progress. The Elected Member Best Value Group have carried out this role.

The review has examined those authorities that are considered to provide 'best practice' in terms of support for the democratic process. In carrying out this best value review, all Councillors within RMBC have been invited to share their views/perceptions of the activities supporting the democratic process. Feedback has been sought from the general public on their views of involvement of the democratic process.

A number of published and unpublished papers have also informed the work of the Best Value Review Group.

The research phase included

- Survey of all 66 Councillors
- Reachout Survey
- Area Assembly Survey
- Focus Groups with Elected Members
- One to One/Two with Members
- Review of key strategic documents
- Accessed comparative data for 10 other Local Authorities and visited 3
- Analysis of current activities
- Stakeholder analysis )
- Sustainability analysis ) **Baseline Evidence**
- Equalities analysis )
- Cost analysis )



#### **4. Baseline Information**

A baseline assessment was carried out as part of the review (evidence reference). The information was provided by the services identified within the scope of the review. We were also able to draw on information from the IDeA report 1999, Corporate Governance Inspection Report 2001, the District Audit review of Democratic Renewal (2000/01), Comprehensive Performance Assessment 2002 and local Performance Indicators specifically relating to the democratic process.

The baseline information also includes information on the cost of the identified services supporting the democratic process.

The formal review took place between April and December, 2003, with the baseline information being collated throughout the life of the review.

## 5. The Four C's

We addressed the Best Vale "4 C" Principles (Consult, Challenge, Compare and Compete through the following actions

	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>4 Cs</b>
1	<b>Reachout Survey</b>	<b>This is the RMBC Citizens panel survey, invited to share their views on their involvement in the decision making of the Council and the democratic process</b>	<b>Consult Challenge</b>
2	<b>Member Survey</b>	<b>Questionnaire to all 66 elected members, seeking their views on the support to the democratic process</b>	<b>Consult Challenge</b>
3	<b>Member Focus Group One to One/Two</b>	<b>Opportunity for Members to discuss and debate their views on support to the democratic process</b>	<b>Consult</b>
4	<b>Visits to other Local Authorities (Wigan/Tameside/Darlington)</b>	<b>To compare with others, assess the cost effectiveness of support services and explore challenge in relation to service delivery</b>	<b>Compare Challenge Compete</b>
5	<b>Analysis of Support Services Area Assemblies/Scrutiny/Electoral Services/Member Development/Committee Services</b>	<b>Examination of the services supporting the democratic process</b>	<b>Challenge Compare Compete</b>
6	<b>Option Appraisal</b>	<b>Consider options for service delivery</b>	<b>Compete Challenge</b>
7	<b>Market Testing</b>		<b>Compete</b>
8	<b>Area Assembly Survey</b>	<b>Questionnaire through Area Assemblies seeking views on peoples views and involvement of the democratic process</b>	<b>Challenge Consult</b>

## 6. Findings

### What the Review Found

- The review was wide ranging, covered a number of services and considered the views of Elected Members and members of the public. Each service has been examined separately, however the underlying approach has been one of a 'One Council Approach' to support for the Democratic Process. It should be noted that the review found examples of good practice throughout the services. However, the focus here is on those areas identified for improvement and development. For example in the Area Assembly arena some effective community planning was taking place but this is not consistent across the borough. Members feel that there is a lack of understanding about the role and responsibilities of Area Assemblies and that much more needs to be done to focus priorities.
- Other Council services do not link as effectively as they could with Area Assemblies. The lack of clarity about their overall purpose creates barriers to cross working.
- The current arrangements for meetings across the Council do not lend themselves to community involvement in any meaningful way. The time, venues and management of meetings does little to encourage public participation at Councils meetings, be they at Area Assemblies or Scrutiny or other arenas.
- Of the members of the public surveyed through Area Assemblies the majority thinks that public sector organisations at least partially take notice of the views of local people. 63% of respondents felt that the Council listen to the views of the public at least partially. One third feel that the Council are at least good at involving people in making decisions about priorities and future actions.
- The Council spends in excess of £3 million in supporting the Democratic Process. This includes employee's costs, Members allowances and the member development budget. It has been difficult to compare this level of spend with other Authorities given the reluctance of the Council's contacted to share information of this nature. However where comparison has been possible in relation to some aspects of the review, Rotherham (population 249,500) appears to compare favourably, with Darlington (population 100,000) for example in terms of Committee Services support based on per head of population (Rotherham £1.48 per head, Darlington £2.72). It is acknowledged throughout the review that difficulties arise in attempting to compare like with like. Authorities have a range of different structures and arrangements in place to support the democratic process, making comparison problematic.
- In addressing the issues raised in the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (December, 2002) the review considered a number of papers focusing on Community Leadership and Capacity. For example;

- *“Support for capacity building for Councils and training Members and officers is an important part of our proposals to see excellent Local Government services and leadership. The Government is determined to ensure that Councils, Members and officers all have the support they need to build their capacity to deliver strong and confident community leadership and high quality public services. In particular there is a need to build up capacity and skills in strategic leadership.”*  
(Strong Local Leadership – Quality Public Services, White Paper December, 2001, paragraph 5.1)
- Members pointed out that given the potential for change in the way services are delivered (note Children Services) it would be timely to consider whether the focus of Cabinet Portfolios reflect Council priorities and to review Portfolios to consider whether there maybe a need to consider a more cross cutting approach. Members were also keen to acknowledge that the unique support and development needs of Cabinet members should be addressed to ensure that the Council continues to have the mix and skills and expertise required to take the Council forward.
- Though the Scrutiny function received positive comment in the C.P.A. Report (December, 2002) and many Members were very positive about their involvement with Scrutiny Reviews, they suggested that much more needs to be done to involve people other than Elected Members in scrutiny work. In addition Members felt that the outcomes from reviews could be improved, and that the work of scrutiny should be measurable in terms of improvement in service delivery.
- There is a distinct lack of performance monitoring and management across services. There is no robust performance management system in place and little reporting of the achievement or otherwise of measurable outcomes for services.
- The review found a significant number of examples where information/advice is not shared, is inaccurate, not presented helpfully often resulting in a lack of community involvement and for Elected Members the inability to make informed decisions and or recommendations. An example of this is when a decision was made relating to the disposal of land for development, Ward Members were not consulted or informed resulting in difficulties for the Ward Members at local level and the decision being called in. Members were anxious to point out that it is essential they are kept informed at ward level about activities taking place in their areas. The review recognises that attempts are being made to address this issue, not least through developing more effective information sharing systems across the Council.
- The work of the Member Development Panel was welcomed. Progress has been made in the implementation of the member development action plan, stemming from the Investors in People action plan. However, the review found that many Elected Members are unable to engage in their own development. Often Members are unable to attend development activities because times and venues are not compatible with work patterns. Furthermore there is little formal evaluation of development experiences, resulting in no basis for change and improvement of Member Development activities.

- The weakness impacting on any Member development is a lack of clarity of the roles and responsibilities for Members. If there is no common understanding about expectations in their differing roles, members are less likely to be able to identify development needs in those roles. The review found examples of good practice in other Authorities where this issue had been addressed, notably Tameside.
- Overall the review identified that there is a need for a more comprehensive member training and skill development strategy, based on a clear definition of role and identified development needs.

## **7. Option Appraisal**

At the detailed options appraisal stage, the review has sought to ensure that all options for service delivery have been examined, and that services have been examined at a detailed level.

The options considered are those listed below.

- Cessation of service
- Creation of a public/private partnership
- Transfer to another provider or externalisation with no in house bid
- Market testing all or part of the service
- Joint commissioning or delivery
- Restructuring or re positioning in house delivery

Each of the options was assessed in relation to each of the services under consideration of the review. This assessment took into account:

- Whether the option was technically capable of being implemented
- The relative advantages and disadvantages of each option and
- The impact (whether negative or positive) which each option would have on the various elements services

### **Option 1 - Cessation of services**

This is not a realistic option for any of the services. The Electoral Service for example is a statutory service, and the other services are integral to the Council fulfilling any number of its statutory obligation.

### **Option 2 - Creation of a Public/Private Partnership**

The Council is able to demonstrate that where appropriate and mutually beneficial private/public partnerships have been established, witness RBT Strategic Partner. However, this does not appear to be a viable option for any of the services considered in the review. There is no requirement for external capital investment, it is unlikely that a viable service provider would be found and set up costs would be prohibitive. However, the techniques used by RBT to improve service delivery and to

streamline and reduce inefficiency could well be of use here. In addition, RBT will support the improvement plan through their involvement with 'Members On Line'.

### **Option 3 - Market testing all or part of the service**

The only realistic possibility of sourcing an external provider would be in connection with administrative services and training/development support to Members. The IT Services supporting the democratic process are already managed and delivered through the Strategic Partnership.

### **Option 4 - Transfer to another provider or externalisation with no in-house bid**

Considering the options for delivery of the services to support the democratic process, the review team concluded that externalisation is likely to be fairly limited because

- The services are of strategic importance to the Council in delivering its functions
- Advice and support is of a specialist nature pertinent to local Government
- There is a statutory obligation to provide Electoral Services
- The Scrutiny Function is a requirement of the Local Government Act 2000
- Another provider would need to have a strong public sector ethos

Overall external procurement of these services as a whole is an unrealistic option. None of the Authorities visited or examined have adopted such an approach. For example Darlington (who has achieved a favourable Best Value Inspection Report having explored and rejected such an approach), have retained in house provision of its Democratic Services. However, there are opportunities to develop different approaches in terms of supporting the democratic process. These include, buying specialist knowledge, strategic partnering arrangements (within both the public and private sector) and joint research/project working.

Whilst externalisation may be an option for an internally provided service which, is demonstrated to be failing, this is not the case with any of these particular services (though the Review has demonstrated scope for some improvement in all services). There may however be some scope for seeking an external service provider for the delivery of Member Development activities with the strategic and commissioning role being carried out in-house. This model should also be considered in relation to the buying in of consultancy/expert support for example in relation to Scrutiny investigations or the need for a particular level of expert support in legal matters. The other main area for consideration of this option could be in the area of administrative support to the democratic process. Clearly there is a strong public sector ethos associated with these services which would need to be maintained.

This option could result in the potential risk of losing in-house expertise. Nonetheless this option is worth considering in relation to those services mentioned.

### **Option 5 – Joint Commissioning or Delivery**

There may be some advantages here in terms of economies of scale and pooling of expertise. However, there would be initial set up costs, resources necessary for setting up of terms of reference, protocols and staff changes, which may prove to be prohibitive, compounded by the impact on the Council's ability to allocate resources to local priorities and the potential loss of local knowledge.

### **Option 6 – Restructuring or Re-Positioning in-house Provision**

After careful consideration and examination of current service provision and exploration of a variety of options for alternative service delivery, there is a strong case for retaining and developing the core support services primarily on an in-house basis, but supplemented by the procurement of some aspects of the services examined.

However, there are some aspects of the service already under consideration in terms of restructuring/repositioning within the Council's overall provision, specifically, Democratic Services and the Area Assembly operational delivery.

## **8. Actions for Improvement**

### **8.1 Performance Management**

- 8.1.a** All services supporting the Democratic Process to ensure that expected actions and outcomes are clearly presented in their Service Business Plans.
- 8.1.b** Services to share and develop these actions with a view to ensuring effective outcomes for Members which, should be measurable and regularly reported to Members and monitored by them
- 8.1.c** A robust performance management system for services supporting the democratic process to be developed
- 8.1.d** Members to be kept informed of plans/activities affecting their wards through regular updates
- 8.1.e** Community Plans to link closely with corporate strategic priorities. The Plans need to fit into a cycle where they will be ready in time for service planning. Whilst ensuring that local needs are taken account of, there should be a consistent match of targets and priorities throughout
- 8.1.f** Measures to be developed to increase ease of access to services such as using council website to offer services, telephone registration, and online registration to improve performance of Electoral Services

**8.1.g** A package of local performance measures to evaluate “outcomes” to be developed, such as:

- Absence of any legal challenge to the election result
- Number of changes to electoral register each month during “rolling registration”
- Fewer registration problems at election time
- Higher turnout
- Quality of information given to candidates and agents
- Quality of information given to public and to election staff
- Number of electors choosing to vote by post

These measures should be routinely “benchmarked” with other local authorities in order to continuously compare performance and identify “best practice”.

