

## HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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### REPORT OF THE INFORMATION & ACCESS COMMITTEE 18 JANUARY 2000

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NOTE: Full copies of the reports mentioned below have been sent to all members of the Environment Committee and other members who have requested it. Any queries on this report to: Joan Blake, Room 222, County Secretary's Department, County Hall, Hertford. (Tel: 01992 555560)

#### **1      HOMEWORK CLUBS**

Homework clubs cater for pupils aged 11-16 and aim to promote educational attainment by raising the self-esteem and confidence of children.

The Library Service operates two highly successful clubs, one in Stevenage and the other in Oxhey, which could be used as models for the provision of further clubs in other libraries with sufficient space to develop them, should funding become available.

The typical minimum cost of setting up and operating a Homework Club consists of one-off capital funding of £5k to purchase pcs, desks, chairs, etc and annual revenue costs of £10k for staffing, maintenance, stationery etc.

Further provision in libraries cannot be achieved within existing budgetary resources and the Committee have agreed that additional funding be explored through bids to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, the Department of Education and Employment and through commercial sponsorship.

In addition, they have asked the Director of Education to consider the cost implications of establishing additional clubs in libraries and, if appropriate, to take the work forward.

A progress report will be brought to the Committee in July 2000.

**Derrick Ashley**  
**Chairman**  
**County Hall**  
**Hertford**  
**18 January 2000**