

## **StAR PARTNERSHIP – FURTHER FUNDING**

### **1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The report seeks Members' views as to whether the StAR project should continue to be funded for a further two year period.

### **2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 The StAR partnership originated out of the work undertaken by the District Council around Community Safety and the Primary Care Trust around health improvements some four years ago. Since that time, the project co-ordinator's post has been funded primarily by the District Council and the Primary Care Trust. The current funding regime expires in October 2004. The extent of the District Council's financial contribution over the period 2002-2004 has been £12,000 per annum. Since its establishment, the StAR Partnership has regularly reported on progress to the Council, the most recent report being in December 2003 (min 569/03).

### **3 DETAILED CONSIDERATIONS**

- 3.1 Members are now requested to consider whether further funding support should be given to the Community Development Co-ordinator post for a further period beyond October 2004. The Castle Point and Rochford Primary Care Trust (PCT) have already confirmed that it is prepared to contribute to funding for the Co-ordinator's post for a further two year period and have set aside £20,000 per annum. Previously, its contribution was £16,500 per annum.
- 3.2 There is no doubt that the Partnership has started to make progress in terms of developing community projects and community projects and community capacity within the District building up. The latest update sheet is appended.
- 3.3 The amount of funding being sought from the Council is £18,000 per annum for the two year period. This will also contribute to funding the co-ordinator's post and collectively with the PCT's contribution, will fund the support and administrative costs over the period.

- 3.4 To date, the PCT have incurred extra costs to cover non-salary expenditure such as office equipment, publicity material, initial project costs and special events. This year a further £5,000 has been budgeted to help with pump priming projects.
- 3.5 Details of new projects, and projects for the future can be seen on page 15.4. It is envisaged that after new projects are launched, costs will be met by each project's separate external funding.

#### **4 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 Should the Council decide to continue to support the development and expansion of the StAR Partnership the £18,000 per annum can be funded from the Crime and Disorder Reserve. There is currently a balance of £85,341 in that Reserve.

#### **5 RECOMMENDATION**

- 5.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**
- (i) That a contribution of £18,000 per annum be made to the StAR Partnership from the Council's Crime and Disorder Reserve to cover to operation of the project for a further two years, commencing in October 2004
  - (ii) That the StAR project report into the Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee on a quarterly basis so that Members can continue to monitor progress and evaluate its effectiveness.

Paul Warren

Chief Executive

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#### **Background Papers:**

None

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