

Agenda item
9(b)(ii)

PORTFOLIO:

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Report of
Portfolio Holder:

COUNCILLOR R BLOXHAM

HOUSING AND HEALTH ITEMS

1. DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER

I can report that in the period in question I have not taken any delegated decisions in respect of Health and Well-Being Portfolio.

2. ISSUES ARISING FROM HOUSING CONSULTATION GROUPS IN JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2002

I would wish to draw members' attention to a major item discussed at the meetings:

- (i) The group discussed and agreed to recommend to the Executive that the draft Carlisle HA (CHA) business plan formed a sound basis on which to proceed with the LSVT proposals and was giving every indication of satisfying the Council's longstanding "due diligence" requirements.
- (ii) The LSVT project plan, while hectic, remains on target to meet the key dates established by the Executive last year to ensure that a ballot of tenants can be conducted in July 2002. This will be preceded by a full offer document to tenants in May 2002 and a summary draft offer statement in March 2002.

This paper is to form the basis of a submission to Government previously requested by DTLR Ministers and we hope that this will be discussed in a meeting with them in April 2002.

5. EXERCISING FOR BETTER HEALTH

I am pleased to confirm that the "Clinical Exercise Practitioner Pilot Project" was jointly launched by the City Council and Carlisle and District PCT on Monday, 18 February 2002.

This twelve month trial will provide expert individual exercise programme to assist people recovering from often serious health problems to improve their quality of life.

Currently supported by HAZ funding, we are awaiting the outcome of a three-year funding application to the British Heart Foundation.

6. ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

Requests to the section for their services continue, in particular for abandoned vehicles to be removed. There has been an upsurge for service requests over the last few months, eg in the first 7 days of February, 79 requests were received and in the full month of February last year, 139 requests. Many of these relate to abandoned cars.

7. FOOD SAFETY

The Food Standards Agency has launched a national food hygiene campaign directed towards the catering trade. Local authorities have not been asked to participate except for providing details of their registered premises.

8. DOG FOULING

"Trooper" the pooper-scooper continues to be a great hit with the children on his visit to schools. The Wardens have now been presented with mountain bicycles making them more mobile.

9. SPORTS AND LEISURE

(i) The new "Pool Boom", which will allow ASA competitions and greater flexibility for programming, was installed at the beginning of February.

(ii) Ultimate Card

The new all encompassing pre-paid access card for leisure facilities has achieved 230 card holders in the first month of operation. It can also be used at all the Leisuretime facilities for pay as you play activities. The new service has seen a return of customers who left to join private provision as well as bringing in new customers.