

HOUSING INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report invites comments on the annual update of the Council's Housing Strategy statement.

2 THE HOUSING INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

- 2.1 At the Committee Meeting on 27 June 2000, Members received a report on the Housing Investment Programme (HIP) process for this year, which explained that because of committee timetables, a draft strategy update had to be sent to the Government Office for the East of England (Go East) prior to consideration at this meeting. Any changes which Members feel are appropriate will be notified to Go East.
- 2.2 A meeting is being arranged with officials from Go East to discuss the Council's housing strategy, investment bid/plan and performance. This is likely to be on 11 October.
- 2.3 The update is appended. This is the second update to the original strategy which was produced in 1998, and it provides information on progress against existing targets, as well as commentary on new developments and new targets. If any Member does not have a copy of the original strategy or the Update 1999, they are invited to contact the Head of Housing, Health & Community Care.
- 2.4 A best value review of the Council's strategic housing role is currently being undertaken, the progress of which is the subject of a separate report on this agenda. The review is identifying a range of issues that need to be addressed and it provides a timely opportunity to produce a revised housing strategy next year which will cover a 3-5 year period.

3 LOCAL AUTHORITY SOCIAL HOUSING GRANT (LASHG)

- 3.1 At the June meeting, Members agreed the allocation of the approved LASHG budget, to include the purchase and adaptation of one property for a wheelchair user in partnership with John Groomes Housing Association. There may be some difficulties in progressing the scheme with that particular housing association, centred around disagreements between the Social Services Occupational Therapist's recommendations and the housing association's own scheme standards.

There is a need to move forward with the minimum of delay and Members' approval is sought to work, if necessary, with other housing

associations who have the necessary expertise to produce a workable scheme for this case.

4 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are strong links between the housing strategy and the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The LASHG is within the approved Capital Programme.
- 5.2 The Council's housing strategy and performance has an effect on the funding allocation it receives.

6 RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**
- (1) That, subject to any amendments required by Committee, the Housing Strategy Update 2000 be approved.
 - (2) That Officers be authorised to work with a range of housing associations, if necessary, to develop a purchase and adapt scheme for a wheelchair adapted property using LASHG. (HHHCC)

G P Woolhouse

Head of Housing, Health & Community Care

Background Papers:

None.

For further information please contact G P Woolhouse on:-

Tel:- 3300
E-Mail:- graham.woolhouse@rochford.gov.uk

APPENDIX

**ROCHFORD DISTRICT
HOUSING STRATEGY UPDATE 2000**

Introduction

This document provides an update on the Council's "Housing Strategy 1999/2000 and Beyond" and the "update 1999", produced in 1998 and 1999 respectively. It gives a commentary on progress against the objectives and targets set in those documents and explains recent developments.

For ease of reference whenever possible the same headings and reference numbers have been used as in housing strategy statement and previous update.

STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT

Strategic Issues – New Developments

The new organisational structure described in last year's strategy update is now well bedded-in. A number of initiatives, some of which are described in this update, have been undertaken by the Revenues and Housing Management Division, formed just over a year ago.

Best Value has had an early impact on housing services. A pilot review of homelessness and housing advice services was started ahead of the statutory regime, and reviews of the strategic housing role and housing management are now under way.

The Council's Corporate Plan

The Council completed and published the new Corporate Plan in March, at the same time as the first Best Value Performance Plan.

The Council very much sees the Housing Strategy as an important element of achieving key objectives, as set out in the new Corporate Plan. There is increasing emphasis on working for integration of relevant strategies and on joint working with others to maximise benefits from finite resources.

Corporate Objective – to provide quality services cost effectively

- review service level agreements with partner organisations
- review operations and relationships with the voluntary sector
- review working arrangements with Registered Social landlords
- further development of arrangements for obtaining customer comments
- review processes to ensure information reaches all members of the community
- personal development plans for all staff

Corporate Objective – Safer and Caring Communities

- 3 year action plan evolved from crime and disorder reduction strategy
- encourage participation of all interested parties in formulating housing strategy
- determine appropriate policies arising from the housing needs study
- work with other organisations and agencies to meet housing need
- develop appropriate policies in the District Local Plan to help ensure an increased supply of affordable housing
- encourage the best use of all houses in the district including empty properties

