



ALL WARDS

Leicester
City Council

CABINET

22nd April 2003

**NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUND – YEARS 4 & 5
OVERALL TIMETABLE AND PART ONE PROCESS**

Report of the Leicester Partnership Development Manager and the Service Director of Neighbourhood Renewal.

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To seek comment on the review of the NRF processes in years 2 and 3 carried out by a Leicester Partnership Review Group and to comment on proposals for processes in years 4 and 5.

2 Summary

- 2.1 After recommendations by the Leicester Partnership in October to evaluate NRF processes used to date, a review group was established that included representations from all the thematic partnerships, the community representatives on the Leicester Partnership, the Council's Regeneration Group, the Service Director for Neighbourhood Renewal, chaired by the Leader of the Council.
- 2.2 The review group looked at previous problems and sought to develop a consensus on a new approach for years 4 and 5. The attached report drafted by the Leicester Partnership Development Manager (who serviced the review group) details the review processes, its outcome and the group's views on the way forward in years 4 and 5. The report takes into account the new structures of the Leicester Partnership.
- 2.3 The Leicester Partnership discussed the attached report at their meeting on 19th March 2003. As it is a condition of the grant that the LSP and the Council agree uses of the NRF, the Leicester Partnership are seeking the approval of the Council to the report attached.

2.4 The LP Board agreed the recommendations set out in the report, subject to proposals for a revised appraisal process being developed early in the process. The LP Board suggested that appraisal process should be tailored to the risk associated with the lead organisation and the project proposed. A 'light touch' appraisal should be used whenever this is appropriate.

3 Recommendations

3.1 Cabinet be recommended to endorse the Principles agreed by LP, the timetable and the role of the Thematic Partnerships, the Co-ordinating Group and the Leicester Partnership.

3.2 To confirm that the Council will have the role of:

- approving Part One of the Prospectus that sets out the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund process;
- approving Part Two of the Prospectus that will be issued in July 2003, and will set out the provisional priorities for the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund;
- approving Part Three of the Prospectus that will be issued in November 2003, and will set out the final, agreed priorities for the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund;
- approving the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund programmes for 2004 and 2005.

4 Headline Financial & Legal Implications

4.1 The precise amount of NRF to be allocated to Leicester for the two years referred to, is unknown at present and will be dependent on the Government's review of the Index of Multiple Deprivation. However, if a similar formula to the existing one is used, this could amount to £20 million over the two years.

4.2 The Government have strengthened the conditions of grant (for year 3, 2003/4) to ensure greater partnership working and have moved from a requirement on the Council to consult the LSP to a requirement for the Council and the LSP to agree uses of the NRF. The NRU have confirmed a similar requirement will be expected for years 4 and 5

3 Other Implications

OTHER IMPLICATIONS	YES/NO	PARAGRAPH REFERENCES WITHIN SUPPORTING PAPERS
Equal Opportunities	Yes	Throughout
Policy	Yes	Throughout
Sustainable and Environmental	Yes	Throughout
Crime and Disorder	Yes	Throughout
Human Rights Act	No	
Older People / People on Low Income	Yes	Throughout

4 Background Papers – Local Government Act 1972

Background papers include:

- ___ Local Strategic Partnerships – Government Guidance (2001)
- ___ Notes of the NRF Sub Group (2001)
- ___ Lessons Learnt from 1st Year (Leicester City Council 2001)
- ___ Report to Cabinet (Jan 2002)
- ___ Report to the Leicester Partnership (Dec 2001)
- ___ Government's conditions of grant (March 2002)

5 Consultations

Leicester Partnership

5 Report Author

Alan Helliwell, Partnership Development Manager

Andy Keeling, Service Director for Neighbourhood Renewal

DECISION STATUS

Key Decision	No
Reason	N/A
Appeared in Forward Plan	No
Executive or Council Decision	Executive (Cabinet)