**8.1.h** A significant number of scrutiny recommendations are substantially or wholly accepted by Cabinet/Council, the implementation of which demonstrates improvements in services to the public.

Recent examples include the scrutiny review and recommendations on Domestic Violence. This resulted in the development and introduction of a Council Policy, increased resources to support victims of domestic violence, including the establishment of a Co-ordinator post. This in turn ensures a more effective multi-agency approach to addressing the issues associated with domestic violence. Scrutiny should continue to demonstrate its impact on improvements in service delivery in this way thus ensuring an improved experience for services used.

**8.1.i** Implement the Council’s revised Constitution.

## **8.2 Capacity**

**8.2.a** A Member Development Plan to be produced to include a description of activities and resources to support Members in their various roles

**8.2.b** Personal development plans for Elected Members to be introduced

**8.2.c** A range of approaches, methods and timing of development activities including E-learning for elected Members to be established.

**8.2.d** “Members On Line” to be introduced in the new municipal year 2004. Whereby Members will be able to more easily and effectively access information and communicate across the Council.

**8.2.e** Advice and guidance for people interested in becoming Councillors, selected candidates and elected Members to be improved.

**8.2.f** The evaluation of Member Development experiences to be improved and incorporated into proposed annual Member survey



- 8.2.g** Establishment of the post of Member Development Support Officer to be considered
- 8.2.h** The role and responsibilities of Area Assemblies to be clearly defined and considered as part of the proposed Best Value Review of Neighbourhood Management
- 8.2.i** Officer and Member Development programmes to ensure specific training on Area Assemblies and Neighbourhood Management, focusing on the skills needed to carry out their roles effectively.
- 8.2.j** A compact between local community partners and Area Assemblies to be drawn up setting out the involvement and role that partners can play in improving services.
- 8.2.k** Develop local standards and protocols for the provision of sound information advice and guidance to Members and Officers
- 8.2.l** Identify an appropriate lead to Co-ordinate a more coherent approach to activities associated with Community involvement in the democratic process
- 8.2.m** Put in a bid to the O.D.P.M. to take full advantage of the support available following the recent C.P.A. outcome.

### **8.3 Cost Efficiency**

- 8.3.a** Set up a pilot to establish the potential savings to be made in the production of papers and minute books and in the use of the courier service
- 8.3.b** Transfer work of Committee Services in relation to Area Assemblies and Local Strategic Partnership to their support staff resulting in better stream lining and more effective use of Committee Services activity. Committee Services Case Conference team to be considered as part of the review of Children Services.

## **9. Recommendations**

### **To the Chair, Members of Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee**

- 1. That Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee endorses the report and its findings.**
- 2. Endorse the recommendations and actions for improvement contained within the review report.**

- 3. Refer the review report to Cabinet/Corporate Management Team for consideration .**

## 10. Improvement Plan

Action 1		Performance Management		
Ref	Actions for Improvement	Target Date	Lead	Lead
8.1.a.	Services need to ensure actions and outcomes are presented in Service Business Plans	April, 2004	Heads of Service Team Leaders	Heads of Service Team Leaders
8.1.b.	Services to share and develop actions ensuring effective outcomes which should measurable and regularly reported to Members	September, 2004	Heads of Service Team Leaders	Heads of Service Team Leaders
8.1.d.	Updates on activities/plans within Wards	To be confirmed	Discussions of proposals with CMT/Resources	Discussions of proposals with CMT/Resources
8.1.e.	Community Plans to link closely with corporate strategic priorities	To be confirmed	Social Inclusion Manager	Social Inclusion Manager
8.1.h.	Measurable outcomes from Scrutiny Reviews	June, 2004	Scrutiny Forward Plan	Scrutiny Forward Plan
8.1.i	Implement the Council's revised Constitution	June, 2004	Head of Legal Services/Resources	Head of Legal Services/Resources

<b>Action 2</b>		<b>Capacity</b>	
<b>Ref</b>	<b>Action for Improvement</b>	<b>Target Date</b>	<b>Lead</b>
8.2.a.	Member Development Plan	August, 2004	Member Development Plan/Resources
8.2.b.	Personal Development Plans	August, 2004	Member Development Plan/Resources
8.2.d.	Members On Line	June, 2004	RBT/Resources
8.2.e.	Advice and Guidance for people interested in becoming Councillors	Completed	Member Development Panel
8.2.f.	Evaluation of Member Development experiences into proposed Member survey	December, 2004	Resources – HR
8.2.g.	Establishment of Member Development Support Officer	To be confirmed	Resources - HR
8.2.h.	Role and responsibilities of Area Assemblies be clearly defined and considered as part of BVR – Neighbourhood Management	Throughout the life of the review	Members supported by Chief Executive and CMT
8.2.i.	Training on Area Assemblies and Neighbourhood Management	To be confirmed	To be confirmed
8.2.j.	Compact between local community partners and Area Assemblies to improve services	To be confirmed	Social Inclusion Manager
8.2.k.	Development of local standards and protocols for the provision of sound information advice and guidance to Members and Officers	To be developed within Municipal Year 2004/05	Policy and Partnerships
8.2.l.	Lead to co-ordinate a more coherent approach to activities associated with Community Involvement	To be developed within Municipal Year 2004/05	Policy and Partnerships
8.2.m.	Co-ordinate bid to O.D.P.M.	To be confirmed	Resources

<b>Action 3</b>	<b>Cost Efficiency</b>
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Ref	Action for Improvement	Target Date	Lead
8.3.a.	Set up a pilot to establish the potential savings to be made in the production of papers and minute books and in the use of the courier service	Completed by December, 2004	Resources
8.3.b.	Transfer of Committee Services work to Area Assemblies and Strategic Partnership support staff	Completed	Resources



## APPENDIX A

# Best Value Review Support for the Democratic Process

### References

Performance Breakthrough  
Audit Commission 2002 – ISBN 186 240 396

Revised Council Constitution  
Rotherham MBC

Rotherham Comprehensive Performance Assessment Report  
Audit Commission December 2002

Scrutiny Review – Community Leadership  
Rotherham MBC

Review Representation on Outside Bodies  
Rotherham MBC The Standards Board

Scrutiny  
Office of the Deputy Prime Minister

The Effective Executive

### Best Value Reviews

- South Yorkshire Police
- South Yorkshire Pensions
- South Yorkshire Joint Secretariat
- Leeds City Council
- Southport Review of Democratic Services

Strong Local Leadership – Quality Public Services  
The Local Government White Paper December 2001  
LGA Briefing 234

Reachout (7) Survey  
BMG Research 2003

Area Assembly Survey  
Rotherham MBC

Member Questionnaire  
Rotherham MBC

Focus Groups  
Rotherham MBC

One to One/Two Interviews with Elected Members



**ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL-REPORT TO MEMBERS**

**1. Meeting:** – Cabinet Member for Community Planning and Social Inclusion

**2. Date:- April 16 2004**

**3. Title: -**

Debt Awareness Campaign

**4. Originating Officer:-**

Mike McAughtrie, Project Officer Debt Awareness Campaign

Janet Scott, Money Advice and Welfare Rights Manager (01709 822449)

**5. Issue:-**

To inform members of the new Debt Awareness Campaign and what is hoped will be achieved.

**6. Summary**

To address debt problems across the borough by promoting debt awareness and delivering debt/money advice training.

The campaign will focus on skills, knowledge and understanding from the National Adult Financial Capability Framework and will use a number of financial education resources and self-help materials already available.

**7. Clearance/Consultation.**

There has been very useful consultation with a range of community partners.

Two target groups within the project have been identified. Firstly, Herringthorpe community plan identified Debt Advice as a priority and Herringthorpe Healthy Living Forum identified Teenage Parents within the area as the key target group. Year 6 children in Maltby are the second target group.

There has also been important liason with the Magistrates Court as we will be setting up a weekly advice session there.

**8. Timing**

Funding was secured for this post in December 2003. It was advertised in January 2004 and the project officer appointed in February 2004. The project officer started work on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2004.

## 9. Background

The need for Debt Prevention was highlighted as an area of need in the Rotherham Community Legal Service Partnership Needs Analysis. The Money Advice Service took forward a bid to the Legal Services Commission Partnership Initiative Budget to initiate this work on behalf of the partnership. The Adult Financial Capability Framework will provide the basis of the enabling part of the project.

## 10. Argument

There is an overwhelming need for debt advice in Rotherham and this shows that residents are struggling with financial commitments. While this is partially due to changes of circumstance and irresponsible lending by creditors, there is a clear need to educate and inform people of their rights and responsibilities regarding money. The project will achieve this through developing debt awareness and money management skills in statutory, voluntary and community organisations. More detailed information is set out below;

- The magistrates court session is aimed at helping fine defaulters agree a realistic solution with the magistrates and to identify and action other debt problems they have. There has been extensive research showing that this is an important and effective service. We will be actively recruiting volunteers from local advice agencies who will be able to develop their debt and court skills.
- We're working on a video on debt to be shown in GP's surgeries, pharmacies and Patientline (non pay per view hospital TV. 300,00 people will have access to this and the video maker (QTV) estimates 1 million hits per year.
- Year 6 pupils in Maltby are the target group for the second year of the project and we intend to develop young debt advocates amongst these children. This will allow us to utilise the advantages of peer education as well as guidance from ourselves and will give the children a head start in money management before they develop the subject further in their Citizenship module at Secondary school.
- We are preparing a significant interactive contribution to Rotherham Show. Visitors will be able to test their knowledge of money matters and learn more about their rights in a fun and informative way.
- Tailored training and talks will be developed and delivered to local problem- noticers in order that they are able to identify money and debt problems amongst their client groups. People feel a range of negative emotions due to debt and these are often compounded by the negative attitude of creditors. This means that people are often unwilling to initially reveal a debt problem to social workers, community psychiatric nurses,

tenancy support workers and others. We will be able to help problem noticers to identify a potential debt problem, have a basic understanding of priorities and have a current knowledge of where to signpost and refer.

## **11. Risks and Uncertainties**

Continued funding depends on meeting the milestones and objectives of the Community Legal Services.

## **12. Finance**

The majority of the money for this project has come from the Community Legal Service. This figure is £76,879 over 3 years and Rotherham Council is providing partial match funding in management time. Yorkshire Water Trust Fund has provided £500 for updating a leaflet for clients faced with housing repossession.

We will be looking for additional funding through the life of the project.

## **13. Sustainability**

Debt Advice and Money Management has been shown to improve the health and well being of people on low incomes by enabling them to spend more on essentials such as heating and a better diet. Advice on rent and mortgage arrears helps prevent homelessness and maintain tenancies. Advice is given to many households in fuel poverty on energy efficiency grants and energy efficient light bulbs

## **14. Wards Affected**

All wards, with special projects in Herringthorpe and Maltby.

## **15. References**

“Clearing the Debts: The Enforcement of Financial Penalties in Magistrates Court” – The Home Office Online Report

The Social Exclusion Report on Teenage Pregnancy 1999

The Adult Financial Capability Framework

## **16. Presentation**

It is universally recognised that the level of debt in the nation is a major concern and is having a detrimental effect on health. This unique project is targeted at helping those at risk of debt, as well as reaching out to those who haven't previously accessed advice. In addition important debt awareness training will be provided to key organizations.

