

## 10. SOCIAL INITIATIVES PROGRAMME

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Officer responsible</b><br>Stephen Phillips | <b>Author</b><br>George Clark for Social Initiatives Team, DDI 371-1933 |
|--|---|

The purpose of this report is to provide information and recommendations to the Community Services Committee on the management and practice of the Social Initiatives Programme going into the next three-year cycle.

### REPORT ON SOCIAL INITIATIVES

Attached to this report is a detailed report on the future direction of the social initiatives programme. This report details the approach taken to develop sound processes and practice and assessment procedures based on the priorities and criteria set by the Community Services Committee in November 2000.

In keeping with the original Social Initiatives Programme objectives of addressing the reduction of disparity and multi-disadvantage, and targeting projects towards preventative and/or early intervention approaches, the report adopts the priorities and criteria set by the committee in November 2000. The report recommends on issues of process and best practice, the roll-over of some existing projects, and the incorporation of evaluation processes in the assessment of both projects and the programme.

The report also describes a "needs analysis" completed by the Policy Directorate, based on the Community Services Committee identified programme priorities, i.e. needs related to issues of disparity and localities of deprivation within the city.

The report recommends a process for the assessment of potential new projects against the priority needs of the city. This process would progressively work through identifying potential providers, selecting providers, negotiating funding, monitoring projects and evaluating the programme against the priority needs of the city.

The report identifies a recommended approach to the roll-over/exiting and transfer of existing projects from the programme. Recommendations are made on:

- Six existing projects to be rolled over for an additional three years.
- Six projects to be rolled over for one year for evaluation to decide continuance beyond the 2001/02 year.
- One project (Fieldworkers) to be transferred to a community provider (FAST Trust).
- Two projects to be potentially funded from Community Boards after one year.

Full assessment tables assess each current Social Initiative project against the established priorities and criteria, with recommendations for the continuance or otherwise on each project (Appendix 2, page 17).

Project parameters are recommended for each project, including a formal agreement that includes a statement of intended outcomes, incorporates an evaluation process from the beginning of the project, and sets identified review dates.

Finally, a full evaluation process is recommended and outlined for adoption as part of the overall assessment of projects in the future. It is intended that an evaluation process will enhance the existing Annual Planning and Reporting processes and provide a basis not only for the assessment of project outcomes, but also for the continued improvement of projects and the programme.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the Committee consider the attached report.
  2. That the Committee adopt the recommendations regarding existing projects outlined in the table in section 7 of the report (page 8).
  3. That the Committee adopt the process for allocating available funding to new projects outlined in section 9 of the report (page 10).
  4. That the Committee adopt the evaluation process outlined in section 11 of the report (page 12).

- Chairman's Recommendation:**
1. That the above recommendation be adopted.
  2. That it be noted that Councillors will be asked to identify projects which meet criteria, priorities and identified gaps and that, following assessments, recommendations be forwarded to the Community Services Committee.