-
- review housing strategy and housing investment programme
 - develop policies which help reduce levels of unfitness and disrepair in private sector housing
 - further develop programmes to improve energy efficiency and comply with Home Energy Efficiency Act requirements.
 - Review management of local authority stock.
 - Provide planned and responsive maintenance services for local authority stock
 - work with the Housing Corporation to ensure Registered Social Landlords active in the district perform to a high standard
 - encourage proper maintenance of private sector dwellings
 - encourage high standards of management in the private rented sector
 - review housing advice services
 - review homelessness services
 - work with partner organisations and agencies in all sectors to help meet housing and support needs arising from care in the community policies

Corporate Objective – to improve the quality of life for residents

- Investigate locally based health initiatives and establish specific projects where appropriate
- Participation in the formulation, revision and implementation where appropriate of the Health Improvement Programme and Locality Action Plan
- In partnership with other agencies to develop and implement an action plan to reduce health and social deprivation in Rochford Roche Ward and adjacent areas
- Participation in the formulation, revision and, where appropriate, implementation of a community care plan for the Rochford District.

Corporate Objective – a thriving local economy

- partnership working with established training organisations to promote new training programmes in the District.

We have already made progress on many of these Corporate Plan objectives.

What we have achieved so far:-

- *Started Best Value reviews of homelessness and housing advice, housing strategy and housing management.*
- *Service level agreements are being drawn up with two partner organisations.*
- *Personal development plans have been agreed for all Council staff.*

-
- *The Responsible Authority Leadership Group continues to oversee implementation of a wide range of Crime & Disorder reduction initiatives.*
 - *Worked with partner RSL's in their bidding for funding for projects which address priorities identified in the housing needs study.*
 - *Provided £120K for 2000/01 for Local Authority SHG towards projects which address priorities*
 - *A Review of the local plan has started*
 - *Complete a HECAMON survey which involves a postal survey of 2000 homes to collect details about energy efficiency and energy useage.*
 - *Spent £439K on planned improvements and £996,200 on responsive repairs to Council housing in 1999/2000 and made budget provision of £554,771 and £1,120,000 for 2000/01*
 - *Worked with the Housing Corporation to provide feedback on the performance of RSL's operating in the District*
 - *Awarded £158K on private sector renewal grants in 1999/2000 and £85K on disabled facilities grants.*
 - *Formed an internal working party to take forward implementation of the 'Supporting People' proposals*
 - *Agreed joint funding for a "handy person" scheme*
 - *Joint funded a Community Development Worker for the STAR project in St Andrews & Roche Wards*
 - *Contributed to the development of the Joint Investment Plan for Older People, Health Improvement Programme and the Locality Action Programme, which now includes a target to improve consultation on housing strategy and to work towards satisfactory housing for all Rochford people including those who need support.*
 - *Started to address the issues that flow from Resource Accounting. Properties are being valued and the accounts format is being changed.*
 - *Submitted an initial draft capital strategy to DETR for 2001/02.*

The Council will:

- *Complete the Best Value reviews of homelessness and housing advice services, housing strategy and housing management during 2000*
- *Complete discussions with Southend Centre for the Homeless and Southend Night Shelter on future funding and service levels and report to Council*
- *Implement the agreed Personal Development Plans for all staff to ensure they develop the necessary skills*
- *Continue to implement programmes and actions flowing from the Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy, in particular with other agencies*
- *Encourage wider participation in the Housing Strategy Forum*
- *Continue to analyse and use the housing needs study*

-
- *Progress the review of the Local Plan*
 - *Reconvene the private Landlords/Letting agents forum*
 - *Plan for the 'Supporting People' changes*
 - *Work with Rochford Primary Care Group and South Essex Health Authority in updating the Health Improvement Plan and Locality Action Plan*
 - *Undertake the further work necessary on Resource Accounting and prepare business plans*
 - *Consult with community partners on the capital strategy*
 - *With the Local Community and Partner Organisations implement actions to address the issues which have been identified in Rochford Roche and St Andrews Wards*

The Need for Investment in Local Authority Stock (Para 1.4(d), Page 9)

Last year we said we would:-

- *Continue to maintain, repair and improve the housing stock to protect and enhance its value and provide good conditions for its tenants and leaseholders.*
- *Produce and prioritise a plan for future investment in repairs and improvements in the housing stock, giving appropriate priority within the finite resources to security measures and plans for unimproved sheltered housing schemes.*
- *Review the way in which information about stock condition is gathered and collated*

