

## THE EXECUTIVE

28 OCTOBER 2003

### REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE STRATEGY

<b>NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUND - FUTURE YEARS FUNDING ALLOCATION</b>		<b>FOR DECISION</b>
<p><i>This report is of strategic significance to the Council in supporting the Community, Regeneration, and Neighbourhood Renewal Strategies.</i></p>		
<p><b><u>Summary</u></b></p> <p>This report informs the Executive of the latest position with regard to the work of the Neighbourhood Renewal Steering Group in relation to the NR Fund and programme, and seeks approval of the recommendations for future year's allocation of funding. On the 8 October 2003 the Borough Partnership received a similar report on this matter and endorsed these recommendations</p>		
<p><b><u>Recommendations</u></b></p> <p>The Executive is asked to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Note the contents of this report;</li><li>2. Endorse the recommendations of the Neighbourhood Renewal (NR) Steering Group held on 1<sup>st</sup> September with regard to the allocation of future years NR funding for 2004-06 as set out in Appendix '1'; and</li><li>3. Note that a further report detailing recommendations for the remaining allocation of NR funding will be submitted to a future meeting following consultation and appraisal in conjunction with the revised Community Strategy.</li></ol>		
<p><b><u>Reasons</u></b></p> <p>The Neighbourhood Renewal Fund and Programme is one of the major providers of funding and support to tackle deprivation and achieve the social and economic objectives embodied in the Community, Regeneration and Neighbourhood Renewal Strategies.</p>		
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## **1. Background**

- 1.1 As Members will be aware, the Neighbourhood Renewal Steering Group, acting in its capacity as a sub-group of the Barking and Dagenham Partnership has since March 2001 been tasked with the responsibility for co-ordinating the Borough's Neighbourhood Renewal programme.
- 1.2 Notification was received from Government Office for London in the summer that the Partnership had secured additional neighbourhood renewal funding for 2004/05 and 2005/06 commensurate with the level of funding granted for 2003/04. This amounts to £3,266,000.
- 1.3 Over the summer months, officers have been reviewing the performance of the neighbourhood renewal Programme activities as part of the ongoing monitoring and evaluation process and also with a view to informing the process of reviewing the Community and Neighbourhood Renewal Strategies.
- 1.4 At the Neighbourhood Renewal Steering Group meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> September, consideration was given to potential future years funding of the programme activities with a view to how they have been performing against their targets, their fit with the criteria for the emerging revised Community Strategy, and the potential human resource implications where the approval of funding previously has had staffing implications.

## **2. Allocation of Future Years Neighbourhood Renewal Funding**

Set out in Appendix '1' is a schedule of those activities which the Steering Group has recommended for future years funding in 2003/04, subject to continued satisfactory performance as part of the monitoring and evaluation regime. The Barking and Dagenham Partnership received a similar report at their meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> October and have endorsed the recommendations presented regarding the NR financial allocation. The Executive is asked to approve the Neighbourhood Renewal Steering Group's recommendations on behalf of the Council acting as the Accountable Body for the grant.

Approval to the funding allocation set out in Appendix '1' will account for £2,313,576 out of the £3,266,000 of Neighbourhood Renewal funding available in 2004/06. This leaves a sum of £952,424 to be allocated as part of the review of the Community Strategy, including a number of existing NR activities which the Steering Group have requested be reviewed in greater depth.

### **Background Papers**

- Barking and Dagenham Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy
- Reports and minutes of the Neighbourhood Renewal Steering Group - 21st July and 1st September 2003