**17. Recommendations**

That Members receive this report and note its contents.

## **BEST VALUE REVIEW OF REGENERATION**

### **Regenerating Rotherham -The Neighbourhood Agenda**

The Government's vision for Neighbourhood Renewal is that "within 10-20 years, no-one should seriously be disadvantaged because of where they live".

There are two long-term goals:

- in all poorest neighbourhoods, to reduce worklessness and crime, and improve health, skills, housing and physical environment; and
- to narrow the gap between the most deprived neighbourhoods and the rest of the country

This paper outlines the contribution of RMBC to tackling problems of concentrated deprivation in our area through a fresh approach based on community involvement, partnership working and the targeting of mainstream resources to local needs.

The Council recognises that we cannot deliver improvements on our own. But, we have a number of important roles to play including:

- community leadership – within and through the Local Strategic Partnership
- local democracy – encouraging and enabling communities to play a full part in decision making
- service improvement – through co-ordination of services provided jointly with other partners as well as directly by the Council

Our approach has many strong features:

- The Council has played an effective and balanced leadership role in supporting the Rotherham Local Strategic Partnership
- With support from the Council, the Strategic Partnership has developed a clear strategy for the Borough with a shared vision and goals that are widely understood and endorsed by councillors, staff, partners and communities
- The Council has invested in a range of community involvement mechanisms and has staff skilled in new techniques
- The Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy has been commended by Government Office as well researched and based on a good understanding of deprivation across the Borough
- Community planning is a strong feature of our approach – gaining national and regional recognition for our innovation in promoting community involvement
- We are introducing neighbourhood management, building upon our national Pathfinder, to increase the responsiveness of services to community needs.

We can demonstrate good prospects for the future:

- Citizens perceive their area to be improving as a place to live
- Indicators which measure key features of deprivation are beginning to show positive trends
- New initiatives – emerging community partnerships, Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder are beginning to make an impact
- The Council has strong political and professional leadership which demonstrates commitment to tackling deprivation
- Community planning, planning for real and neighbourhood management all demonstrate that the Council is willing to try new ways of working
- Recent successful inspections of key services such as Housing Repairs and Housing Benefits demonstrate that the Council is able to turn around weak services and create a strong customer focus
- A major programme to improve Public Access to services, including a network of “First Stop Shops” illustrate the Councils commitment to embrace the potential of new technologies to improve the delivery of services to deprived communities

#### **Area Assemblies - Development of Area Plans**

The primary purpose of developing an Area Plan for each Area Assembly is to reflect community priorities against each of the four main themes of the Community Strategy so that at a locality level in partnership with communities and local service providers responsive action can be co-ordinated. The priorities for action in the Area Plans directly reflect the issues emerging from local community plans, area-based initiatives including Government sponsored initiatives, and Area Assembly meetings.

At a more strategic level in relation to the larger cross-cutting issues linkages will be created with the Rotherham Partnership Spoke Action Plans through the Spoke Managers to develop co-ordinated cross-agency responses.

#### Progress to-date and planned action

- ◆ First version of draft Plans produced March 2003.
- ◆ Plans reviewed following consultation with partner and community organisations October 2003.
- ◆ Report on progress to Area Assembly Chairs/Cabinet Member February 2004.
- ◆ Final draft version completed for proposed new seven Assembly areas April/May 2004.
- ◆ Ward by Ward Summaries of “Quick Wins” against Area Plan priorities provided for Elected Members September 2003.
- ◆ Targeted actions agreed in partnership with external agencies September/October 2004.

<b>Streetpride Initiative</b>
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The Area Assembly teams have played a major part in promoting and supporting community involvement in and influence over the annual Streetpride Spending Plans. The Area Assemblies have facilitated prioritising sessions involving local community representatives through neighbourhood walkabouts. Evidence is available both in terms of community involvement in the process and in the tangible results.

The Streetpride local spends, funded by the Area Assemblies Devolved Budgets range from smaller environmental initiatives such as neighbourhood clean-ups through wider-ranging initiatives such as the provision of litter and dog fouling bins. In some areas the Devolved Budget has contributed to the funding of much larger environmental projects such as planting of traffic islands and improvements to road-side verges by the provision of no parking bollards and extensive tidying and planting of new shrubberies.

#### Achievements/Outcomes

Across the Borough a total of 138 separate community-identified schemes were completed in 2003 at a total cost of £229,445. Specific examples include:-

- ◆ *35 Environmental Improvement Schemes completed including improvements to street lighting and provision of additional street furniture.*
- ◆ *72 New litter bins and 46 new dog waste bins provided.*
- ◆ *16 "A" Frame Schemes completed including erection of barriers to address motorcycle nuisance issues.*
- ◆ *102 Schemes completed to provide highway/footpath improvements, replacement of street signs and provision of additional pedestrian crossings.*

The manager of the Area Assembly team and an area assembly officer contributed directly to the EDS streetpride service plan for 2004/5 by attending a service planning away – day.

#### Progress to-date and planned action

- ◆ Streetpride Project Proposals for 2004/05 to be finalised by June 2004.
- ◆ Spending Plans for 2004/05 to be completed by July 2004.
- ◆ Project work to be completed by March 2005.

### **Community Leadership Fund**

The fund was established in 2002/03. The fund is managed by the Voluntary Sector Liaison Manager in the Social Inclusion Unit.

Each Elected Member was allocated an annual sum of £1,500 to be used in supporting local community projects within their electoral Ward/across their Assembly area. The current allocation per Member for 2004/05 is £500

A diverse range of projects has been funded ranging from support for a Colliery Band through contributions to local drama activity and includes larger pooled grants supporting the development of a Family Learning Centre in the south of the Borough.

#### Progress to-date and planned action

- ◆ Total allocated to-date through C.L.F. £123,500 supporting over **300** community projects
- ◆ Allocation for 2004/05 agreed £35,000

Reference: Full details of all approved schemes – contact Waheed Akhtar

### **Community Chests**

Each of the present Area Assemblies has an annual budget of £2,000 to fund smaller scale community-led projects up to a maximum of £250 per project. Each Assembly has established a Panel, comprising entirely of community representatives, which judges applications against agreed criteria. Each Panel is advised and supported by representatives of the local Area Assembly team.

Examples of projects funded during the current year range from support for a local homeless project through T.V. and video equipment for a community action group to the hire of venues and children's gifts for a local community of African French Speakers.

#### Progress to-date and planned action

- ◆ Full Community Chest allocation completed for 2003/04.
- ◆ Budget in place for next round of Community Chests for 2004/05.

### **Crime and Disorder Problem Solving Pilots**

Two Crime and Disorder Problem Solving pilot initiatives established by Area Assembly teams in partnership with the Community Safety Partnership. Terms of reference have been agreed for community involvement and a Core Group of officers and agencies has been established.



Achievements/Outcomes

In the Rother Valley West Assembly Area immediate “wins” have included:-

- ◆ Additional security fencing and K-frames plus security gates at Treeton Woods.
- ◆ Environmental clear up around M.S. Therapy Centre.
- ◆ New Police operations programme established for Treeton.

Progress to-date and planned action

- ◆ Two pilot initiatives established December 2003.
- ◆ Problem Solving Task Groups established in two other Area Assemblies.

<b>Consultation via Area Assemblies</b>
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The Area Assemblies are established as a major vehicle for Local Authority and partner consultation. Each Assembly receives regular presentations from service units within R.M.B.C. and contributes to major consultation exercises promoted by partner organisations. Local community partnerships are regular contributors to Area Assembly meetings both in terms of information giving and in responding to community surveys. Recent examples of consultation exercises carried out in partnership with or on behalf of partner organisations include:-

- ◆ Waverley Advanced Manufacturing Park – summer 2003 – 10,000 leaflets/questionnaires distributed – community consultation programme included local events, attendance at community group meetings and debates at Area Assemblies – resulted in specific developmental recommendations to R.M.B.C.

- ◆ A senior representative of U.K. Coal commented that:-

***“The consultation on the Waverley Masterplan was groundbreaking and hugely successful.”***

The consultation was described as being ***“a model of good practice in relation to planning applications”***.

- ◆ Proposed Major Changes to the South Yorkshire Fire Service Integrated Risk Management Plan – consultation supported by Area Assembly presentations and supported mail out to over 800 community organisations. South Yorkshire’s Chief Fire Officer recognised the support provided by the Area Assembly teams:-

***“With your help we have managed to interact with a large number of people within the community of South Yorkshire and without your assistance the logistics of such an operation would have been far more complicated.”***

- ◆ Advice and Support to South Yorkshire Police around establishment of community policing boundaries across the Borough to best support local

community planning. Co-operation commended by the Rotherham District Police Commander, thanking the Area Assembly team

***“for the work recently done ..... in assisting with the development of district community policing activity.”***

- ◆ Boundary Committee Review of Ward Boundaries – facilitated (in partnership with the Corporate Policy Team) by the Area Assembly teams including feedback sessions. The process included a postal consultation with over 800 community groups, Rotherham Youth Cabinet, the Voluntary and Community Sector network and Elected Members.

**Resulted in R.M.B.C. final recommendations to Boundary Committee being accepted with only minor amendments to the proposals.**

### **Community Partnerships and Community Planning**

Since 2001/02 the Social Inclusion Unit through the Area Assembly teams has directly supported the creation and development of 23 community partnerships. The Unit is actively engaging with those partnerships, with local Parish Councils and Community Development Trusts to ensure that their respective priorities are addressed through the area planning process and their own local action plans.

#### Progress to-date and planned action

- ◆ 23 community planning partnerships established March 2004.
- ◆ Nine Priority 4a (Objective 1) Community Action Plans completed December 2003.
- ◆ Programme of Community Planning activity established to June 2004 within each Area Assembly, utilising a range of techniques for community engagement including Planning for Real and Participatory Appraisals
- ◆ Maltby Community Plan received BURA award December 2003.
- ◆ Four further Community Plans plus two Integrated Development Plans completed by March 2004.
- ◆ Work plans agreed for each Area Assembly team in relation to further community partnership development for 2004.

### **Community and Economic Regeneration Budget (CERB)**

The Council maintains a substantial budget to support innovation and local delivery of services by the voluntary sector.

In the last twelve months the Council provided a total of 914,203 to 33 projects that contribute to the neighbourhood regeneration goals of the Council and Local Strategic Partnership.

#### Achievements/Outcomes

This funding achieved the following in 2003/2004

- Attracted a quarter of a million pounds of match funding
- Created or sustained 35 full time jobs
- Assisted 117 people into employment
- Attracted 70 people into voluntary work
- Provided advice and guidance on legal and welfare issues to 19,189 people
- Assisted 578 community groups with their growth and development

### Good Practice Development

Community Planning is the cornerstone of the work of Area Assemblies.

RMBC is the first Local Authority in the Region to have introduced “Active Partners” benchmarking into the community planning process. Active Partners is a benchmarking tool developed and promoted by Yorkshire Forward.

We have worked closely with Yorkshire Forward to tailor this approach to Rotherham. We are currently negotiating with the Objective One programme to integrate this tool into the capacity building programme for target communities in Rotherham.

To date, over 60 people from local partnerships, the Council, Primary Care Trust and Police have been trained to use the tool in their local planning activity.

Our pilot community planning area – Maltby has gained national recognition and awards.

***“There are some very strategically minded local authorities – there are great examples of mainstreaming – there are some fantastic consultation processes. Finding locations where all three agendas are working together is almost impossible.***

***Regeneration professionals will be pleased to hear about Maltby – the town has devised an overarching strategy which is uniting service providers, coordinating regeneration efforts, mobilising local people and drawing in extra funds”***

Regeneration and Renewal Magazine – October 2003

### Social Enterprise

CREATION (Community Recycling Enterprise All Together In One Network) recycling Ltd is a social enterprise which will work in partnership with the Council to deliver the recycling targets and was set up to boost the local economy and create employment opportunities. The directors of CREATION are all community representatives from Rotherham and the enterprise is supported by the Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder and Herringthorpe Valley Partnership.