What we have done so far

- *Window replacement and the installation of gas central heating is a high priority and has been carried out in 44 and 110 properties respectively. In carrying out this work, the Council has taken the opportunity to install low maintenance uPVC double glazed units which improve thermal insulation, and which have better locking mechanisms to improve tenants' security.*
- *Future investment requirements for the Council's housing stock are being considered as part of the Best Value review and Asset Management review. However, at this time the Essex Fire & Rescue Service have identified a need for fire safety improvements in a number of the Councils Sheltered Schemes. These have been prioritised and the urgent priority works have been completed or are underway. It is anticipated that further funding will be needed for fire safety work in sheltered accommodation in 2001/02*

The Council will:

- *Prioritise future investment needs for its stock including fire prevention works in sheltered accommodation*
- *Complete the Best Value reviews of housing strategy and management, which will include an appraisal of the options to ensure adequate future investment in the Council's stock.*

The need for Investment in Private Sector Stock (Para 14(e) Page 10)

Last year we said we would:-

- *Evaluate the best way of gathering up to date information about the condition and energy efficiency in private housing in the district.*

What we have done so far:

- *Information on energy efficiency is being gathered using the HECAMON Monitoring Survey.*
- *The Council was unable to allocate funding in 2000/01 for a house condition survey but consideration will be given through the 2001/02-budget process.*

The Council will

- *Plan a further HECAMON Monitoring Survey for March 2001.*

INVESTMENT IN HOUSING

Private Sector Renewal (Para 2.4)

Grant assistance for repairs and improvements

Last year we said we would

- *Review private sector-housing grant policies having regard to the results of the housing needs study and changes in Government funding.*

What we have done so far

- *The Council has recently extended the availability of Home Repair Assistance to enable disabled or infirm persons or their carers to carry out repairs.*
- *The Council continues to provide private sector renewal grants and awarded £158K in 1999/2000*

Advice and assistance (Para 2.4(c) Page 13)

Last year we said we would

- *Work with Springboard Housing Association and Essex County Council to establish a service level agreement and performance standards for the Home Improvement Agency.*
- *Continue to fund the home improvement agency for the next two years to a minimum of £7500 p.a., and seek continued funding from Essex County Council.*

What we have done so far

- *A service level agreement has now been finalised and will shortly be signed by respective parties.*
- *Funding has now been secured*
- *Agreed a joint matched funding bid with the Rochford Primary Care Group (PCG) for Social Services Prevention Grant monies to establish a handyman scheme which will carry out work to help prevent falls amongst older people. This is a Rochford PCG Locality Action Programme target.*

Energy Efficiency (Para 2.5, Page 13)

Last year we said we would:-

- *Work with other Essex local authorities to submit a revised "HECACTION" bid for funding. This is a national funding scheme for projects which improve energy efficiency.*
- *Undertake a HECAMON monitoring survey to assess energy efficiency in Rochford homes.*
- *Continue to energy rate Council dwellings.*
- *Evaluate the revised Home Energy Efficiency Scheme (HEES) grant when details are published and consider what role the Council can play in promoting the scheme.*
- *Include home energy efficiency in its evaluation of a survey of housing stock conditions*

What we have done so far.

-
- *An Essex "HECACTION" bid was submitted. Unfortunately, this was not successful*
 - *A HECAMON Monitoring survey has been carried out and the results have been used in the HOME Energy Conservation Act progress report.*
 - *The new Home Energy Efficiency Scheme (HEES) was implemented in June 2000. The Council is working with Eastern HEES Ltd to ensure as many residents as possible take advantage of the scheme.*
 - *Energy Efficiency will be included in any stock condition survey undertaken.*

The Council will:

- *Carry out a further HECAMON survey as recommended by DETR to monitor year on year changes.*
- *Continue to work with other Essex Authorities on joint proposals, including evaluating the possibilities of establishing an energy advice centre in Essex.*

ENABLING AND WORKING WITH OTHERS

Working with the Housing Corporation and RSLs (Para 3.1)

Last year we said we would:-

- *Provide LA Social Housing Grant of £67,000 to Estuary Housing Association towards the development of 12 houses for rent at St Mark's Field, Rochford.*

What we have done so far:-

- *The housing development is due to be completed in summer 2000. A nomination agreement has been jointly agreed between the Council and Estuary Housing Association giving the Council 100% nomination rights to first lettings and 75% of subsequent vacancies in perpetuity.*

