

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

POLICY REVIEW OF COMMUNITY REGENERATION – PROGRESS REPORT

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this paper is to update the Committee on the progress of the policy review of community regeneration and to seek the Committee's agreement for the next stage on the policy review.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. The Committee is invited to note the progress made thus far and to agree the proposed procedure for considering oral evidence.

TIMING

3. Subject to the Committee's agreement and the agreement of the Business Committee, an additional formal meeting will be held on 15 November. This meeting will receive oral evidence from selected organisations that have submitted a written response to the consultation. In addition, the Committee may wish to consider inviting oral evidence from other relevant partners involved in community regeneration.

BACKGROUND

Terms of reference

4. The Committee considered the draft terms of reference and project plan for the policy review of community regeneration at the 18 July meeting

(LGH-11-01 (p.6)). Following the Committee's discussions the draft terms of reference were revised and subsequently agreed by the Committee. A copy of the revised terms of reference is attached at Annex 1.

Expert Adviser

5. At the 18 July meeting Members agreed to appoint an expert adviser to assist the Committee with the policy review. Six applications were received and all candidates were invited for interview. The interview panel consisted of Gwenda Thomas AM, Janet Ryder AM and Tereasa

Morgan, an independent assessor. Following the interviews, Professor David Adamson has been appointed as expert adviser to the Committee.

Consultation

6. The Committee agreed that it should consult widely when carrying out the policy review. A consultation letter was compiled and a list of consultees drawn up. These are attached at Annex 2. The letter was published on the Assembly's website as part of the public consultation process.

7. Twenty-three (23) written responses were received and include information from voluntary organisations, community groups, local government, housing associations and the business sector. Copies of the responses have been circulated to all committee members. The Secretariat will circulate a summary of consultation responses including the emerging main themes.

NEXT STEPS

8. The Committee may wish to consider oral evidence during the next stage of the policy review. Subject to any comments received by Members, the Secretariat will circulate a draft framework for sessions to hear oral submissions on 15 November and subsequently. The suggested framework will be drawn up following a sift of written responses and in consultation with the expert adviser. Committee members' views are invited on organisations they would wish to see in the first and subsequent sessions.

ACTION FOR THE COMMITTEE

9. The Committee is invited to endorse the proposals outlined in paragraph 8.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE:

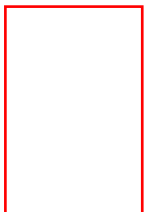
POLICY REVIEW OF COMMUNITY REGENERATION

Terms of Reference for Policy Review on Community Regeneration

To consider:

- the policy and programmes aimed at community regeneration which have been adopted by the National Assembly and its sponsored bodies with a view to making recommendations for streamlining the existing programmes and improving the arrangements for delivery;
- the financing for those policies ;
- the role of partnerships in developing community regeneration;
- what further issues the Committee should address on other aspects of the community regeneration agenda, taking account of the work that has been undertaken for the *Communities First* programme.

Annex 2



Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

The National Assembly for Wales

Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay

Caerdydd / Cardiff

CF99 1NA

Dyddiad / Date 9 August 2001

Dear

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

POLICY REVIEW OF COMMUNITY REGENERATION

Background

The Local Government and Housing Committee of the National Assembly is undertaking a policy review on the role of community groups in community regeneration.

The review will examine the funding and delivery of the 60 or so Assembly initiatives that are aimed at community regeneration. It will consider whether the money is being targeted effectively and delivered in the right way by the right organisations. It will recommend whether there is a case for streamlining the existing funding arrangements.

Invitations on submissions

The Committee wishes to invite you to contribute to its consideration by providing a written submission setting out your organisation's views on the policies and programmes aimed at community regeneration, including any detailed factual information that may be relevant. There

is no prescribed format for submissions, but you may find it helpful to bear in mind the following terms of reference for the review. I have also set out a list of issues that you may wish to address in your response.

The Committee may, in due course, wish to invite you to give an oral presentation in support of your written submission.

Terms of reference

The terms of reference of the review are:

To consider:

- the policies and programmes aimed at community regeneration which have been adopted by the National Assembly and its sponsored bodies with a view to making recommendations for streamlining the existing programmes and improving the arrangements for delivery;
- the financing for those policies and programmes;
- the role of partnerships in developing community regeneration;
- what further issues the Committee should address on other aspects of the community regeneration agenda, taking account of the work that has been undertaken for the *Communities First* programme.

Issues to be addressed.

In taking forward the review, the Committee will be considering the following questions (this is not an exhaustive list but is intended to provide a flavour of the sorts of issues the Committee will wish to address):

- What are the roles of the National Assembly, local authorities, the voluntary sector and community groups in the community regeneration process?
- Are these roles adequately defined and appropriate?
- Is the money being targeted effectively? (Are people clear on what money is available for community regeneration and from what sources?)
- Is the money reaching the targeted areas?

- Is the service being delivered in the right way by the right organisations?
- Is there clarity about the support and services that are available for community development and community regeneration?
- Who should be responsible for administering the funds?
- Is funding adequate?
- What are the most effective mechanisms for distributing the funds?
- What lessons have we learned about community regeneration and how it is funded?
- How can existing funding arrangements be improved?
- What can be done to ensure effective participation and involvement of residents in local communities and local voluntary bodies in the regeneration process?
- Are there any other comments you would like to make in relation to the issues that the Committee is considering?

Publication of Responses

Unless contributors ask for their submission to remain confidential, the Committee intends that all responses will be available for public scrutiny.

Timetable

I would be grateful if you could forward any submission you may wish to make to me by Friday 12th October 2001.

For your information, the Committee has invited submissions from those on the attached list. In addition, a copy of this letter has been placed on the National Assembly's web-site with an open invitation to submit views.

Yours sincerely

Roger Chaffey

Committee Clerk