

Leicester
City Council

WARDS AFFECTED
All Wards

FORWARD TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION AND MEETINGS:

Cabinet

24th January 2005

Voluntary & Community Sector Commission

Report of the Assistant Chief Executive

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. This report provides information regarding the process of setting up a Commission to examine the relationship between the City Council and the local Voluntary and Community Sector.
- 1.2. It seeks confirmation of the decision by the Chief Executive to commission a report in the form of a thinkpiece to set out a model relationship between voluntary and public sectors in a multicultural city and agreement to the setting up of the Commission.

2. Summary

- 2.1. At the Cabinet meeting on 20th December 2004 the Leader of the Council announced the intention to appoint an independently chaired Commission in the early spring 2005. This commission will take evidence and then submit a report to the City Council and Local Strategic Partnership regarding the relationship between the City Council and the local Voluntary and Community Sector. This work would also feed in to the development of Leicester's Compact later this year.
- 2.2. In order to give the Commission a platform and to inform its deliberations the Chief Executive, under his delegated powers, has commissioned a 10,000-word report to explore what a model relationship between the public and voluntary sectors would look like in a modern multicultural city like Leicester. This work is to be undertaken by a major organisation that has recognised expertise in this field.
- 2.3. The Council is currently inviting tenders from three organisations that fulfil the above criteria. A summary of the project brief that explains the background to the project is contained within the supporting information to this report. It is not anticipated that this work would require primary fieldwork in Leicester. The final version of the report is to be submitted to the Council by Monday 28 February.

3. Recommendations (or OPTIONS)

Cabinet is recommended

- 3.1. To confirm the commissioning of the report by the Chief Executive.
- 3.2. To agree the setting up of an independently chaired Commission to examine the relationship between the City Council and the local Voluntary and Community Sector.

4. **Headline Financial and Legal Implications**

NB. Legal implications need to be completed by Legal Services

4.1. Financial Implications

4.1.1. The costs of the thinkpiece and the Commission will be met from existing Chief Executive's Office budget.

4.1.2. Andy Morley, Chief Accountant, ext 7404

4.2. Legal Implications

4.2.1. There are no direct legal implications save that the commissioning of the report by consultants requires the consultants to be appointed and that appointment will be made in accordance with the provisions of the Council's Finance and Contract Procedure Rules.

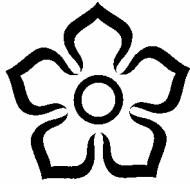
4.2.2. Anthony Cross, Assistant Head of Legal Services Ext. 6362

5. **Report Author/Officer to contact:**

5.1. Keith Murdoch, Assistant Chief Executive Ext 6001

DECISION STATUS

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Key Decision | No |
| Reason | N/A |
| Appeared in Forward Plan | No |
| Executive or Council Decision | Cabinet |



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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1. REPORT

1.1. Brief

- 1.1.1. To give the Commission a platform and to inform the process, the Council wishes to appoint consultants to prepare a report that explores what a model relationship between the public and voluntary sectors would look like in a modern multicultural city like Leicester.
- 1.1.2. This would be a 'thinkpiece' report of about 10,000 words that sets out best practice and which reflects leading edge thought in this area. The report needs to paint a realistic vision of the future, one that is capable of being shared with a wide variety of individuals and organisations.
- 1.1.3. As well as being set in the context of the current and future structures of local governance (e.g. Children's Trusts and LSPs) and funding regimes, the report should also be rooted in key national reports and initiatives such as that of the Deakin Commission. It needs to be a piece of work that is intellectually robust, but also one that is practical rather than theoretical in tone.
- 1.1.4. This exercise does not require first hand primary research in Leicester, e.g. interviews. The Council's Chief Executive's Office will be able to supply any further information about the City and the City Council that is needed.
- 1.1.5. The report would need to include consideration of the following areas, among others:
- 1.1.5.1. Critical review of traditional/historical dependency/paternalistic relationships
 - 1.1.5.2. Analysis of how future relationships could be based on reciprocity
 - 1.1.5.3. Social enterprise
 - 1.1.5.4. Recent work of New Economics Foundation (including that looking beyond LETS schemes)

1.1.5.5. Community cohesion

1.1.5.6. Capacity building and the generation of social capital, particularly at community level

1.1.5.7. Enabling entrepreneurship among voluntary sector organisations

1.1.6. The report will need to be written in plain English and include an Executive Summary, list of contents, conclusions and recommendations in addition to the main body of the report. Copyright and intellectual property rights would be vested in the Council to enable further copies to be issued as required, either with or without charge. A copy of the report will be placed on the Council's website.

1.1.7. A draft version of the report will be submitted to the Council by 15 February 2005.

1.1.8. The final version of the report will be submitted to the Council by Monday 28 February 2005.

2. FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS

2.1. Financial Implications

2.1.1. The costs of the thinkpiece and the Commission will be met from existing Chief Executive's Office budget.

2.1.2. Andy Morley, Chief Accountant, ext 7404

2.2. Legal Implications

2.2.1. See paragraph 4.2 of the covering report.

2.2.2. Anthony Cross, Assistant Head of Legal Services, x 6362.

2.3. Other Implications

| OTHER IMPLICATIONS | YES/NO | Paragraph Within Supporting information | References |
|-------------------------------|--------|---|------------|
| Equal Opportunities | No | | |
| Policy | No | | |
| Sustainable and Environmental | No | | |
| Crime and Disorder | No | | |
| Human Rights Act | No | | |
| Elderly/People on Low Income | No | | |

3. BACKGROUND PAPERS – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

None

4. **CONSULTATIONS**

5. **REPORT AUTHOR**

5.1. Keith Murdoch, Assistant Chief Executive. Ext 6001