New Developments:-

- *The Council has agreed use of £120K LASHG in 2000/01 for the provision of wheelchair-adapted housing and the provision of 2 bedroom properties for rent in Rayleigh/Hockley. These priorities are in line with the findings of the Housing Needs Study.*

-
- *Estuary Housing Association are due to complete the development of 20 Category 1 bungalows for rent on land bequeathed by a Rayleigh resident at Trinity Road, Rayleigh. The Council will initially receive 50% nomination rights to the scheme and 50% of relets in perpetuity*
 - *Springboard Housing Association plans to develop 4 x 3 bedroom houses at Dobsons Close, Rayleigh, with Housing Corporation grant. This is land already owned by the Association. The development reflects the need for more affordable rented housing in Rayleigh as identified in the Housing Needs Study.*

The Council will:-

- *Provide up to £120K LASHG in the current year and give consideration as part of the capital programme to increasing this to £250K in 2001/02*
- *Work with relevant Registered Social Landlords to provide nominations to the Dobsons Close & Trinity Road schemes.*

Rochford Hospital Site (Para 3.1(b), Page 10)

Last year we said we would:-

- *Continue to monitor the operation of St Luke's Home Scheme with Essex County Council and the Housing Corporation.*

What we have done so far:-

- *Joint monitoring has been carried out*

The Council will:-

- *Continue to work with Essex County Council and Springboard Housing Association to monitor the scheme.*

DIYSO (Do it Yourself Shared Ownership) (Para 3.1(c), Page 17)

Last year we said we would:-

- *Continue to liaise with Estuary Housing Association to ensure the effective implementation of "Homebuy" in the District.*

What we have done so far:-

- *The "Homebuy" scheme has now been implemented. However, due to funding restrictions only a small programme has been identified*

The Council will:-

- *Continue to work with Estuary Housing Association to implement the 'Homebuy' Scheme*

Cash Incentive Scheme (Para 3.1(d), Page 17)

Last year we said we would:-

- *Allocate funding to enable three homes to be freed up for rent through the use of C.I.S. in 1999/2000, subject to Government approval.*
- *Allocate funding for C.I.S. in future years if possible.*

What have we done so far:-

- *Two homes were freed up for rent in 1999/2000 using C.I.S. payments.*
- *Funding has been allocated and Government approval to operate a scheme in 2000/2001 has been obtained. This will free up three further homes.*

The Council will:-

- *Continue to operate the cash incentive scheme.*

Partnership Arrangements (Para 3.1(e), Page 17)

Last year we said we would:-

- *Consider the process for selection of an appropriate number of Registered Social Landlord (RSL) partners*
- *Implement the selection process.*
- *Continue to provide LA Social Housing Grant for high priority programmes, within the overall restriction imposed by the limited capital programme.*

What we have done so far:-

- *The Council is currently actively working with 3 RSL's on new housing schemes within the District.*
- *Formal selection of partners was not progressed but is being considered as part of the Best Value Review.*

New Developments

- *The Council has recently formed its own Domestic Violence Panel, which has adopted an inter-agency approach to raise awareness on issues relating to domestic violence.*
- *The Council has appointed a Domestic Violence co-ordinator who is part of the Community Safety Team and is preparing a policy document for dealing with Domestic Violence. Provision of support for those who have suffered domestic violence has been included in the PCG Locality Action Programme.*
- *The Council is a member of the South East Essex Racial Incident Panel which has established a multi-agency approach to the resolution of racial incidents and the raising of awareness on racial harassment and abuse.*

The Council will:-

- *Consider future enabling arrangements as part of the Best Value Review.*
- *Continue to support the two panels on Domestic Violence and Racial Incidents*

Private Rented Sector (Para 3.2)

Last year we said we would:-

- *Review the operation of the rent and deposit guarantee scheme with the landlords who are involved.*
- *Consider how to increase the number of landlords willing to provide affordable rented accommodation in the district.*

What we have done so far:-

- *A review is presently being undertaken including the re-convening of a Landlord's Forum. Work is presently progressing on the production of a "Good Practice Guide" giving advice and information to letting agencies and private sector landlords to encourage them to become actively involved.*

Empty property strategy (Para 3.3, Page 18)

Last year we said we would:-

-
- *Implement systems to better identify long term vacant properties and the intentions of owners.*
 - *Determine appropriate strategies to bring back empty properties into housing use.*

What we have done so far:-

- *Because of staff vacancies little progress has been made on the development of an Empty Property Strategy.*

