

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY PANEL	AGENDA ITEM No. 8
4 NOVEMBER 2008	PUBLIC REPORT

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FEEDBACK AND UPDATE REPORT

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

- 1.1 This is a regular report to the Community Development Scrutiny Panel as agreed as part of its work programme.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 This report provides feedback on items considered or questions asked at previous meetings of the Panel. It also provides an update on matters which are of interest to the Panel or where the Panel have asked to be kept informed of progress.

3. COMMUNITY CONTACT CENTRES FUNDING

- 3.1 At its 17 June 2008 meeting, the Panel was advised that a funding bid for £200,000 had been submitted to the Supporting People programme in order to further support and develop the Contact Centres. An update on progress to date is outlined below:
- 3.2 Contact centres at Orton, East, Welland and Westwood have been funded through grant funding in 2008/09.
- 3.3 This intervention enabled all but Welland to exist until the end of the current financial year. Unfortunately the application for additional funding from the Supporting People programme was unsuccessful.
- 3.4 Welland (Partnership House) ceased to exist on 31 August 2008. The operators, Compass, were unable to continue to provide the service without additional funding. The property has been taken back into Cross Keys Homes stock. Discussions involving PCC, Greater Dogsthorpe Partnership and Cross Keys have been held to ensure that any services that used the venue as a base have alternatives in the area from which to operate. The Area Housing Office, the Blue Mobile, the GDP Office and the Charteris Centre may be able to provide alternative venues.
- 3.5 The Council have made it clear to all Contact Centres that there will be no additional funding in either the current year or in future years beyond this allocation. We are therefore exploring other support, probably advice from the Development Trusts Association or similar organisation, who can provide expertise in relation to business planning, sustainability, income generation, social enterprise development, grant funding and similar. The initial meeting is to take place on 10 October to explore this fully and identify the requirements to ensure that the support is the most appropriate available. The cost for this is to be met from existing funds.

4. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Update report from Community Services.

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