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## **SKATEBOARDING EVENTS**

### **1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to apprise Members of the cost of providing skateboarding events in Rayleigh and Rochford around Easter 2003.

### **2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 At a meeting of the Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2002, the report on Summer Holiday Activities highlighted the success of the skateboarding day held in the Market Car Park in Rayleigh on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> August which approximately 140 young people attended. Members requested that the possibility of providing skateboarding events in Rayleigh and Rochford around Easter 2003 be investigated and that a report is brought back to this Committee detailing the costs involved.

### **3 MOBILE SKATEPARKS**

- 3.1 Two companies that provide mobile skateparks have been identified. The cheapest quotation is from the company involved in the skateboarding event held during the summer. A variety of equipment would be provided, including barriers to cordon-off the skatepark area and up to 20 sets of safety equipment. Rochford District Council staff and employees from the company supplying the equipment will provide supervision. In a response to some criticism from the summer events, only those children and young people wearing safety equipment will be allowed access to the ramps.

### **4 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 It is widely recognised that involving children and young people in leisure pursuits reduces instances of youth nuisance and violence.

### **5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The cost of providing a mobile skatepark for a day is estimated to be £780 + VAT. This is for provision free of charge. It is also estimated that approximately £50 will be lost in parking fees if the Market car Park in Rayleigh is used again. Discussions will be held with Holmes Place with a view to using the Freight House car park for the Rochford venue.
- 5.2 If a charge was made for the use of the skatepark, it is estimated that the cost of provision will be in the region of £400.

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5.3 The cost will be met from existing funds.

**RECOMMENDATION**

6.1 It is proposed that the Committee considers and **recommends** whether or not skateboarding events should be held in Rayleigh and Rochford over the Easter period and whether or not a charge should be made for the event (CD(F&ES))

Roger Crofts

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**Background Papers:**

None

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