

 CARLISLE CITY COUNCIL www.carlisle.gov.uk	
<h1>REPORT TO EXECUTIVE</h1>	
PORTFOLIO AREA: HEALTH & WELL BEING	
Date of Meeting:	3 APRIL 2003
Public	
Key Decision:	Yes
Recorded in Forward Plan:	Yes
Inside Policy Framework	

Title: **SUPPORTING PEOPLE – WORKING ARRANGEMENTS**

Report of: **HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SERVICES**

Report reference: **EPS 22/2003**

Summary:

This report updates Members on the Supporting People regime and on the proposals for future working arrangements within the County.

Recommendations:

That this report be noted.

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1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Supporting People is a new national system for the funding, planning and monitoring of housing related support. It will affect all supported and sheltered housing run by statutory, voluntary and private sectors.
2. The process goes 'live' on 01/04/2003 when many existing ways to pay for support end and the Supporting People grant systems starts.
3. For the first year of operation Supporting People in Cumbria will be guided by the 'Cumbria Supporting People Shadow Strategy'. This was produced after

a wide consultation and indicates the current situation and where our priorities for development lie. Later this year a five year strategy will be produced for the period 2004-2009.

2. SUPPORTING PEOPLE GRANT/CONTRACTS

1. The Supporting People programme will draw together the following existing funding streams
 - Transitional Housing Benefit (THB) – the element within Housing Benefit that covers support charges.
 - Supported Housing Management Grants (SHMG) – paid by the Housing Corporation to Housing Associations for designated supported housing schemes.
 - Probation Accommodation Grants – paid by the Home Office for housing related support to people in contact with the probation service.
 - Home Improvement Agency Grants.
 - Local Authority and Large Scale Voluntary Transfer Landlord rent pools.
1. Supporting People Grant (SPG) will be payable from 01/04/2003 through the County team and in accordance with services that have been contracted for. Only support providers with 'legacy' funding (money currently being paid through the benefit system) will have a contract with Supporting People and this will be based on whatever is being paid through these funding streams as at 31/03/2003.
2. As a provider of support and resettlement services Carlisle City Council will be contracted to the Supporting People process. Management information will need to be provided on a regular basis. The contracted services will be subject to quality service standards and will be inspected during summer 2003.

3. STAFFING/RESOURCES COMMENTS

The full impact of the Supporting People regime within the Councils Hostels Support and resettlement services will be reviewed after 01/04/2003.

4. PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT/COMMISSIONING BODY

4.1 Each Local Authority within Cumbria, the four County PCT's and the National

Probation Service (Cumbria) are being asked to enter into a Partnership Agreement. This agreement lays out the terms and conditions for the Supporting People arrangements within the County after 01/04/2003.

2. The Partnership Agreement lays out the aims of Supporting People, the representation of organisations within the process and the administering arrangements regarding the Commissioning body.
3. The Commissioning Body will carry out the following functions:
 - Agree the Supporting People Strategy and Annual Plan, having regard to any guidance given by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM).
 - Consider any significant changes to the Strategy and Annual Plan.
 - Review the approved Supporting People Strategy along with guidance from the ODPM.

2. Proposals for both the Partnership Agreement and the Commissioning Body are still being finalised. A further report will be brought to Executive following the establishment of the Commissioning Body and the publication of the Partnership Agreement. The report will also address the impact of the new regime on the Council's Hostel Support and Resettlement Services.

5. HEAD OF FINANCES COMMENTS

Any implications of the regime will be addressed in the subsequent report.

6. LEGAL COMMENTS

Any implications of the regime will be addressed in the subsequent report.

7. CORPORATE COMMENTS

Any implications of the regime will be addressed in the subsequent report.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENTS

Any implications of the regime will be addressed in the subsequent report.

9. EQUALITY ISSUES

Any implications of the regime will be addressed in the subsequent report.

10. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Any implications of the regime will be addressed in the subsequent report.

11. CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

Any implications of the regime will be addressed in the subsequent report.

12. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the report be noted.

13. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

Supporting People is a process brought about by legislative change and the proposals for the Partnership Agreement and Commissioning Body for the County are yet to be finalised.