

STAR PARTNERSHIP

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides an update on progress with StAR Partnership initiatives in the Roche and St Andrews Wards of Rochford.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Council's Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy, launched in April 1999, identified various priority areas for action, including Roche and St Andrews Wards. At the same time, the Rochford Primary Care Group Locality Action Plan (LAP) for health improvement also identified Roche Ward as an area with health and social issues needing attention and resources. The LAP was subsequently broadened to include St Andrew's Ward.
- 2.2 Under the guidance of Rochford District Council, Health and Essex County Council Community Care meetings took place with other key agencies to discuss the way forward to tackle social, economic, health and environmental issues within the two Wards.
- 2.3 Between the Autumn of 1999 and Spring of 2000 a number of activities took place to progress the work in the area. These were carried out through collaborative working between community representatives and a number of organisations with a professional or local interest in the area, under the title of the St AR (St Andrews & Roche) Partnership.
- 2.4 In January 2000, through joint funding, The StAR Partnership undertook a major public consultation exercise using a technique known as 'Planning for Real'.
- 2.5 At this 'hands-on' exercise over 500 local residents expressed their concerns, aspirations and views on the area.

3 FURTHER DETAIL

- 3.1 At the same time, the StAR Partnership agreed that in order to ensure the future success of the StAR project, further manpower would be required. It was decided that a post of Community Development Worker be created to service the StAR Partnership and the working parties that develop from it. Additionally, the post holder would develop community capacity and community based projects with local people.
- 3.2 Through joint funding, an appointment was made and the postholder started work in June 2000. It was agreed that she be managed by

South Essex Health Authority (through the Rochford Primary Care Group).

- 3.3 Following the appointment, Rochford District Council handed over to the StAR Partnership the responsibility for organising the Farmers Market that had previously been set up and run by the Council.
- 3.4 Through joint funding The Council is currently committed to £10,000 for 2001/02 towards the costs of a Community Development Worker in StAR from the Crime & Disorder Reserve.
- 3.5 Joint funding for the Community Development Worker expires in June 2002 and in supporting a bid for renewed funding the South Essex Health Authority have provided a paper that describes the StAR Partnership development, identified priorities and progress against the objectives developed to address those priorities. (See [Appendix 1](#)).
- 3.6 Community Planning is a strategic requirement for the Council.

4 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Primary Objectives 7.7(a) and 7.7(b) in the current District Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy are to reduce the levels of Crime & Disorder in Rochford Roche and St Andrews Wards.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Should the Council decide to continue to support the development and expansion of the StAR Partnership a sum of £12,000 from the Crime and Disorder Reserve will be needed to joint fund the Community Development Worker for 2002/03, with Health contributing approximately £15,000. A further £12,000 will be required for 2003/04, making a total commitment of £24,000.

6 PARISH IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Wards are within Rochford Parish. However, it is proposed to extend the scope of the StAR Partnership to other wards in the future.

7 RECOMMENDATION

7.1 Proposed that this Committee Recommends

1. That the progress report by the South Essex Health Authority be noted.
2. The Council consider whether to continue to support the development and expansion of the StAR Partnership through joint funding for 2002/03.

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3. The Council consider whether to continue to additionally support the development and expansion of the StAR Partnership through joint funding for a further year for 2003/04.
 4. Should funding be renewed for either one or two years, that the Community Safety Sub Committee receive regular bi-monthly progress reports from the StAR Partnership. (CPM)

Paul Warren

Chief Executive

Background Papers:

Appendix 1 - report by the South Essex Health Authority

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