The Council will:-

- *Reconvene the private landlords forum*
- *Consult landlords/letting agencies on the draft Good Practice Guide*
- *Consider to progress outcome Empty Properties part of the Best Value Review.*

Allocation Policies (Para 3.4 Page 18)

Last year we said we would:-

- *Implement the findings of the review of allocation policies for applicants eligible for reasonable or additional preference.*
- *Undertake a complete review of allocations policy.*

What we have done so far:-

- *A review of allocation policy has recently been undertaken following a full consultation exercise including all Council Tenants; applicants on the Housing Register and the Housing Charity "Shelter".*
- *The Council has looked at the re-use of existing stock specifically designated for the elderly. Some of this accommodation, particularly in rural parts of the District is not popular and can be difficult to let. The Council considered how the lettings policy might be changed on these units to allow occupation by younger tenants to enable more efficient use of them. However, there is concern that these units might be occupied by younger tenants whose lifestyle is not compatible with the other residents and that the units will be subject to the Right to Buy. Further consideration must be given to this problem.*

New Developments:-

The Housing Green Paper has raised issues which need to be taken into account in the Council's review of access to Council housing and its use of nomination rights.

The Council will:-

- *Monitor closely the proposals flowing from the Green Paper consultation process, to ensure that its policies reflect best practice in providing choice for those seeking social housing.*
- *Give further consideration to the problem of lettings policy on one-bedroom flats designated for the elderly which are hard to let.*

Homelessness and housing advice (Para 3.5, Page 19)

Last year we said we would:-

- *Review the provision of homelessness and housing advice services including the use of the Council's hostel at Hatfield House and temporary accommodation in Rochford.*
- *Aim to ensure that bed and breakfast accommodation is used only as a last resort for homeless people.*
- *Endeavour to prevent homelessness occurring by providing timely advice.*
- *Continue to support providers of services which complement the Council's own role –*
 - *Southend Centre for the Homeless*
 - *Southend Night Shelter*
 - *Women's Refuge*
 - *SHAPE Project (Single Homeless Accommodation Project in Essex)*
- *Continue to provide a rent and deposit guarantee scheme to assist access into private rented accommodation for applicants accepted as homeless and in priority need.*

What we have done so far:-

- *The review of the homelessness and housing advice services forms part of the Best Value review*
- *Although Bed/Breakfast accommodation is still being used the identification of other "temporary stock" has helped to limit its use.*

-
- *As part of its prevention strategy a dedicated Housing advice area has been set up in the main Council Offices.*
 - *All four organisations continue to receive funding from the Council. Support will continue and Service level agreements will be drawn up with the Southend Centre for the Homeless and Night Shelter*
 - *The rent and deposit guarantee scheme is presently under review.*
 - *The Council has worked with Essex County Council, Castle Point Borough Council and the Housing Corporation to agree the establishment of an eighteen bed floating support scheme across the two local authority areas. This will provide supported accommodation for a variety of user groups including young people leaving care; people with mental health problems and/or alcohol abuse.*
 - *A scheme has been approved under the ADP for 2000/2001 to provide supported accommodation to young lone parents and their babies. Cygnet Housing Association will be responsible for the purchase and repair of 1 x 2 bedroom and 1 x 3 bedroom shared house with specialist support being provided by the Single Homeless Accommodation Project in Essex (SHAPE). This is in line with the Housing Corporation Policy on "Teenage Mothers".*

The Council will:-

- *Complete the Best Value Review of homelessness and housing advice during 2000*
- *Implement the floating support schemes for vulnerable people and the Mother & Baby Unit.*
- *Continue to seek opportunities to disperse the Council's temporary accommodation across the district and to increase the number of units available overall.*

Care in the Community (Para 3.6)

Joint Planning (Para 3.6(b), Page 20)

Last year we said we would:-

- *Actively participate in the operation of the Rochford Primary Care Group and the formation and implementation of Health Improvement Programmes and Locality Action Programmes.*

-
- *Work with Rochford Parish Council and Springboard Housing Association to ensure the development of a community meeting hall at St Mark's Field, Rochford.*
 - *Lead the development plan for improvements in the Rochford Roche Ward and adjacent areas working with the community and a range of partner agencies and organisations.*
 - *Work closely with Essex County Council on the development of community care plans*
 - *Further develop the use of the Supported Housing Index in the District.*

What we have done so far:-

- *The Council is actively involved in the preparation of the H.I.M.P. and LAP. A Local partnership board to oversee implementation is under consideration.*
- *A Planning application has been made for the community meeting hall at St Marks Field with the intention of starting work in October 2000.*
- *A joint funded Community Development Co-ordinator has been appointed to work in Rochford Roche Ward and St Andrews Wards.*
- *All new applicants and those on the Council's Housing Register are now being asked to complete a Supported Housing Index form if appropriate.*

Recent Developments:-

The Council has applied for Home Office funding for a neighbourhood warden for the Roche and St Andrews Wards.