Achievements/Outcomes

- Partnership working between the Council, VAR and the local community
- Valley Partnership, Eastwood/Springwell Gardens, Dalton and Thrybergh action plans are completed and support the recycling activity.
- Funding bids submitted to CRED, SRB
- Depot /site selected and technical expertise inputted from RMBC
- Working with Action Teams for Jobs and ACE to train the first workers for the jobs.
- Glass outlet negotiated with local company Beatson Clarke to double CREATION's profit

Moving Forward

- Project due to start April 2004
- Objective 1 bid time tabled for later this year
- CREATION will make a profit from selling the recyclates
- Future ILM potential

**Liveability- Creating Sustainable Communities**

**Groundwork Trusts**

The Council and Groundwork have been working in partnership for a number of years, on a number of social, environmental and economic regeneration programmes in the borough.

Currently, Groundwork Dearne Valley are leading on village regeneration programmes in Swinton, Rawmarsh & Parkgate and Maltby working closely with the community and the Council.

RMBC core fund the programmes in the region of £60k+ per year. Extensive consultation is carried out with the community, which results in an action plan, which is approved by all parties and encapsulated by a Service Level Agreement.

Groundwork Creswell – Catcliffe and Treeton development, supported by the Council and Rotherham Greenforce ILM.

Achievements/Outcomes

- Completed village programmes attract approximately £1.1m, including an ILM scheme, project development and delivery) Successful 'Transforming your space' bid for £900,000 for Maltby projects.
- Consultation and engagement with at least 10% of the village population (3500 in Swinton)

- Stewardship programme in Blackburn & Kimberworth (funding secured from Objective 1 and Yorkshire Forward)

Groundwork Creswell – consultation, programme feasibility study completed and play area installed at Catcliffe, Treeton cemetery restoration works completed. Breakthrough project youth training scheme aimed at re-engaging young people at risk of exclusion has worked in a number of schools in Rotherham including Clifton comprehensive.

#### Moving Forward

Groundwork Creswell – 3 new ILM teams commencing in Rotherham, 1 focussing on accessibility.

Groundwork Dearne Valley – developing new project in Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder

### **Local Action 21 project**

The LA21 project launched in 2000 has 2 key aims: to promote and raise awareness on sustainability issues and engage groups in environmental projects. The project operates borough wide and is a partnership project between the Council and Groundwork. The project worker supports local community groups and partnerships, schools and hard to reach groups engage in environmental regeneration.

#### Achievements/Outcomes

This has generated approximately 20 projects and engaged over 10,000 local people in awareness raising and projects.

### **Sustainability Appraisal tools**

The Council agreed at Cabinet in April 2003 that all new Council policies and major projects would undergo a sustainability appraisal as part of the development process. The aim of the tool is to assist with the integration of sustainability into policies and projects. This has been promoted on the Intranet, team briefings and support workshops for staff involved in project/policy development.

#### Achievements

The sustainability tool has been successfully used to support the development of a number of plans including the Community Strategy, Corporate Plan, Regeneration Plan and Environment Strategy.

### **WREN**

RMBC supports local environmental /regeneration projects to apply for WREN funding by supporting and working in partnership with local groups and

providing the 11% third party funding. Advice is provided to local groups in terms of a broad range of funding to progress regeneration projects.

### Achievements/Outcomes

RMBC supports local projects to draw down the sum of £227,272 per year by providing 11% contributions to support applications and officer support to groups progressing projects. Projects this year which have been completed include country park access, green spaces gateway, Swinton heritage trail and Wath skate park.

### **Neighbourhood based activity (Neighbourhood Wardens)**

Neighbourhood Wardens started in 2001. The scheme has been successful in addressing both public and council issues by its ability to work multi-tenure which has enabled it to impact on a variety of issues, such as Anti-Social Behaviour, Public Reassurance, Housing Management and Environmental Issues. The unit consists of 1 Manager, 1 Admin Assistant 3, Supervisors and 16 Wardens.

The Wardens carry out the following functions:

- Patrolling the neighbourhood
- Reporting suspicious behaviour to the police
- Reporting environmental or maintenance problems to relevant authorities
- Responding to minor incidents of anti-social behaviour
- Dealing with low level neighbourhood disputes
- Checking empty properties
- Visiting vulnerable tenants
- Acting as a source of communication between local communities and the police

### Outcomes

- The Neighbourhood wardens have made a contribution to the reduction in vehicle crime from 25 to 14 crimes per 1000 population.
- Burglary rates are down 16%.

Other success include:

- a reduction in the % of residents who feel litter is a serious problem from 54% to 32.5%,
- a reduction in the % of residents who feel stressed by problems with neighbours from 30% to 15.75%

- a reduction in the % of residents who report not feeling safe has gone from 52% to 38.5%.

The wardens have developed a forward strategy and a service evaluation was carried out March 2003 which revealed a positive reflection of the unit and a number of actions to progress.

**Local Strategic Partnership – RMBC Lead Areas in relation to Neighbourhood Regeneration and Community Influence**

The Council has provided community leadership within and through the Local Strategic Partnership.

**Community Strategy**

- Commissioning Borough wide Community Visioning events that enabled a community inclusive approach to the development of the vision, objectives and priorities of the Community Strategy
- Emphasis on targeting groups not normally engaged and utilising imaginative approaches.
- Report produced March 2003.

**Community Partnerships**

Local Partnerships (many already supported and set up already by Area Assembly support staff), enabled to access Objective 1 and SRB funding to develop and implement locally devised Community Action Plans. Support provided by RMBC staff.

- Nine Community Action Plans in Objective One Priority 4a Areas completed
- Two community led “Integrated Development Plans” completed for Priority 4b areas

In addition, RMBC has:

- Devised and negotiated match funding strategies for each area with funders and agencies.
- Provided direct sponsorship of 4 Community Action Plans on behalf of newly developed partnerships.
- Facilitated cross community activity and sharing of good practice through the Network of Partnerships

**Community Development**

- Leading a review of the Rotherham Community Development Strategy, engaging PCT, Police and others in the role, purpose of community development principles.
- Strategy due to be endorsed spring 2004.

**Community Planning and the LSP**

The Council is leading, through the Community Development and Involvement spoke of the Partnership:

- Engagement of all partners in the Community Planning process.
- Negotiating feedback mechanisms on key issues to partner organisations.
- Written a Community Planning Toolkit



### **Benchmarking**

- Lead on implementation and training of staff and residents. First to implement the 'Active Partners' benchmarking for Community Partnerships and Groups in the region.

### **Development of qualitative indicators - measuring quality of life in local communities.**

Agreed, with other partners, local measures. Initially through Reachout survey. Developing ways to replicate into neighbourhoods in a co-ordinated way across the Borough (Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy, Housing Pathfinder visioning/masterplanning and surveying).

The pilot exercise conducted through Reachout provides the LSP with a baseline position in relation to the following indicators:

- Number of people who have taken action to resolve a local issue
- Community well-being
- Public involvement in decision making processes
- Extent to which local agencies take notice of resident's views
- Extent to which local people believe they have the ability to influence decisions,
- Extent to which local people feel well informed about local affairs.

### **Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy**

- Now completed. Targeting strategy agreed based on high quality neighbourhood level statistics. Priorities set. (LSP and RMBC Cabinet endorsed March 2004).
- Delivery of neighbourhood renewal and targets will be driven through co-ordinated action across the Council. This co-ordination will be undertaken by the new Neighbourhood Management service that is established in April 2004. Area Assemblies will be integrated into this new model of service delivery.

### Achievements/Outcomes

- 9 community partnerships employed their own Partnership Managers and admin staff.
- 9 community partnerships developed or developing their own management systems, funding strategies, project ideas etc. Supported in planning for long term sustainability.
- 2 integrated development plan community partnerships recruited own managers, devised programmes of action, developed systems for managing finance and decision making.

- Priorities set by local partnerships fed through, and identified in Area Plans.
- All partnerships supported in accessing significant external funds into local communities with match funding in place.
- Community Partnership/Groups and staff implementing a 'community involvement' benchmarking model testing quality of engagement and involvement.
- Development and initial implementation of qualitative measures for local communities.
- Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy already influencing other plans and strategies. E.G. PCT using same targeting strategy for health inequalities targeting; influenced Housing Pathfinder neighbourhood/people priorities; Voluntary Action Rotherham targeting community based support into target areas; Children's Pathfinder devising focus for children and young people in target areas etc.

### Moving Forward

Once Community Partnership have had the opportunity to start delivering their priorities, RMBC and partners to begin devising sustainability plans and policies (co-ordinated through the Community Development and Involvement Partnership (CDIP)).

Initial discussion on sustainability issues for community partnerships (SY Coalfield Partnership workshop and Board meeting), and the voluntary and community sector post 2006 already started (part of action plan of the CDIP), but need progressing.

Community Development Strategy to be completed. Will require further organisational ownership and integration.

Quality of Life indicators to be refined and rolled out to regeneration targeted neighbourhoods initially (in addition to borough wide processes in place through Reachout) – to be repeated annually through a community engagement survey model.

Increase sharing of good practice between neighbourhoods. Conference arranged in May 2004 to begin linking community action to organisational policy and planing.

### Neighbourhood Statistics.

RMBC's Neighbourhood statistics service allows statistics to be created for any geographical area within the borough. This is achieved by collecting data for very small areas known as "Output Areas".

There are 830 output areas in Rotherham and these can be used as basic building blocks to create statistics for larger areas based upon the Output Areas. This means that statistics can be produced for any definition of a neighbourhood or larger area.

Ward level data masks important differences in conditions within Wards. Neighbourhood statistics can identify these differences. The statistics can also be used to create profiles for non-standard geographical areas. The public services have limited resources.

Neighbourhood statistics are able to identify precisely where resources are most needed, thus maximising the effect of those resources. For instance, a Ward may have a high crime rate but this may be caused by a large number of crimes in one particular neighbourhood. Neighbourhood statistics allows the Police and other services to identify exactly where the crimes were most prevalent and allocate resources to those areas within the Ward.

Certain groups of individuals that may be of interest to public agencies, such as the elderly or ethnic minorities, may have certain geographic spread across the Borough. Neighbourhood statistics can accurately locate where such groups reside.

As many neighbourhood statistics are updateable annually it is possible to monitor the change in conditions over time, which is a useful tool for measuring the impact of public service delivery on the ground.

### Achievements

The Neighbourhood Statistics team have supported a range of agencies, providing high quality and up to date statistics to inform service planning and funding bids. The service has provided detailed data to over 100 organisations in:

- Community and voluntary sector
- RMBC Services
- PCT
- Police

They have also provided key baseline statistics to:

- The Housing Pathfinder,
- Devised the targeting strategy for the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy (commended by Government Office), providing us with a Rotherham bespoke multiple deprivation indicator.
- Produced Area Profiles for communities and Area Plans.
- Developed new local measures to inform the aspirational targets of the Local Strategic Partnership

### Moving Forward

Devise a system to enable users of the service to feedback on how they have used neighbourhood statistics and what decision it has enabled them to make.

### **Social Goals and Targets**

The Council has worked closely within the Local Strategic Partnership to develop strategic indicators for assessing progress against the objectives contained within the Community Strategy.

The strategic indicators provide a link to the Neighbourhood Renewal strategy, the Local Public Service Agreement and inform the targets to be set at neighbourhood level through community plans.

