

**EMERGING POLICY PROPOSALS FROM POLICY DEVELOPMENT PANEL
(GOVERNANCE, COMMUNITY PLANNING & CENTRAL / LOCAL RELATIONS)**

Community Planning – Programme of support activities

Agenda Item: 3b

Summary: **Outlining the Policy Development Panel’s detailed proposals for the programme of activities to support the statutory introduction of Community Planning, and the formation of a Regional Community Planning Task & Finish Group**

Action: **For consideration and endorsement.**

Introduction

1. Policy Development Panel A was tasked with bringing forward policy and implementation proposals in relation to, amongst other issues, the introduction of Community Planning. Outline proposals in relation to a programme of activities to inform and support the statutory introduction of Community Planning in 2011 were agreed by the Strategic Leadership Board (SLB) at its meeting on 3 July 2009.
2. Work has now been completed on the identification of activities that could be undertaken by Transition Committees between now and 2011 to prepare for and lay foundations for the introduction of Community Planning. The detailed operational guidance, attached at Annex A, has been prepared to support the roll-out of the foundation programme.
3. In order to allow for appropriate evaluation the foundation programme will be delivered through a phased approach beginning in December 2009.
 - Phase 1 (December 2009 - January 2010) - Transition Committees will submit proposals for participating in the foundation programme to be agreed by the Department;

- Phase 2 (January 2010 to March 2011) - Transition Committees will implement agreed actions and collect appropriate data for implementation;
 - Phase 3 (March 2011 to May 2011) - Evaluation of the foundation programme;
 - Phase 4 – Introduction of Community Planning
4. The Panel considers that a regional Community Planning Task and Finish Group should be established to oversee and monitor the evaluation of the Foundation Programme and to finalise the Statutory Guidance to support the introduction of Community Planning in 2011. This Group would work to the new Regional Transition Committee.
5. It is envisaged that this Group would also have responsibility for
- engagement, at a strategic level between local government and central government and statutory agencies;
 - developing processes for baseline analyses of key quality of life indicators, at a regional/local level;
 - central networking and communications issues; and
 - co-ordinating capacity building across all the sectors that will be involved in the process.

RECOMMENDATION

6. Members are asked to:
- endorse the guidance for the Community Planning Foundation Programme; and,
 - agree the formation of a regional Community Planning Task and Finish Group.