

Item no: 22	Classification: OPEN	Committee: Education, Youth & Leisure Scrutiny Sub-Committee	Date: 14 January 2003
From: Head of Corporate Strategy		Title: Revised Community Strategy	

Purpose

1. At the request of Overview & Scrutiny Committee, to review the draft Community Strategy 2003-6, giving particular focus to the priority of *Raising Standards in Our Schools*. A revised version of the strategy is attached as Appendix 1; the relevant priority is at pages 18 – 21 of the strategy.

Approach

2. In reviewing the draft Community Strategy, members may wish to consider whether:
 - the balance of information provided is about right
 - there are any other key partners to be engaged
 - the Council activities described are the right ones
 - the targets given are the right ones
3. Member comments will be collated by officers and forwarded to the Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to the lead officer with responsibility for redrafting the strategy.

Context

4. Members rejected the rough draft of the revised Community Strategy which was presented to them on 10th December 2002 and required officers to bring back a more developed draft for their consideration. The Executive has postponed its consideration of the strategy from 14th January to 25th February (see amended timetable below). The sub-committee is therefore able to comment on and influence the development of the strategy as originally intended.
5. Although members ultimately rejected the rough draft of the strategy, they did make some specific comments, which have been taken into account by officers revising it:
 - cross-agency support has been picked up throughout the document and within other priorities such as *Tackling Poverty* (Children's Fund activities and out of school clubs), *Cutting Crime* (drugs education work) and *Improving the Health of the Borough* (teenage pregnancy);
 - the success measures have been made more specific;
 - a specific target for reducing exclusions of Black Caribbean pupils is still being developed but the issue has been reflected through the actions for "measures to reduce exclusions";
 - it is difficult to reflect issues of pupil mobility in the success measures themselves but members may want to add a comment on this subject to the introductory *Why is this a priority?* section.

Background

6. The Community Strategy is being revised, so that:

- responsibility for delivery of actions is assigned to the key partners of the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)
- the targets are sharpened and clarified to reflect the revised priorities

7. The purpose of the Community Strategy is to:

- ensure we have a partnership approach to the delivery of the community strategy
- join up the quality of life targets to community priorities
- introduce a performance management system into the delivery of community strategy aims

8. The timetable for revising the strategy is as follows:

Date	Action
By mid December	Chair of LSP (Leader) will have met key nominees from LSP partners (Police, Faith, Voluntary and Education sectors) Councils actions and targets further developed
Through December and January	Revised Community Strategy discussed at Scrutiny sub-committees
23 January	Revised Community Strategy discussed at Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) meeting
25 February	Revised Community Strategy discussed at Executive
February	Community Strategy agreed by LSP
March	Finalised Community Strategy formally adopted by Council Assembly
Late April/May	Community Strategy published

Lead Officer

Ian Hughes

Head of Corporate Strategy

Report Author

Graeme Gordon

Adviser to the Education, Youth and Leisure Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Background Papers	Held at	Contact
Minutes of the Education Youth & Leisure Scrutiny Sub-Committee meeting on 10.12.02	Town Hall Peckham Road SE5 8UB	Louise Gardiner 020 7525 7460
Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 13.11.02	Town Hall Peckham Road SE5 8UB	Lucas Lundgren 020 7525 7224
Draft Community Strategy For Southwark 2003 – 06, Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 13.11.02	Town Hall Peckham Road SE5 8UB	Lucas Lundgren 020 7525 7224
Executive Agenda and Minutes 08.10.02	Town Hall Peckham Road SE5 8UB	Paula Thornton 020 7525 4395
Community Strategy 2001 - 04	Town Hall Peckham Road SE5 8UB	Richard Gaskell 020 7525 7293