On March 11<sup>th</sup> 2004, the LSP agreed nine strategic indicators and three “aspirational” targets that cover the neighbourhood agenda. These targets have been developed in partnership with:

- Community Cohesion Steering Group
- Community Development and Involvement Partnership
- Safer Rotherham Partnership
- Strategic Housing Partnership

The targets are essentially cross-cutting and include:

- increasing the percentage of people satisfied with their area as a place to live
- increasing the percentage of people who participate in voluntary and community sector activity
- reducing the fear of crime
- improving void turnaround time and increasing the percentage of household waste to be recycled
- to increase the percentage of people who feel that service providers are good at involving the public in decision making processes
- to significantly reduce the number of wards within the top 10% most deprived in England

A baseline position has been established for each indicator with targets established to 2007.

Reference: Performance Management Framework Indicators – Report to the Partnership Board 11<sup>th</sup> March 2004

## **Consultation**

RMBC has a clear commitment to consulting with its communities.

Our Consultation Strategy sets out the following objectives:

- Community consultation will become a core value of the Council
- There will be a shared understanding and commitment to consultation with communities, users and individuals across the Council and ultimately with other partners
- The Council will continuously support activity to build the capacity of communities to be effectively engaged in the consultation process
- The council will ensure that Members and Officers have the skills and resources to effectively consult with the community
- Service areas will work together to produce an Annual Corporate Consultation Plan and mechanisms will be set up to ensure results of consultation are shared and maximised
- Community Consultation will become integral to the working of each service area and part of Council's decision making and service delivery and monitoring process
- All consultation carried out by, or on behalf of the Council will adhere to good practice guidelines, using an appropriate mix of methods, of a consistently high standard and will be monitored and evaluated for effectiveness
- All consultation exercises will take appropriate steps to proactively target hard to reach and marginalised groups and communities
- The Council will work in partnership with other key agencies and organisations in order to plan local consultation and respond to locally identified needs
- Local needs and priorities identified through consultation will be fed into the Council's budget and policy making process.

### **Reachout – Citizens Panel**

Rotherham Reachout, RMBC's citizen's panel is one of the ways in which the Council listens to the people of Rotherham. The Panel enables the Council and its partners (Rotherham Primary Care Trust, Rotherham Partnership and South Yorkshire Police Authority) to monitor public satisfaction with their services.

The Panel is made up of approximately 1,600 residents, 200 from each of the Area Assemblies and is broadly representative of Rotherham as a whole in terms of age, gender and employment status within each of these broad geographical areas. The panel are mainly consulted via a postal survey three times a year.

It is important that issues that are submitted into Reachout will ultimately provide information and outcomes that will feed into the Council's priorities, e.g. Corporate Plan, Community Strategy, Best Value, Comprehensive Performance Assessment, Public Sector Agreement targets etc. Ideally the

areas for consultation that are put forward to the Reachout panel should be proposals that have enough scope built into them for panel members to influence and shape decisions and priorities.

Results from Reachout 1 (2001) showed that:

- 63% of the panel were very or fairly satisfied with their local area as a place to live.
- Results from this survey also showed that there was a high level of dissatisfaction with the cleanliness of local neighbourhoods.

### Outcomes

In response to this a number of interventions have been set up:

- A new inspection regime was introduced to identify badly littered areas
- Mechanical road sweeping is now completed 4 times a year rather than 3
- 50 new bins have been installed around housing estates
- A new team has been specifically appointed to address the problem of graffiti.

The 'satisfaction with local area' question is submitted into Reachout to measure a target that has been set in Rotherham's Community Strategy.

The target states that 70% will be satisfied by 2006.

- The question was repeated in 2002 and results showed an increase in satisfaction from 63% to 66%.
- This question has also been submitted into the latest Reachout survey which is currently in its fieldwork period with results expected in May 2004.

Results from Reachout have showed that:

- Currently 20% of Panel members have been actively involved with a local community or voluntary organisation in the last twelve months.
- This will also be used to monitor a target set within the Community Strategy which states that 25% will be involved in local activity by 2006.
- The question has been resubmitted into the latest edition of Reachout. Results will be fed back to the Rotherham Partnership, as this is an important area of activity for the Community Development and Involvement Partnership to focus on.

### Moving Forward

Further action will be required to continue to resubmit questions which measure targets set in the Community Strategy, e.g. satisfaction with local area and involvement in local community/voluntary groups. These will be monitored on an annual basis to see if various interventions have been effective.

Programme Areas will continue to target specific areas that have been identified within Reachout survey findings.

### **Consultation Strategy**

A number of mechanisms have been put in place to ensure the effective co-ordination of consultation and to ensure that all consultation conducted within the Council is carried out to a high standard. These tools include:

- The Annual Plan of Consultation – this document sets out the Council's plans for consultation over the financial year, with details of the target audience for each exercise, the costs involved, and contact details. By sharing this information within the Council and with our external partners, we can seek to avoid duplication and ensure the most effective use of resources.
- An Annual Review of Consultation – this document reports on the significant outcomes of the wide range of consultation undertaken, and outlines how consultation has informed policy development and service.
- Good Practice Guidance for Consultation – this document outlines the basic principles of good practice when carrying out consultation. It is used across the Council by anyone proposing to undertake consultation. It emphasises the importance of effective planning, of being honest about the scope of influence, ensuring the effective use of the outcomes, using appropriate methods, and giving feedback to consultees.

### Moving Forward

- The introduction of these tools has improved the overall co-ordination and consistency of consultation within the Council and have helped to ensure that we are becoming increasingly better at reporting on the outcomes of consultation.
- Introduction of a corporate consultation database to co-ordinate consultation taking place. This will include a tracking system which will highlight the completion of a consultation exercise and highlight the need to report on its outcome and how results have informed the Council's priorities, service improvements and developments.
- A facility will also be included onto the database which will include details of individual geographical areas being consulted so that we can ensure that individual communities are not suffering consultation fatigue. This may also prompt Programme Areas to work together when contacting people in the same geographical area. The database will be implemented as from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2004.

**Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder**  
**Eastwood and Springwell Gardens**

RMBC has made a significant contribution to the early development of the Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder in Eastwood and Springwell Gardens.

The programme is at a relatively early stage of development but the first year of activity has included the recruitment of key staff and the establishment of a multi agency Partnership Board comprising:

- Local residents and representatives of community groups
- RMBC
- Primary Care Trust
- Voluntary Action Rotherham
- Chamber of Commerce
- South Yorkshire Police

The main activities to be supported through the action plan are contained in the detailed action planning document which includes an analysis of the capacity of the partnership to manage and implement the programme effectively.

**Achievements**

Examples of the activities supported by the NM Pathfinder include:

**Safe and Inclusive Communities**

- Target hardening of over 250 properties to reduce the incidence of domestic burglary and reduce the fear of crime
- The purchase of a Police Car to improve response times and raise the visibility of local policing
- The appointment of two Community Support Officers to deal with low level incidents and tackle anti-social behaviour. Increasing reassurance to local people.

**Children and Families**

- Providing an outreach support teacher to increase level of pre-school literacy – in partnership with the Education Action Zone
- Following research in the area, funded by the Pathfinder, to provide a community tutor to coordinate and develop out of school learning activities for children, young people and adults. Linking to the extended schools programme.



### Young people

- Development of a Youth Forum to raise participation of young people in the local programme
- Funding a national pilot with Sport England of a new programme to raise the level of participation in sport and leisure activities.

### Employment, training and enterprise

- Establish an ILM programme in partnership with Groundwork UK, to provide training and to tackle improvements to open spaces, including play areas.
- Provided start up funds for a major community recycling enterprise.

In addition, The Primary Care Trust is running a national pilot for the Health for All agencies to identify local indicators of health. Developing an understanding of local peoples perceptions of health will inform the shape of future primary care services in the area and provide a model that can be rolled out across the Borough.

A 500 household survey was carried out in the area during 2003. This survey will be repeated in early 2005 to enable an assessment of the impact of the programme on the quality of life of local people. This survey has informed areas for development in 2004/2005.

The Pathfinder programme is at an early stage but some significant outcomes are already emerging:

- Overall crime levels have reduced by 6% in the last year. Burglary has reduced by 8% and robbery by 60%.The reduction is highest in those parts of the area that have benefited from target hardening initiatives
- 10 new local jobs have been created as a result of the support for Groundwork and Creation Recycling
- Pathfinder status has attracted new national initiatives in sports development and health promotion to the area – making new linkages to mainstream programmes.

The Pathfinder is currently finalising the 2004/2005 delivery plan. This is being produced in parallel with an external evaluation of the programme commissioned by ODPM. This evaluation will also compare activity across the national pathfinder cohort.

### Moving Forward

- We are strengthening links between the Pathfinder and the Local Strategic Partnership

- Reinforcing linkages with mainstream service providers through the development of Neighbourhood Service Level Agreements with key service providers. Government Office is seconding an experienced member of staff to assist with this task.
- Rolling out the Partnership Performance Management Framework through Area Assemblies and the new approach to Neighbourhood Management across the Borough
- Developing a planned programme of skills and experience sharing through 2004 to shape service delivery in other areas of the Borough.

### **Neighbourhood Agenda – Employment and Enterprise**

The Beacon Status award for removing barriers to work acknowledged a number of initiatives that are focussed on neighbourhood based models of delivery or tackling disadvantage across disadvantaged communities of interest.

Examples include:

#### **Young people's participation project**

Engaging young people in every aspect of our regeneration and employability work across the Borough through:

- The establishment of a youth Cabinet and representatives to the UK Youth Parliament
- A Youth Charter for their involvement in SRB activities
- Young People's advisory group for Connexions
- Training courses to enable young people to engage with Area Assemblies
- School councils to involve younger school children and teenagers.

#### **Action in the Community for Employment (ACE)**

The ACE Project provides targeted advice and guidance services for individuals seeking work. Services are targeted at the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods defined within the Neighbourhood Renewal strategy. The ACE Project works in partnership with Pheonix Enterprises and Job Centre Plus to maximise the opportunities available to long term unemployed people in the Borough.

#### **Social Enterprise**

Rotherham Council established the Borough's first Social Enterprise Unit to provide specialist advice and support services to this emerging sector that is growing in importance and potential. The Unit was "incubated" within the Council before becoming located in Pheonix Enterprises, a Rotherham Partnership Employability company.

Outcomes

Ace Project

In 2003/2004, almost 650 people accessed the service, resulting in 395 securing sustainable employment and 17 new business start-ups being generated in disadvantaged areas.

Moving Forward

- The Council has established a multi-agency Employability Group to develop, coordinate and oversee the delivery of the employment LPSA agreed by RMBC and the Department for Work and Pensions. The Group will specifically develop policies to improve the coordination between different services responsible for integrating the unemployed into the labour market.
- At neighbourhood level, ACE Project activities are to be integrated with Lifetime, a market leader in advice and guidance services. Additional services are being developed in partnership, including a Job Shop service in the Rotherham District General Hospital
- Raising awareness of the services provided by the Social Enterprise Unit, particularly with community partnerships that are engaged in developing delivery plans for Objective 1 Priority 4a and 4b activities.
- Developing Creation Recycling Company as an “exemplar” of good practice.

