



meeting Administration Committee

date 21 September 2005

agenda item number

Report of the Director, Culture & Community

AGIS Project Visit to Poznan October 2005

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval for a County Council officer to travel as part of a delegation of six persons, led by the Police, to Poznan to finalise the bid for funding from the AGIS European Funding stream.

Information and Advice

2. Under the Travel and Accommodation Policy and other arrangements approved by the full Council on 7 October 2004, this Committee is the appropriate body for considering/approving attendance at a range of events and the travel and accommodation requirements arising.
3. This report describes a proposal which is within the Committee's decision-making powers and Members are asked to consider whether attendance at the event should be approved (including the number of representatives), together with any necessary travel, accommodation or other arrangements.
4. The information included within the following sections of the report should ensure compliance with normal decision-making rules. If attendance is approved, the details referred to below will be used to compile the Public Register, which is available on the Council's web-site.

Reasons for attendance

5. The Police Authority and partners including the Police, Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council and County Drug and Alcohol Action Teams are working with European partners in Poznan (Poland) and Assen (Holland) to submit a bid for AGIS European Funding to undertake a research project to better understand drug markets and how to control and manage them.

6. A meeting has been planned for October 2005 to finalise the bid document and agree financial contributions to the match funding required. (Nottinghamshire County Council is contributing £5k to the project). This meeting will take place in Poznan between 8 October and 12 October 2005. Councillor John Clarke, Chair of the Nottinghamshire Police Authority is leading the delegation.
7. It is proposed that Adrian Dudley who leads on the Nottinghamshire County Council Substance Misuse Strategy and works closely with the Nottinghamshire Drug and Alcohol Action Team and the Police attends.
8. The AGIS Project bid, if successful, will involve a research project undertaken by a university or research institute that will identify and disseminate, through a series of seminars, best practice in mapping and controlling drug markets.
9. Controlling and managing drug markets will have significant implications for many communities in Nottinghamshire where substance misuse is a serious issue. If the project is successful the adverse influence of substance misuse in Nottinghamshire could be significantly reduced.

Travel and Accommodation requirements

10. The costs associated with the event are estimated to be as follows:

Description	Amount
Conference or event fee	£Nil
Coach travel to and from airport	£Nil
Flights	£Nil
Accommodation	£Nil
Insurance	£15
Subsistence	£70
 The total cost will be	 £85

The travel and accommodation costs are being met by the Police Authority through a grant from GOEM.

Statutory and Policy Implications

11. 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.

Recommendation

12. It is recommended that approval is given for a County Council officer to travel as part of the AGIS delegation to Poznan on 8 October, returning on 12 October 2005 to finalise this European Union funding bid.

Mick Burrows
Director, Culture & Community
(Contact Officer: Adrian Dudley)

Legal Comments(KK)

The Administration Committee has the delegated authority to approve officer travel outside Europe or any travel in excess of four days. The proposal in this report, insofar as it is in accordance with the Council's Travel and Accommodation Policy, is within the remit of this Committee

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

The costs identified in paragraph 10 can be funded from the Safer Communities Budget within the Community Safety and Partnerships Portfolio.

Background Papers Available for Inspection

Programme for Police and Judicial Co-operation in Criminal Matters (Programme AGIS).

Electoral Division(s) Affected

All.