

REPORT TO: COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 8 DECEMBER 2003

**REPORT ON: DUNDEE COMMUNITY SAFETY AWARD PROGRAMME
2002-2005 – PROGRESS UPDATE**

REPORT BY: HEAD OF COMMUNITIES

REPORT NO: 775-2003

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek Committee approval for the submission of the 2004-2005 funding bid to the Scottish Executive for the 3rd year of the 3 year rolling programme under criteria outlined in the Community Safety Partnership Award Programme.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 2.1 Notes the 2002-2003 Annual Report of the Partnership including the Action Plan review.
- 2.2 Approves the 2004-2007 Action Plan.
- 2.3 Authorises the submission of a Year 3 Funding Bid to the Scottish Executive by 31 January 2004 under the Community Safety Partnership Award Programme for 2004-2005.
- 2.4 Notes the link of this key theme Partnership Group to the work of Dundee in Partnership – The Community Plan in Dundee 2001-2006.
- 2.5 Approves the raising of the upper limit of small grant provision to £2,500 per award with applications over £500 and under £2,500 subject to Committee approval.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The funding proposals throughout the 3 year plan were approved under Report No 71-2002 approved by the Policy & Resources Committee on 28 January 2002. As in Years (1) and (2) the Scottish Executive will decide on the level of the additional variable award to the Council on the basis of the proposed Action Plans content. This additional allocation will be determined by March 2004.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Community Safety Action Plans seek to promote the creation of a safer environment for all citizens of Dundee.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The various dimensions of the Council's Equality Schemes will continue to receive specific attention by the Partnership in discharging services.

6.0 BACKGROUND & CURRENT POSITION

- 6.1 This Report covers part of the 2nd year of funding under the Community Safety Partnership Award Programme which commenced on 1 April 2003.

- 6.2 The progress on mainstreaming community safety activity during the period 2002-2003 continued with many Departments clearly contributing to the priorities via mainstream services. Both Tayside Police and Tayside Fire Brigade have contributed to the targeted priorities. The Action Plans Review details the progress made against the identified priorities of the Community Safety Strategy for the period 2002-2003 and is accompanied for the first time by a full Annual Report.
- 6.3 Members will note that the 2002-2003 Action Plans do contain reference to voluntary sector partners who are represented on the Partnership. This representation will be complemented at local level by the development of 7 local community plans by early Summer 2004 enabling local communities to prioritise local community safety issues and needs.
- 6.4 With the award of external funding from the Scottish Executive for 3 years from 1 April 2002 progress continues to be made in strengthening and developing the membership of the Partnership to more adequately reflect the contribution of key voluntary organisations and local community safety groups operating within neighbourhoods throughout Dundee. This is reflected in the increase in training/seminar opportunities.

7.0 FUTURE POSITION

- 7.1 The main emphasis of the Partnership is to harness co-operation between partner organisations to meet the identified priorities outlined within Dundee in Partnership – The Community Plan for Dundee 2001-2006. The relevant priorities are identified within Pages 3/5 of that document.
- 7.2 The 2004-2007 Partnership Action Plan identifies our Partnership mainstreaming intentions to meet these priorities (see Para 3.1 Action Plans 2004-2007). For Scottish Executive purposes the 2004-2005 Action Plan has required to be completed in detail to meet Award criteria.
- 7.3 The Year (3) funding bid will seek to contribute to tackling these priorities which also fall within the funding criteria.
- 7.4 The Scottish Executive have been provided with a 6 month update on progress related to the 2003-2004 bid and will also receive a detailed progress report on the full year expenditure to 31 March 2004 in due course.
- 7.5 The Committee may wish to note the 2003-2004 progress highlights to date as follows:
- Monitoring and evaluation of Partnership activities.
 - Review of funding assistance to partner/community groups.
 - Support for community based initiatives via the small grant and commissioning services award programmes.
 - Underwriting target hardening of domestic property to reduce repeat intruder entry across the City.
 - Employment of 2 community safety workers.
 - Improved Partnership publicity, communication and reports.
 - Increased training support for Partnership members.

- 7.6 In line with the Award Programme the Partnership have since inception administered a small grant scheme with an upper limit of £500 per award.

In Year (2) 2002-2003 this was augmented by commissioning services up to £25,000 per application against the Partnership/Scottish Executive key funding priorities.

The Partnership has extensively reviewed the above and propose that the small grant upper limit be increased to £2,500 per award and that commissioned services in 2004-2005 await the output content of the local community plans to allow the Partnership to reflect local community safety priorities within the key strategic themes.

These proposals will allow small localised community safety activity to continue and give equal and transparent access to the commissioned award monies earmarked for community safety from the Scottish Executive.

All awards in excess of £500 will be subject to Committee approval.

8.0 CONSULTATION

8.1 External

The Report content has been the subject of consultation with all partner organisations represented on Dundee Community Safety Partnership including representatives of local community safety groups.

8.2 Internal

The Chief Executive and all relevant Council Departments have been consulted on the content of this Report.

- 8.3 Copies of the relevant Action Plans/Reviews and annual Report have been provided to all Group secretaries.

9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1 The following background papers as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above Report.

- Dundee Community Safety Partnership – Annual Report 2002-2003
Dundee Community Safety Partnership – Action Plans 2002-2003 – Review
- Dundee Community Safety Partnership – Action Plans 2004-2007
- Dundee in Partnership – The Community Plan for Dundee 2001-2006
- Report 71/2002 Dundee Community Safety Award Programme 2002-2005

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1 December 2003