<b>APPENDIX A</b>									
<b>Members Community Leadership Fund</b>									
<b>Spend and allocations</b>									
<b>TL0006</b>									
<b>Ward No.</b>	<b>Councillors Name</b>	<b>Total Allocation</b>	<b>Amount of grant issued</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Amount of grant left</b>	<b>Activity</b>			
<b>WARD 1</b>									
<b>Anston &amp; Woodsetts</b>	Cllr Sidney Bennett	£2,500	£643.58	Rotherham MBC (Environmental Health) Joint Contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total payment of £1930.74	£19.26	To carry out clean up work on the Crown Estate			
			£720.00	Woodlands Drive Family Learning Centre (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total of £2160)		Gap funding to cover six week period between different funders			
			£1,117.16	Anston New Estate TARA (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total grant of £2340)		Range of educational and experiential visits - mainly for economically deprived, disabled, elderly and single parent groups			
	Cllr Iain St John	£2,500	£643.58	Rotherham MBC (Environmental Health) Joint Contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total payment of £1930.74	£0.00	To carry out clean up work on the Crown Estate			
			£250.00	Dinnington Colliery Band		Funding for the Dinnington Colliery Band - funding to support National Brass Band Championships			
			£400.00	Rotherham University of the Third Age (USA)		Accommodation, printing and postage costs			
			£400.00	Anston Park Junior School		Contribution to all weather play area.			
			£720.00	Woodlands Drive Family Learning Centre (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total of £2160)		Gap funding to cover six week period between different funders			
			£86.42	Anston New Estate TARA (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total grant of £2340)		Range of educational and experiential visits - mainly for economically deprived, disabled, elderly and single parent groups			
	Cllr Robin Stonebridge	£2,500	£643.58	Rotherham MBC (Environmental Health) Joint Contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total payment of £1930.74	£0.00	To carry out clean up work on the Crown Estate			
			£720.00	Woodlands Drive Family Learning Centre (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total of £2160)		Gap funding to cover six week period between different funders			
			£1,136.42	Anston New Estate TARA (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total grant of £2340)		Range of educational and experiential visits - mainly for economically deprived, disabled, elderly and single parent groups			
<b>WARD 2</b>	Cllr Hilda Jack	£2,500	£375.00	Swallownest Primary School	£0.00	Provision of 3 large heavy duty litter bins			
<b>Aston, Orgreave &amp; Ulley</b>									
			£125.00	Aston Hall J & I School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. to make total grant of £375)		Environmental enhancement - raised planting beds and pergola			
			£125.00	Aughton Primary school (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. to make total grant of £375)		Provision of new benches for the children to use			
			£125.00	Aston All Saints C of E School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. to make total grant of £375)		Provision of outdoor facilities for youngsters e.g. 2 Seater trike / 3 Wheel trike / Vinyl play tunnel			
			£125.00	Aston Springwood Primary School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs.)		Financial support for purchase of heated green house and features			
			£125.00	Aston Springwood Primary School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs.)		Financial support for residential visit to Whitby to promote learning and skills e.g. transport/ hotel costs / entrance fees and specialist support for 4 children			
			£125.00	Aston Lodge Primary School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. to make total grant of £375)		Contribution to costs of printing and posting Parish Plan Questionnaire			
			£1,500.00	Aston Parish Plan Steering Group		Provision of Play hut / Sand pit / Planter			
	Cllr Gerald Smith	£2,500	£375.00	Aston Fence J & I School	£0.00	Environmental enhancement - raised planting beds and pergola			
			£125.00	Aston Hall J & I School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. to make total grant of £375)		Provision of new benches for the children to use			
			£125.00	Aughton Primary school (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. to make total grant of £375)		Provision of outdoor facilities for youngsters e.g. 2 Seater trike / 3 Wheel trike / Vinyl play tunnel			
			£125.00	Aston All Saints C of E School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. to make total grant of £375)		Financial support for purchase of heated green house and features			
			£125.00	Aston Springwood Primary School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs.)		Financial support for residential visit to Whitby to promote learning and skills e.g. transport/ hotel costs / entrance fees and specialist support for 4 children			
			£125.00	Aston Lodge Primary School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. to make total grant of £375)		Contribution to costs of extending community library opening hours			
			£1,500.00	Aston Comprehensive School (Joint contribution with 1 other cllr. To make total payment of £3,000)		Environmental enhancement - raised planting beds and pergola			
	Cllr Jane Austen	£2,500	£125.00	Aston Hall J & I School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. to make total grant of £375)	£0.00	Provision of new benches for the children to use			
			£125.00	Aughton Primary school (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. to make total grant of £375)		Provision of outdoor facilities for youngsters e.g. 2 Seater trike / 3 Wheel trike / Vinyl play tunnel			
			£125.00	Aston All Saints C of E School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. to make total grant of £375)		Financial support for purchase of heated green house and features			
			£125.00	Aston Springwood Primary School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs.)		Financial support for residential visit to Whitby to promote learning and skills e.g. transport/ hotel costs / entrance fees and specialist support for 4 children			
			£125.00	Aston Lodge Primary School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. to make total grant of £375)		Provision of benches and litter bins at Aughton Early Years Centre			
			£375.00	S26 Community Group		Contribution to costs of extending community library opening hours			
			£1,500.00	Aston Comprehensive School (Joint contribution with 1 other cllr. To make total payment of £3,000)		Support to the Drama and Dance e.g. set design, costumes, lighting, music, publicity etc.			
<b>WARD 3</b>	Cllr Dominic Shellard (to 30/4/03)								
<b>Boston</b>	Cllr Peter Wootton (1/5/03)	£2,500	£1,000.00	Canklow Drama Group		Contribution to renovation of learning centre			
			£500.00	Canklow Woods Learning Centre (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total grant of £1500)		Outdoor tables, chairs and trophies for Open Day competition			
			£250.00	Boston Park Bowling Club (Joint contribution with 1 other cllr. To make total grant of £500)		Contribution to out of school visits			
			£250.00	Broom Valley J School		Contribution to out of school visits			
			£200.00	Broom Valley I School		Equipment for bingo sessions and coffee mornings			
			£50.00	Broom Valley Pensioners Club					
	Cllr Frances S Lynch	£2,500	£500.00	Kimberworth Infants (awaiting application)		Contribution to renovation of learning centre			
			£500.00	Canklow Woods Learning Centre (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total grant of £1500)	£162.50	Contribution to renovation of learning centre			
			£500.00	Tassibee Project		Swimming classes for women			
			£500.00	Apna Haq		IT equipment			
			£337.50	AI Muneera		Sessions to promote personal and social skills for children			
			£500.00	Friends of Clifton Park		Erection of imaginative play area for toddlers			
	Cllr Mahroof Hussain	£2,500	£1,139.00	Broom Valley Junior School	£0.00	Provision of 2 water coolers			
			£500.00	Canklow Woods Learning Centre (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total grant of £1500)		Contribution to renovation of learning centre			

Ward No.	Councillors Name	Total Allocation	Amount of grant issued	Recipient	Amount of grant left	Activity
			£200.00	Ethnic Disabled Children's Parents Group		Cultural event and profile raising of group to attract new members
			£250.00	Boston Park Bowling Club (Joint contribution with 1 other cllr. To make total grant of £500)		Outdoor tables, chairs and trophies for Open Day competition
			£411.00	Al Munneera		Management training sessions and refreshments
<b>WARD 4</b>						
<b>Bramley, Ravenfield and Wickersley</b>	Cllr Anthony M Mannion	£2,500	£2,500.00	Bramley Youth & Community Centre	£0.00	Anti-racism sessions, refreshments, transport, equipment
	Cllr Susan Ellis	£2,500	£750.00	Bramley Parish Council (Joint contribution with 1 other cllr. To make total contribution of £1,500)	£0.00	Contribution to refurbishment of war memorial and provision of decorative gates
			£125.00	Bramley Sunnyside Infant School (Joint contribution with 1 other cllr. To make total contribution of £250)		Contribution to purchase playground furniture
			£125.00	Bramley Sunnyside Junior School (Joint contribution with 1 other cllr. To make total contribution of £250)		Seating in re-developed quadrangle section
			£250.00	Wickersley Northfield Primary School (Joint contribution with 1 other cllr. To make total contribution of £500)		Purchase of music resources
			£500.00	Flanderwell Primary School		New playground and equipment for Foundation stage
			£250.00	Phoenix & Parkgate Angling Club via Phoenix Sports and Social Club (Joint contribution with 1 other cllr. To make total grant of £500)		Development and maintenance of footpaths to allow public access to Ravenfield Park
			£250.00	Wickersley Operatic Society (Joint contribution with 1 other cllr. To make total grant of £500)		Dramatic Arts training for young people
			£250.00	Wickersley Free Folk Festival (Joint contribution with 1 other cllr. To make total contribution of £500)		Contribution to Wickersley Folk Festival costs
	Cllr Peter Thirlwall	£2,500	£750.00	Bramley Parish Council (Joint contribution with 1 other cllr. To make total contribution of £1,500)	£0.00	Contribution to refurbishment of war memorial and provision of decorative gates
			£125.00	Bramley Sunnyside Infant School (Joint contribution with 1 other cllr. To make total contribution of £250)		Contribution to purchase playground furniture
			£125.00	Bramley Sunnyside Junior School (Joint contribution with 1 other cllr. To make total contribution of £250)		Seating in re-developed quadrangle section
			£250.00	Wickersley Northfield Primary School (Joint contribution with 1 other cllr. To make total contribution of £500)		Purchase of music resources
			£500.00	Bramley Grange Primary School		Additional music tuition for 8-11 year old children
			£250.00	Phoenix & Parkgate Angling Club via Phoenix Sports and Social Club (Joint contribution with 1 other cllr. To make total grant of £500)		Development and maintenance of footpaths to allow public access to Ravenfield Park
			£250.00	Wickersley Operatic Society (Joint contribution with 1 other cllr. To make total grant of £500)		Dramatic Arts training for young people
			£250.00	Wickersley Free Folk Festival (Joint contribution with 1 other cllr. To make total contribution of £500)		Contribution to Wickersley Folk Festival costs
<b>WARD 5</b>						
<b>Brampton, Melton &amp; Wentworth</b>	Cllr Richard Russell	£2,500	£233.00	Waltham C of E Primary School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)	£0.00	Purchase of play equipment for Infant playground
			£233.00	Brampton Cortonwood Infant School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)		Extension of performance stage, creation of quiet / seated area in playground and purchase of games
			£234.00	Brampton Ellis C of E Junior School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)		Purchase of books for library
			£233.00	Wentworth CE J School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)		Literary resources, transport
			£234.00	West Melton Primary School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)		Benches for playground and games
			£234.00	Brampton Ellis C of E Infant School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)		Playground equipment, table and seating
			£183.00	Harley Village Partnership (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Part costs of construction of quiet garden in Harley
			£183.00	Ann Rhodes Centre (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Trip to coast, meal and refreshments
			£184.00	Mission Field Centre (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Trip and catering
			£183.00	York Garden Social Group (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Trip and meal
			£183.00	STATEMENT		Trip and meal
			£183.00	Cortonwood Ladies Guild (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Trip and meal
			£183.00	STATEMENT		Trip and meal
			£184.00	Wentworth Senior Citizens (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Trip, meal and social events
			£233.00	STATEMENT		Trip, meal and social events
	Cllr Paul Hill	£2,500	£233.00	Waltham C of E Primary School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)	£0.00	Purchase of play equipment for Infant playground
			£234.00	Brampton Cortonwood Infant School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)		Extension of performance stage, creation of quiet / seated area in playground and purchase of games
			£233.00	Brampton Ellis C of E Junior School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)		Purchase of books for library
			£234.00	Wentworth CE J School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)		Literary resources, transport
			£233.00	West Melton Primary School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)		Benches for playground and games
			£183.00	Brampton Ellis C of E Infant School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)		Playground equipment, table and seating
			£184.00	Harley Village Partnership (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Part costs of construction of quiet garden in Harley
			£183.00	Ann Rhodes Centre (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Trip to coast, meal and refreshments
			£183.00	Mission Field Centre (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Trip and catering
			£183.00	York Garden Social Group (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Trip and meal
			£183.00	STATEMENT		Trip and meal
			£184.00	Cortonwood Ladies Guild (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Trip and meal
			£183.00	STATEMENT		Trip and meal
			£183.00	Wentworth Senior Citizens (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Trip, meal and social events
	Cllr Frank Hodgkiss	£2,500	£234.00	Waltham C of E Primary School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)	£0.00	Purchase of play equipment for Infant playground
			£233.00	Brampton Cortonwood Infant School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)		Extension of performance stage, creation of quiet / seated area in playground and purchase of games
			£233.00	Brampton Ellis C of E Junior School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)		Purchase of books for library
			£234.00	Wentworth CE J School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)		Literary resources, transport
			£234.00	West Melton Primary School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)		Benches for playground and games
			£233.00	Brampton Ellis C of E Infant School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)		Playground equipment, table and seating
			£183.00	Harley Village Partnership (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Part costs of construction of quiet garden in Harley
			£184.00	Ann Rhodes Centre (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Trip to coast, meal and refreshments
			£183.00	Mission Field Centre (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Trip and catering
			£183.00	York Garden Social Group (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Trip and meal
			£184.00	STATEMENT		Trip and meal
			£183.00	STATEMENT		Trip and meal
			£183.00	Wentworth Senior Citizens (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Trip, meal and social events
	Cllr Reg Littleboy	£2,500	£234.00	Waltham C of E Primary School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)	£0.00	Purchase of play equipment for Infant playground
			£233.00	Brampton Cortonwood Infant School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)		Extension of performance stage, creation of quiet / seated area in playground and purchase of games
			£233.00	Brampton Ellis C of E Junior School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)		Purchase of books for library
			£234.00	Wentworth CE J School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)		Literary resources, transport
			£233.00	West Melton Primary School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)		Benches for playground and games
			£233.00	Brampton Ellis C of E Infant School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £700.)		Playground equipment, table and seating
			£184.00	Harley Village Partnership (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Part costs of construction of quiet garden in Harley
			£183.00	Ann Rhodes Centre (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Trip to coast, meal and refreshments
			£183.00	Mission Field Centre (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Trip and catering
			£184.00	York Garden Social Group (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Trip and meal
			£183.00	STATEMENT		Trip and meal
			£183.00	Cortonwood Ladies Guild (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Trip and meal
			£183.00	STATEMENT		Trip and meal
			£183.00	Wentworth Senior Citizens (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)		Trip, meal and social events
<b>WARD 6</b>						
<b>Brinsworth, Catcliffe &amp; Treeton</b>	Cllr Reg Littleboy	£2,500	£183.00	Wentworth Senior Citizens (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total contribution of £550.)	£506.86	Trip, meal and social events
			£168.55	Treeton Methodist Church		Provision of disabled toilet at Treeton Methodist Church
			£497.00	Treeton Community News		Financial support to the Treeton Community News e.g. White paper and printing costs