The Council will:-

- *Continue to work closely with Rochford Primary Care Group on the updating of the H.I.M.P. and LAP.*
- *Contribute to the production of Joint Investment Plans.*
- *Work with local people and other partners for completion of the Community Meeting Hall at St Mark's Field, including the provision of some capital funding if required.*

-
- *Work closely with the local community and the St Andrews and Roche (STAR) partnership to improve the environment and opportunities for residents.*
 - *Work with the Essex Housing Officer's Group and Essex County Council to agree a 'Better Care, Higher Standards' protocol on long term care and to agree priorities for the Essex Strategic Reserve funding.*

Joint training (Para 3.6(c) Page 20)

- *Undertake joint training with other agencies and housing providers and seek to develop jointly agreed operational protocols.*

Care Lines (Para 3.6(e) Page, 20)

Last year we said we would:-

- *Investigate ways of expanding the Care Line service further, including partnerships with other organisations including the voluntary sector.*

What we have done so far:-

- *Continued to work with Essex County Council and their consultants on joint training on housing issues for people with mental health problems.*
- *Following extensive consultation with voluntary groups, the Rayleigh Association of Voluntary Services took over provision of the service but were unable to continue provision. The service was returned inhouse whilst other options are evaluated.*

The Council will:-

- *Pursue joint training with Social Services staff on housing issues affecting other vulnerable groups, such as children and young people and care leavers.*

People with Learning Difficulties (Para 3.6(f) Page 20)

Last year we said we would:-

- *Continue to work with Essex County Council and Registered Social Landlords to help ensure housing provision for people with learning difficulties.*

What we have done so far:-

- *A scheme to provide supported accommodation for people with learning difficulties has been approved for 2000/01 in partnership with Cygnet Housing Association (part of Swan Housing Group) and Essex County Council Learning Disabilities Team, with Housing Corporation funding. This will provide 6 bed spaces.*

The Council will:-

- *Develop further schemes for housing with support for people with learning disabilities for 2001/02. We aim to secure a three-bedroom home for a group of people with learning disabilities.*

Land Use Planning and Working with Housebuilders (Para 3.7)

Background (Para 3.7(a) Page 21)

Last year we said we would:-

- *Contribute to the development of the Essex and Southend Replacement Structure Plan.*
- *In the context of the work on the Structure Plan, review the District Local Plan.*

What we have done so far:-

- *Review underway*
- *It is hoped to publish a deposit draft for the replacement plan in May 2001. As part of the preparation the Council will undertake a study of urban capacity to help inform decisions on future housing allocations.*

Affordable Housing (Para 3.7(g), Page 23)

Last year we said we would:-

- *Review its policies on the provision of affordable housing.*

What we have done so far:-

- *This issue is being considered through the Council's Best Value on Housing Strategy.*

The Council will:-

- *Publicise the deposit draft for the replacement plan by May 2001.*
- *Complete the Best Value Reviews*

Community Safety in Rochford (Para 3.8 Page 24)

Last year we said we would:-

- *Work with the Responsible Authority Leadership Group and others to implement the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy and monitor progress.*
- *Consider improvements needed to the strategy for future years.*

-
- *Prioritise up to £95,000 expenditure in on Crime and Disorder projects over the lifetime of the strategy taking account of tenants' and residents' views.*
 - *Ensure that the Crime and Disorder reduction strategies for Rochford Roche Ward and adjacent Wards are implemented in a way, which supports the Health Improvement Programme/Locality Action Plan.*

What we have done so far:-

- *Work with the Responsible Authority Leadership Group continues.*
- *The process of planning improvements to the strategy is underway*
- *£45K has already been spent on Crime and Disorder projects including provision of a Youth advice service and proof of age scheme.*

The Council will:-

- *Continue to improve the strategy*
- *Prioritise the remaining £50K over the lifetime of the strategy.*