

Report of: Neighbourhood Renewal Business Manager

To: Executive Board

Date: 9 October 2006

Item No:

Title of Report : Community Centre Strategy

Summary and Recommendations



Purpose of report: To advise the Executive Board of Area Committee and Scrutiny Committee comments on the framework and approach of the Community Centre Strategy and ask the Board to recommend the Strategy to Council.

Key decision: No

Portfolio Holder: Cllr. Armitage, Healthier Environment.

Scrutiny Responsibility: Community Scrutiny

Ward(s) affected: All

Report Approved by

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Alan Armitage, Healthier Environment.

Legal: Jeremy Thomas, Business Manager

Finance: Andy Collett, Group Accountant

Strategic Director: Michael Lawrence, Health Housing and Community.



Policy Framework: None



Recommendation(s):

Present the Executive Board:



1. notes comments received from Area and Scrutiny Committees
2. endorses the approach of the Community Centre Strategy and recommends Council to adopt it as part of the Policy Framework.



1. The Community Centre Strategy has been under development over the last two years.
2. This process has involved four principal drafts, and substantial changes to the document.
3. The attached Appendix 1 represents a version which has been consulted upon with Community Associations and the Federation of Community Associations, and incorporates the changes of the portfolio holder, strategic director, area co-ordinators, other officers and members.
4. The Four Step Action Plan on the first page of Appendix 1 outlines a way forward for community centres using the Commniuty Matters' "VISIBLE" process and a timeline under which community centres work with area committees and community centre managers to achieve the essential criteria. A parallel buildings audit is also proposed.
5. Area and Scrutiny Committees have been asked to endorse the use of the independent VISIBLE framework and to comment on the approach of the strategy, mindful of the fact that finance and staffing implications might flow from the recommendations.
6. Comments received to date are set out in Appendix 2 and any further comments received will be available at the meeting.
7. The Executive Board is asked to:
 - note comments received from Area and Scrutiny Committees
 - endorse the approach of the Community Centre Strategy and recommend Council to adopt it as part of the Policy Framework.

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Background papers: None