Ward No.	Councillors Name	Total Allocation	Amount of grant issued	Recipient	Amount of grant left	Activity
			£221.59	Treeton Community Library		Provision of craft materials (paper, paints, crayons, glue etc) and 2 full page adverts in Treeton community news
			£400.00	Catcliffe Darby and Joan Club		Purchase of a new bingo machine and games
			£206.00	Treeton Art Group		Village exhibition (hiring of hall for 2 days / catering / equipment)
			£500.00	RMBC Housing Services		Contribution towards erection of fence between Pike Rd Council Flats and St Georges cemetery.
	Cllr Allan Jackson	£2,500	£961.63	Catcliffe & Brinsworth Partnership	£891.37	Provision of equipment for the Partnership base e.g. phone/fax, guillotine, cartridge etc.
			£500.00	RMBC Housing Services		Contribution towards erection of fence between Pike Rd Council Flats and St Georges cemetery.
			£147.00	CBT Carer and Toddler Group		Purchase of equipment for play and other group activities
	Cllr Fred Wright	£2,500	£500.00	The Friendship Club	£694.00	Support for the Friendship Club e.g. hall rent / days out / Christmas festivities
			£806.00	Rotherham MBC (Environmental Health)		Purchase of 3 dog waste bins and 2 litter bins for Millennium Park in Brinsworth
			£500.00	RMBC Housing Services		Contribution towards erection of fence between Pike Rd Council Flats and St Georges cemetery.
<b>WARD 7</b>	Cllr Susan Smith	£2,500	£2,500.00			
<b>Broom</b>	Cllr John Gilding	£2,500	£2,500.00			
	Cllr Michael Clarke	£2,500	£500.00	Herrington TARA		Office equipment, paint and pictures for renovation.
<b>WARD 8</b>	Cllr Irene Furnell	£2,500	£1,000.00	Wharmcliffe Tenants Association	£0.00	Provision of carpet, window blinds and insurance
<b>Central</b>			£500.00	Beeversleigh Action Group		Bingo machine and Coach hire
			£200.00	Get Sorted Academy of Music		Contribution towards buying a larger building and attracting further grants and sponsorship
			£200.00	Masbrough & Thornhill Community Association		Provision of notice board and fans
			£200.00	Friends of Bradgate Park		Equipment for the Community Resource Centre - Rexel Piyo Shredder
			£200.00	Rotherham Sea Cadets		Transport, publicity and printing
			£200.00	Rotherham MBC -Library and Information Services		GCSE support sessions in central library
	Cllr Jahangir Akhtar	£2,500	£1,275.00	Rotherham Ethnic Elderly Group	£25.00	Visit to House of Lords and related costs as part of wider education programme on community and political participation
			£1,000.00	Station Rd Community Group		Mother & toddler outing, youth visit and camp.
			£200.00	Rotherham MBC -Library and Information Services		Community event to celebrate Iranian New Year
	Cllr Mahtroof Rashid	£2,500	£2,500.00	Community Engagement Group	£0.00	Group launch, publicity, seminars, study visits and other capacity building measures
	Cllr Paul Lakin	£2,500	£500.00	March Flatts Community Centre	£0.00	Replacement of existing wooden gates and fencing with new steel palisade double gate and fencing for side entrance
<b>WARD 9</b>	Dalton, Hooton Roberts, Thrybergh		£250.00	DTH Pre-School Enterprise (via Ward 9 Community Partnership)		Role play resources including dressing up trolley, mirror and costumes
			£350.00	Thrybergh Circle Group		Promote and encourage positive behavior in school e.g. hire of sports hall / bouncy castle / 2 slides and goody bags
			£250.00	Dalton Short Mat Bowls Club		Coach hire for bowling event
			£900.00	Dalton Folljambe J & I Nursery		Provision of outdoor play equipment for nursery children
			£250.00	Silverwood Senior Citizens Association		Financial support for outing to Turners 'Oldtime' Musical Hall e.g. hire of coach and fees
	Cllr Patrick Burke	£2,500	£500.00	March Flatts Community Centre	£0.00	Renovation costs: re-tiling, heaters, lights, paint, new toilet and labour charges
			£500.00	Silverwood CMW FC		Costs due to changed insurance requirements
			£250.00	Dalton Short Mat Bowls Club		Contribution to purchase of large screen TV
			£650.00	March Flatts Community Centre		Environmental improvements - lamps, bulbs, planters and fixtures
			£600.00	Hooton Roberts Parish Meeting		Purchase of trolleys to transport chairs for use in meetings, coffee mornings etc.
	Cllr Beverley Richardson	£2,500	£325.00	Thrybergh Church Hall Improvement Fund	£1,925.00	Turbo springboard and other gymnastic equipment
			£250.00	Rotherham Gymnastics Club		Football kit for a youth team
<b>WARD 10</b>	Cllr Terry Sharman	£2,500	£167.00	Munsbrough Juniors Football Club (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £500)	£1,783.00	Coach hire, Bingo machine and roving mic.
<b>Greasbrough</b>			£167.00	District Tenants Association (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total grant of £500)		Training jackets, printing and printer.
			£166.00	Greasbrough Youth FC (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £500)		Purchase of educational toys
			£217.00	Greasbrough Playgroup (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £650)		Football kit for a youth team
	Cllr Neil Hamilton (to 30/4/03)		£167.00	Munsbrough Juniors Football Club (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £500)	£1,783.00	Coach hire, Bingo machine and roving mic.
	Cllr Timothy Bowmar (from 1/5/03)	£2,500	£167.00	District Tenants Association (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total grant of £500)	£1,784.00	Training jackets, printing and printer.
			£166.00	Greasbrough Youth FC (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £500)		Purchase of educational toys
			£167.00	Munsbrough Juniors Football Club (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £500)		Football kit for a youth team
			£216.00	Greasbrough Playgroup (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £650)		Coach hire, Bingo machine and roving mic.
	Cllr Lindsay Johnston	£2,500	£166.00	District Tenants Association (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total grant of £500)	£1,783.00	Training jackets, printing and printer.
			£167.00	Greasbrough Youth FC (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £500)		Purchase of educational toys
			£167.00	Greasbrough Playgroup (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £500)		Football kit for a youth team
	Cllr Bob Heaps	£2,500	£217.00	East Herrington Junior TARA	£750.00	Purchasing of educational toys
			£250.00	Rotherham East Community Association		Policing and keep tidy the Laudsdale Play area
<b>WARD 11</b>	Herrington		£500.00	Rotherham East Community Association		Security measures to community centre
			£500.00	Herrington TARA (part paid to RMBC for works)		Purchase and erection of bench and memorial plaque. Publicity and office costs.
			£500.00	Coleridge Early Birds		Storage furniture for Breakfast Club based at Coleridge Primary
	Cllr Sheila Walker	£2,500	£470.00	The Lanes Community Association	£348.38	Buying a second hand professional pool table
			£329.00	Rotherham East Community Association		Provision of a roller shutter door on the side door of community centre
			£500.00	Herrington TARA		Cost of community show and office stationery

