

REPORT OF CRIME AND DISORDER PORTFOLIO PERFORMANCE AND REVIEW PANEL

(Meeting held 13 March)

1. BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT (MINUTE NO 21).

The Panel noted that while there were no variations in capital or revenue expenditure that had been identified since the last meeting, the emergency response to the outbreak of foot and mouth disease would have financial implications in the coming weeks.

In answer to questions, Members were advised that the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) had asked the Council to keep the pest control service fully operational, but to make special arrangements for disinfecting the wheel arches and tyres of the vehicles to prevent any inadvertent spread of disease. The proposed reduction in numbers of pest control officers from 4 to 3 would not affect the Council's ability to control rat populations over the winter months, which was the key issue with respect to foot and mouth disease.

2. WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2001/02 (REPORT B) (MINUTE NO. 23).

The Panel received a presentation on the outcome of the second year of operation of the three year Crime and Disorder Strategy. This included changes in certain types of crime locally. Car crime had been reduced by 25%, largely as a result of Operation Scorpion. While incidents in Forest Car Parks had reduced, however, car crime in town centres had risen. The review also looked at progress on issues such as the development of procedures to operate Anti-Social Behaviour Orders; developing anti-bullying policies in schools; development of play projects; work on the health and social needs of gypsies; and use of mediation and restorative justice.

In addition to the Best Value Review of the Crime and Disorder function which was being carried out in the coming months, it was also necessary to undertake a second Crime and Disorder audit. Members were advised of the parameters of this process.

Members discussed their work programme over the coming year, to carry these issues forward. It was agreed that there should be a special meeting of the Panel on Tuesday, 10 April 2001 at 6.00 pm to progress work on the crime audit.

RECOMMENDED:

That the work programme for the coming year, as attached at Appendix 1 to this report, be adopted to guide the Panel's activity over the coming year.

3. TARGET 1 OF THE MAFF HIGH LEVEL TARGETS FOR FLOOD AND COASTAL DEFENCE – POLICY STATEMENT (REPORT C) (MINUTE NO. 24).

The Panel considered a report which had been submitted also to the Environment and Economy and Planning Portfolio Performance and Review Panels and also the Advisory Cabinet. The report set out the policy statement which had been prepared to guide the Council's response to flood and coastal defence risks. This was a requirement which had been imposed by the Government on all operating Authorities who had responsibilities in this field.

The Panel was reminded that their responsibilities within this process related solely to ensuring flood and coastal defence issues were addressed in emergency planning. It was agreed that a review of the flooding and coastal defence issues relating to emergency planning would be included within the work programme for consideration on 20 November 2001.

**Cllr T M Russell
CHAIRMAN**

(CD130301)

WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2001/02

Special Meeting 10 April 2001

- ◆ Proposed Consultation Methodology on Crime Audit
- ◆ Evaluation of “Roadshows” to assist in the Audit
- ◆ CCTV Second Stage Approval

19 June 2001

- ◆ Identifying key priorities for detailed research to support Crime Audit
- ◆ Budgets (Including Domestic Violence Co-ordinator Funding)
- ◆ Presentation on action to prevent drugs/alcohol abuse in young people

18 September 2001

- ◆ Draft Crime Audit Strategy
- ◆ Volunteer Community Guardians initial evaluation of potential role

23 October 2001

- ◆ Budgets

20 November 2001

- ◆ Road Safety – Speeding (including 20 mph limits)
- ◆ Flooding/Coastal Emergency Response Plan

22 January 2002

- ◆ Final Audit Strategy Report

Future

- ◆ Drugs/Alcohol Abuse
- ◆ Domestic Violence