



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

AREA PANEL 4
29 JUNE 2005

Report of Assistant Director - Community Policy

Area Panel Review 2005

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Area Panel 4 of the process and timetable for a review of area panels. Area panels have been meeting since January 2002 and they will be holding their 100th meeting at the Area Panel 4 meeting on 29 June 2005. There is increasing evidence that the public and Council partners are showing an interest in the development of the area panels. It is good practice to review the area panels and actively seek the views of stakeholders.
- 1.2 Area panels are formal Committees of the Council, but many other stakeholders including the Police, Primary Care Trusts, Derby Homes and residents have contributed to their development, and to their success. This success has been shown by the way they have:
 - engaged with hundreds of people who have raised local issues and solutions
 - provided a way for the Council and its partners to give information to residents
 - given councillors an effective role as local community leaders
 - funded over 150 local community projects
 - facilitated small service changes, which have had an impact locally
 - provided a transparent way for residents to contribute to local democracy.
- 1.3 Residents are being consulted using questionnaires and focus groups and workshops in Derby City Partnership week on 28 June 2005. Members will be asked to complete a questionnaire and attend a member's seminar. Council officers and partners will receive questionnaires and take part through attending meetings and interviews. The review will be more extensive than those done in previous years and will involve piloting different styles of meeting during the 2005/6 municipal year.
- 1.4 The review began in June 2005 and a report outlining the findings will be produced by January 2006. Any permanent new arrangements for area panels arising from the review will be introduced in the municipal year starting May 2006.
- 1.5 David Dring, Area Co-ordination Manager in the Area and Neighbourhood Unit, is the lead officer coordinating the review. If you have any views about how the area panels might change, please email david.dring@derby.gov.uk or telephone 258500.

PROPOSED ACTION

- 2.1 To note this report.

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Background papers: Regeneration Coordination reports 13 September 2004 and 4 April 2005.
List of appendices: