



meeting Community Services Select Committee

date 19th December 2005

agenda item number

Report of the Assistant Director, Regeneration

Scrutiny of Community Safety Initiatives

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide a progress report on the Member Study Group looking at aspects of the work of the Youth Service Crime & Disorder Team

Information and Advice

2. At the Community Services Select Committee of the 3rd October 2005 Members voted to look at the Activ8 Project. This project is part of the Young Persons Division and works with young people who are at risk of offending, who have offended or are involved with anti social behaviour. The project offers interventions that will divert young people away from offending activities and offers possibilities for personal development and new skills.
3. The study group held an initial meeting after the Select Committee meeting on 14th November at which the Activat8 Senior Worker explained the work of the team. Active8 includes three areas of activity, ie:
 - New Horizons
 - Buddying
 - "FX"
4. Members have been sent details of planned interventions that they are invited to attend with officers. These interventions may be home visits or group work. The objective of the visits is to provide a better understanding of the issues that the Youth Service Crime and Disorder Team are dealing with and to enable members to take a view on how effective the interventions are. They also provide an opportunity to get the views of some of the young people and parents involved. The nature of this work requires some sensitivity on the part of the observers. Members who have attended some of the early sessions may be able to update the Committee orally.

5. The Members Study Group is also being provided with performance information about the work of the Crime & Disorder Team. This is summarised in appendix 1
6. Some of the themes that the study group has identified for further examination include:
 - Whether intervention with young people at risk is sufficiently early,
 - Referral routes, and especially whether links with schools are adequate
 - How young people and their parents experience the project
 - Outcomes in terms of accreditation for the young people, reduced levels of offending, and entry into education, employment or training
 - The cost-effectiveness of the project
7. A final report from the Study Group is to be on the agenda of this Committee in February 2006.

Statutory and Policy Implications

8. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, personnel, crime and disorder and users. Where such implications are material, they have been brought out in the text of this report.

Recommendation

9. It is recommended that this reported is noted.

Nigel Hamshire
Assistant Director, Regeneration
(Contact Officer: Adrian Dudley)

Legal Services' Comments

This report is for noting only and no decision is necessary (JA 07.12.05)

Director of Resources' Financial Comments

Background Papers Available for Inspection

None

Electoral Division(s) Affected

All.