

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMUNITY INFORMATION AND PROTECTION SELECT COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 19 JUNE 2001 AT 2.15 P.M.

Agenda Item No:

3

ESTABLISHMENT OF PANELS, ETC.

Report of the County Secretary

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1. Purpose of the report

To consider the Select Committee's requirements for Panels and Best Value Review Groups.

2. Summary

2.1 The Select Committee are asked to consider:-

- (i) establishment of the following panels/review groups:-
 - (a) Gateway Panel
 - (b) Community Fire Safety Panel
 - (c) Fire Service Equal Opportunities Panel
 - (d) Community Information and Protection Service Property Strategy Panel
 - (e) Fire Service Procurement Best Value Review Group
- (ii) remits of the panels/review groups
- (iii) size of panels/review groups and membership, to be appointed at this meeting or by the County Secretary in consultation with select committee spokesmen.

3. Conclusions

The panels/review groups referred to within this report, with remits as shown, have been identified as being required by the Community Information & Protection Select Committee.

1. Background

- 1.1 The County Council on 16 May 2000 adopted a new constitution with effect from 1 August 2000 (subsequently amended by the Council at its meetings on 28 November 2000 and 3 April 2001) . Within that constitution it was agreed that each select committee should determine whether to establish panels to consider matters which regularly require comment or investigation. Two or more select committees may agree to establish a joint panel to report to them.
- 1.2 Each select committee may set up topic groups with limited life to consider and comment on "one off" matters.
- 1.3 Both panels and topic groups may include, or consist of, members who are not members of the parent select committee, and also non-members in a non-voting capacity.
- 1.4 Each select committee shall establish best value review groups to oversee reviews identified in the Best Value Performance Plan. Every review group shall include at least one member of the select committee.
- 1.5 A Best Value Review Group shall report direct to the Cabinet on behalf of the Select Committee. The Cabinet considers these recommendations before making a proposal to the Executive Committee. A Panel or Topic Group may respond direct to Cabinet on a matter which the Cabinet has referred to it for comment.
- 1.6 This report invites the committee to agree the establishment and size of panels and review groups.

2. Proposals for Panels / Review Groups

- 2.1 The Select Committee are requested to consider the establishment of the following:-

- 2.2 Gateway Panel [previously 8 members (5:3)]

Remit

- (a) To comment on proposals in relation to the implementation and monitoring of the Gateway.
 - (b) To scrutinise any matter in relation to the Gateway chosen by them or referred by the Select Committee.
- 2.3 Community Fire Safety Panel [previously 5 members (3:2)]

Remit

- (a) To comment on proposals in relation to Fire Safety issues.
- (b) To scrutinise any issue in relation to Community Fire Safety chosen by them or referred by the Select Committee.

2.4 Fire Service Equal Opportunities Panel [previously 3 members (2:1)]

Remit

- (a) To comment on proposals in relation to Fire & Rescue Service equal opportunities issues.
- (b) To scrutinise any matter in relation to Fire & Rescue Service equal opportunities issues chosen by them or referred by the Select Committee.

2.4 Community Information & Protection Service Property Strategy Panel [previously 5 members (3:2)]

Remit

To scrutinise the service property strategies for Fire & Rescue, Community Information and the Registration Service and report back to the relevant chief officer.

2.5 Fire Service Procurement Best Value Review Group [previously 5 members (3:2)]

Remit

To oversee the best value review of Fire Service Procurement.

3. Financial Implications

No additional financial implications are envisaged as a result of the establishment of panels.

Background papers used by the author in compiling this report:

Constitution of the County Council adopted 16 May 2000 as amended on 28 November 2000 and 3 April 2001.