

Community Support and Safety Scrutiny Sub Committee
Summary of Recommendations on a review of the Draft Community Strategy:
'Crime and the Fear of Crime'

The Community Support and Safety Scrutiny Sub Committee met on Tuesday 7 January 2003 to review the relevant parts of the draft Community Strategy.

Please find below a summary of their recommendations:

- The Sub Committee asked for further details on the implementation and progress of action against targets in the Community Strategy as they occur.
- It was noted that sub groups had been set up within the Southwark Alliance (and particularly the Safer Southwark Partnership) to pursue the headline aims and objective and targets in the latest version of the Community Strategy. Members of this Sub Committee will consider scrutinising the work of these sub-groups in the next municipal year to see what progress has been made.
- The Committee were interested to find out more about the consultation mechanisms employed by the Safer Southwark Partnership (SSP) and whether these extended beyond membership of the SSP in order to determine whether or not it is sufficiently community facing. A letter has been sent to the joint chairs of the SSP asking for further details (copy attached). Having received these, the Scrutiny Sub Committee may wish to comment further on the Community Strategy.
- The Committee had concerns that the responsibilities for various aims, objectives and targets were not made explicit in some instances, for example, 'multi-agency' should be replaced with a substantial list of exactly which agencies will be involved.
- The Committee considered that the root causes of crime need to be made more explicit and given more coverage in the Community Strategy. The Committee did accept that there were instances when tackling the causes of crime were implied in some of the aims, objectives and targets but these are not stated clearly enough.