Ward No.	Councillors Name	Total Allocation	Amount of grant issued	Recipient	Amount of grant left	Activity
			£500.00	Herringthorpe Senior Citizen's Group via St Mary's Church		Costs in use of church facilities of group activities
			£202.62	Pensioners Social Club		Purchase of water boiler and teapot
			£150.00	East Herringthorpe TARA (Junior Section)		Costs of entertainment at open day
	Cllr Mark Edgell (to 7/9/03) Cllr Raymond Noble (from 27/11/03)	£2,500	£500.00	The Lanes Community Association	£158.00	Provision of two benches and two litter bins outside Centre
			£492.00	East Herringthorpe TARA (Junior Section)		60 football training balls for new football team and building young peoples skills through course at earth centre
			£500.00	Rotherham East Community Association		Provision of security shutter door for community centre
			£200.00	Eastwood Youth Centre		Day trip to Alton Towers including 2x minibus hire
			£200.00	Pensioners Social Club		Purchase of pots and Easter party costs
			£150.00	East Herringthorpe TARA (Junior Section)		Costs of entertainment at open day
			£997.00	Rotherham Rednecks BMX / Mountainbike Club	£3.00	Funds will be used to purchase equipment to run an open day for the Rotherham BMX Track
	Cllr John Foden	£2,500	£1,500.00	Masborough Cemetery Neighbourhood Watch		Stationery, office and other equipment
	Cllr Aubrey Senior	£2,500	£45.03	Masbrough Cemetery Neighbourhood Watch	£2.09	54 Spray paints - for Graffiti allowed Top Tagz competition
			£652.88	Blackburn Community Partnership		Erection of community notice
			£1,800.00	Millmoor Juniors Football Club		Security measures and children's playground equipment at Grange Park
			£1,000.00	Richmond Park Social Centre		Provision of essential repairs/improvements to the Social Centre e.g. fire protection equipment / curtains / tracks etc.
	Cllr Pat Lee Cllr Karl Barton	£2,500 £2,500				
	Cllr Audrey Gilbert	£2,500	£200.00	Kiveton Park Youth & Comm' Centre	£1,500.00	Provision of educational toys, playmates, activity tables and construction / mobility toys
			£200.00	Hartill Pre-School		Provision of out door equipment for play
			£200.00	Kiveton & Wales Play Group		To purchase equipment to promote early years literacy and other skills inc. IT and Numeracy
			£200.00	Todwick PreSchool Play Group		Purchase of a water tray and laminating machine
			£200.00	Wales Childcare Partnership		Provision of storage boxes and stand for move to new building
	Cllr Ann Britton (to 30/4/03) Cllr D. Hall (from 1/5/03)	£2,500			£2,500.00	Works at Maltby cemetery: Laying of pipes, provide new water tap, 2x memorial benches, repair and remedial work to pathways
	Cllr Amy Rushforth	£2,500	£2,500.00	Rotherham MBC Bereavement Services (Joint contribution with other 2 cllr.s to make total grant of £7,500)	£0.00	Works at Maltby cemetery: Laying of pipes, provide new water tap, 2x memorial benches, repair and remedial work to pathways
	Cllr Glyn Robinson	£2,500	£2,500.00	Rotherham MBC Bereavement Services (Joint contribution with other 2 cllr.s to make total grant of £7,500)	£0.00	Works at Maltby cemetery: Laying of pipes, provide new water tap, 2x memorial benches, repair and remedial work to pathways
	Cllr Jo Burton	£2,500	£2,500.00	Rotherham MBC Bereavement Services (Joint contribution with other 2 cllr.s to make total grant of £7,500)	£0.00	Support to the activities of the Breakfast Club e.g. Games and Activities, creative resources and visit to coast
	Cllr Barry Dodson	£2,500	£500.00	St Ann's Breakfast Buddies (Joint contribution with other 2 cllr.s to make total grant of £1500)	£0.39	Grant for replacement chess sets / uniform for chess team / financial support for accommodation at National Championship
			£500.00	East Dene Chess Club via East Dene JI School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £1500)		
			£748.00	RMBC Library and Information Services (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £2244)		Tutor costs for GCSE revision/support classes in partnership with Clifton Comprehensive School and Rotherham Ethnic Minority Alliance
			£482.61	Clifton School Friends Association (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £1447.84)		Shed, greenhouse and tools for allotments
			£169.00	Shaheen Group - Eastwood Youth Centre (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £507)		Sport activities, residential and transport
			£100.00	Eastwood Action Residents (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £300)		Day trip and equipment for indoor activities
	Cllr Maurice Kirk	£2,500	£500.00	St Ann's Breakfast Buddies (Joint contribution with other 2 cllr.s to make total grant of £1500)	£0.39	Support to the activities of the Breakfast Club e.g. Games and Activities, creative resources and visit to coast
			£500.00	East Dene Chess Club via East Dene JI School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £1500)		Grant for replacement chess sets / uniform for chess team / financial support for accommodation at National Championship
			£748.00	RMBC Library and Information Services (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £2244)		Tutor costs for GCSE revision/support classes in partnership with Clifton Comprehensive School and Rotherham Ethnic Minority Alliance
			£482.61	Clifton School Friends Association (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £1447.84)		Shed, greenhouse and tools for allotments
			£169.00	Shaheen Group - Eastwood Youth Centre (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £507)		Sport activities, residential and transport
			£100.00	Eastwood Action Residents (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £300)		Day trip and equipment for indoor activities
	Cllr Shaukat Ali	£2,500	£500.00	St Ann's Breakfast Buddies (Joint contribution with other 2 cllr.s to make total grant of £1500)	£0.38	Support to the activities of the Breakfast Club e.g. Games and Activities, creative resources and visit to coast
			£500.00	East Dene Chess Club via East Dene JI School (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £1500)		Grant for replacement chess sets / uniform for chess team / financial support for accommodation at National Championship
			£748.00	RMBC Library and Information Services (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £2244)		Tutor costs for GCSE revision/support classes in partnership with Clifton Comprehensive School and Rotherham Ethnic Minority Alliance
			£482.62	Clifton School Friends Association (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £1447.84)		Shed, greenhouse and tools for allotments
			£169.00	Shaheen Group - Eastwood Youth Centre (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £507)		Sport activities, residential and transport
			£100.00	Eastwood Action Residents (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £300)		Day trip and equipment for indoor activities
	Cllr Roger Stone	£2,500	£1,928.00	Rotherham MBC - Streepride	£0.00	Replacement of 4 old concrete bins on Kilmhurst Rd
			£496.65	Rotherham Community and Voluntary Sectors' Health Network		Contribution to meeting costs including venue, translation and member expenses
			£75.35	Rotherham MBC - Streepride (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total grant of £1,144.55)		
	Cllr Shaun Wright	£2,500	£144.80	Rotherham Community and Voluntary Sectors' Health Network	£0.00	Meeting room costs
			£488.00	Rawmarsh St Joseph's RC Primary School		Transport and residential for children
			£300.00	Karamba (part of Kilmhurst Autistic Resource)		Contribution to purchase on minibus
			£500.00	Ravenfield Parish Council		Safety surfacing, fencing and signage around play area

Ward No.	Councillors Name	Total Allocation	Amount of grant issued	Recipient	Amount of grant left	Activity
			£202.00	Rotherham MBC - Streepride		Installation of Grit Bin
			£865.20	Rotherham MBC - Streepride (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total grant of £1,144.55)		
	Cllr Ann Russell	£2,500	£850.00	Rotherham MBC - Streepride	£0.00	Clearing of footpath and hedge cutting at Vale Rd, Thrybergh
			£1,446.00	Thrybergh Parish Council		Installation of three litter bins in area
			£204.00	Rotherham MBC - Streepride (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total grant of £1,144.55)		
<b>WARD 17</b>	Cllr Jack Carr (to 31/3/02)		£859.97	Rotherham MBC - Streepride	£40.03	Erection of posts on Haugh Rd to promote safer parking. Repair of verge.
	Cllr. Neil Hamilton (from 1/5/03)	£2,500				Widening of access way / parking bay within Middle Avenue and removal of hazardous verge
<b>Rawmarsh West</b>			£1,000.00	Rotherham MBC - Streepride		Erection of brick wall on the brideway civic area, Rawmarsh to improve pedestrian safety
			£600.00	Rotherham MBC - Streepride	£1,962.35	Erect strategic fencing and 2 lockable gates
	Cllr Keith Gouly	£2,500	£537.65	Rotherham MBC - Building works	£8.46	
	Cllr Glyn Wheelbourn	£2,500	£2,241.54	Rotherham MBC - Housing Services		
			£250.00	Rotherham MBC - Housing and Environmental Services		Community Skip for residents within parts of Rawmarsh
<b>WARD 18</b>	Cllr Clarence Swindell	£2,500	£250.00	Dinnington Juniors Football Club	£1,500.00	Provision of football training equipment (young people in Dinnington Area)
<b>St. Johns</b>			£250.00	Dinnington Cricket Club Steering Group		Contribution to cricket square assessment and equipment purchase.
			£500.00	Dinnington Operatic Society (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £1500)		Contribution to costs of staging a show
	Cllr Derrick Chapman (to 30/4/03)		£400.00	Lyric Theatre Players	£1,250.00	Provision of equipment for the Lyric Theatre e.g. Lapel Microphone
	Cllr David Davies (from 1/5/03)	£2,500	£500.00	Dinnington Operatic Society (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £1500)		Contribution to costs of staging a show
			£350.00	Dinnington Historic Society		Electric comb binder, paper and binding combs
	Cllr Philip Wardle	£2,500	£250.00	Dinnington Town FC	£660.00	Funding towards floodlight system
			£250.00	Dinnington Juniors Football Club		Various articles of equipment i.e. football strips, and hiring fees for sessions
			£250.00	Dinnington RUFC Junior Section		Provision of training equipment for junior rugby sides
			£500.00	Dinnington Operatic Society (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £1500)		Contribution to costs of staging a show
<b>WARD 19</b>	Cllr Neil License	£2,500	£600.00	Wide Awake Kids Club	£2,012.72	Contribution to costs of Breakfast Club at Dinnington Primary School
<b>Swinton</b>			£237.28	Highfield Park Action Group (via Groundwork Dearne Valley)		Groundwork Dearne Valley - provision of steel park bench
			£250.00	Sport for Swinton		To fund costs to establish a group e.g. paper/stationery/postage etc.
	Cllr Ken Wyatt	£2,500	£1,000.00	Groundwork Dearne Valley	£0.00	Design and production of 7 outdoor plaques, designs and layout of original
			£620.00	RMBC Streepride		Installation of timber posts to protect grassed area at Fosters Close, Swinton
			£300.00	Mental Health Group (awaiting application)		
			£580.00	St Margaret's Appeal Fund	£912.82	Contribution to renovations to improve access by community
	Cllr John Doyle	£2,500	£937.18	Swinton Young Roots (via Swinton Comprehensive School)		Provision of publicity leaflet for the Heritage Trail Project
			£150.00	Charles St Social Club		Provision of IT training
<b>WARD 20</b>	Cllr Dave Pickering	£2,500	£500.00	Milton Support Group	£0.75	Contribution to development of 'therapeutic environment' in Milton School
<b>Thorpe Hesley</b>			£794.10	Scholes Village Association		Financial support for project to erect a notice board in the village
			£1,090.00	Thorpe Hesley Junior School		Creation of school garden and path
			£615.15	Risky Business project (part contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £863.15)		
	Cllr Michael Judge (to 31/4/03)		£985.00	Kimbenworth Park Forum	£7.70	Basic food and hygiene parcel, personal alarm and essential household items for vulnerable young women at risk. Also storage space for parcels.
	Cllr Ian Colin Barron (from 1/5/03)	£2,500				Financial support to the Forum's 'Planning For Real' event e.g. booking of features and publicity
			£124.00	Risky Business project (part contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £863.15)		
			£1,009.30	Thorpe Hesley & Scholes Community Forum (Part contribution with 1 other cllr. To make total of £2018.60)		Basic food and hygiene parcel, personal alarm and essential household items for vulnerable young women at risk. Also storage space for parcels.
			£374.00	Redscope Junior Fund (Joint contribution with 1 other cllr. To make total grant of £440)		Purchase, erection of 3 community notice boards and planning permission Litter bins for school patio area
	Cllr Barry Kaye	£2,500	£430.00	Kimble Park Rangers Football Club	£0.70	Provision of football strip for 15 youths, cost of match and practice footballs, cost to send 2 volunteers on Council run courses
			£155.00	19th Rotherham Brownie Pack		Cost of resources members e.g. books, welcome cards, and guidance
			£124.00	Risky Business project (part contribution with other 2 cllrs to make total grant of £863.15)		
			£1,009.30	Thorpe Hesley & Scholes Community Forum (Part contribution with 1 other cllr. To make total of £2018.60)		Basic food and hygiene parcel, personal alarm and essential household items for vulnerable young women at risk. Also storage space for parcels.
			£715.00	Black Hut Community Association		Purchase, erection of 3 community notice boards and planning permission
			£66.00	Redscope Junior Fund (Joint contribution with 1 other cllr. To make total grant of £440)		Purchase and installation of replacement hot water boiler
<b>WARD 21</b>	Cllr Georgina Boyes	£2,500	£83.00	Thurcroft Women's Institute (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total grant of £250)	£1,500.00	Financial support for educational visit for the Womens Institute Members e.g. coach hire/admission charges
<b>Thurcroft &amp; Whiston</b>			£84.00	Thurcroft Welfare Bowling Club (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total grant of £250)		Improvements to gents toilets, improvements and essential repairs to cabin
			£83.00	The Friday Club (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total grant of £250)		
			£83.00	Thurcroft Thursday Dance Club (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total grant of £250)		Provision of glass paints and liners, cards and paper and outdoor games
			£83.00	Whiston Parish Hall Mgmt Committee (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total grant of £250)		Hiring of coach / venue / music etc
			£84.00	Thurcroft Community Crafts (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total grant of £250)		Improvements to the Parish hall e.g. new chairs / wall heater
			£83.00	Greystones Action Group (Joint contribution with other 2 cllrs. To make total grant of £250)		To buy supplies for members use e.g. craft materials
						Restoration of 2 benches and building 5 brick planted areas



