

SCRUTINY COMMISSION – 5 NOVEMBER 2003

PARTNERSHIP MAPPING

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to inform the Commission of progress regarding the partnership mapping exercise.

Background

2. Members may recall that following the difficulties experienced with the Early Years and Childcare Partnership, the Commission requested officers to undertake a review of the County Council's involvement in partnership. Earlier reports to the Commission and Scrutiny Reference Group provided an initial analysis of the County Council's involvement in partnerships and draft advice and guidance prepared for managers involved in partnership working aimed at reducing risks associated specifically with working in partnership.
3. The second stage of this exercise was to identify all the partnerships operating in the county, their purpose and membership, identify the main public strategies and policies and to consider the extent of duplication and conformity between both partnerships and strategy documents. This part of the work has also been identified as a priority by the Leicestershire Local Strategic Partnership as the Government has identified rationalisation of partnership as a key priority for LSPs.

Advice and Guidance

4. Advice and guidance has now been prepared and published on the County Council's intranet. It provides a range of information about procedural, financial and legal issues that should be taken into account before, during and after partnerships are formed and dissolved.

Process of Mapping Partnerships

5. A questionnaire has been circulated to all key county and district wide partnerships. A copy of the questionnaire is attached as Appendix A. At the time of writing this report approximately a third of questionnaires were still outstanding (partnerships not highlighted in Appendix B). Reminders have been sent. The information gathered to date has been input into a database ('Enterprise Modeller'), which has been built around the following headings:
 - partner organisations
 - partnership purpose
 - partnership policy/strategy documents (including strategic objectives and key performance measures)

