

report



meeting Cabinet

date 27 April 2005

agenda item number

REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION **Kirkby-in-Ashfield Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder**

Purpose of Report

- 1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval in accordance with Finance Standing Order A3.4 for expenditure on the Kirkby-in -Ashfield Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder funded by Government grant for Neighbourhood Management.

Information and Advice

- 2 Kirkby Neighbourhood Management initiative is funded under the Government's National Strategy on Neighbourhood Renewal. The Kirkby-in-Ashfield Management Board secured initial funding of £2 million over three years, from April 2002 to the end of March 2005, to establish a Pathfinder project in Kirkby East, Kirkby West and the town centre. The community in these areas and the providers of local services have been working with a dedicated manager and team, developing strategies to solve problems and deliver long-term change. Government funding has been confirmed to March 31st 2008 and it is anticipated that, subject to satisfactory performance, the programme will continue to receive funding until the end of March 2009.
- 3 The Kirkby Neighbourhood Management Board consists of local residents, elected members, voluntary and community representatives and service providers. Nottinghamshire County Council is represented on the Board and Ashfield District Council is acting as Accountable Body for the Kirkby Neighbourhood Management Programme.
- 4 Following consultation with the Deputy Leader on April 29th 2002, approval was given for the County Council to act as the Employing Body for the core team of staff of the Kirkby Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder Programme on behalf of the local

Management Board. There are five members of staff employed as the core team and funding from the programme covers these staffing costs.

- 5 On 30th October 2002, Cabinet approved expenditure of up to £356,723 on the Kirkby Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder between 2002-2005. Following confirmation of continuing Government funding to the Pathfinder programme, approval has now been granted, through the delegated decision process, to extend the staff contracts for a further three years from April 2005 - March 2008.
- 6 The estimated costs for employing these posts are detailed in Appendix 1. An agreement has been drawn up between this Authority, the Neighbourhood Management Board and the District Council (acting as the Accountable Body) outlining the services to be provided by the County Council, as the Employing Body, and the charges for these services. These costs will be claimed back from Government grant to the Kirkby Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder programme.

Statutory and Policy Implications

- 7 This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, personnel, Crime and Disorder and those using the service. Where such implications are material, they have been described in the text of the report. There could be potential redundancy costs at the end of the project. The amount is difficult to estimate but the costs will fall to the authority and need to be built into the 2007/2008 budget.

Recommendation

- 8 It is recommended that Cabinet grants approval to expenditure of up to £519,122 between 2005-2008 on the Kirkby Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder to be funded from Government grant for Neighbourhood Management.

Councillor Chris Winterton
Cabinet Member for Regeneration
(Contact Officer: Trish Adams X 72042)

Director of Resources' Financial Comments (C.C)(P.B)

The costs associated with the Kirkby Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder Project will be funded by Neighbourhood Renewal Grant. As indicated in the report there could be potential redundancy costs at the end of the project but these are difficult to estimate. These costs will fall to the authority and will need to be built into the 2007/2008 budget.

Legal Services' Comments

Under Financial Regulation D.2.2.2, the Cabinet is not limited to a maximum amount on grants that it may make. The Council has powers under the Local Government Act 2000 to do anything likely to improve the economic, social or environmental well being of its area or of people within its area. The Council lists amongst its priorities, culture, environment and the community. The Cabinet must be satisfied that the matters described in this report fall within the provisions of the statutory power and will improve the economic, social or environmental well being of the area and in doing so the Cabinet must have regard to the matters set out in the Council's Community Strategy.(JA 04.04.05)

Background Papers Available for Inspection

Kirkby Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder Delivery Plan 2005-06

Electoral Divisions Affected

Kirkby-in-Ashfield North and Kirkby in Ashfield South

Appendix 1**NCC Estimated Employment Expenditure**

Salaries:	05-06 £	06-07 £	07-08 £
Neighbourhood Manager Hay Band D (Protected at SLS 2 until Jan 07)	40,440	40,594	38,580
Deputy Neighbourhood Manager Hay Band B	27,410	29,011	30,741
Town Centre Manager, Hay Band A (PO 29-34) (Protected at PO 34-37 until Jan 08)	27,410	29,011	29,331
Finance Officer, Sc 6- SO1 (Subject to Job Evaluation)	21,653	23,176	24,659
Customer Liaison/Administrator Scale 4 (Subject to Job Evaluation)	15,674	16,741	17,863
Total Salary Costs	132,587	138,533	141,174
Oncosts @ 23%	30,495	31,863	32,470
Staff Training	1,000	1,000	1,000
Mileage	500	500	500
Mobile Phones	200	200	200
Total Staffing Costs	164,782	172,096	175,344
Financial Services/ Payroll @ £20 ph (12 days £150)	1,800	1,800	1,800
Legal Services	500	500	500
Total Employment Costs	167,082	174,396	177,644