

Item No. 58	Classification: Open	Date: 19 March 2003	Meeting Name: Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Report Title:	Finance & General Purposes Scrutiny Sub-Committee Recommendations in respect of the Best Value Review of the Voluntary Sector		
Ward(s) or Groups Affected:	All Wards		
From:	Finance & General Purposes Scrutiny Sub-Committee		

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Overview & Scrutiny Committee note the comments of the Finance & General Purposes Sub-Committee on the review of the voluntary sector and where applicable take appropriate action. The recommendations of the Sub-Committee were:
 1. *That Finance and General Purposes Scrutiny Committee notes the agreed approach to the review of the voluntary sector as agreed by the Executive on 11 March 2003;*
 2. *That Overview and Scrutiny Committee consider the most appropriate Committee/s to engage in scrutiny of the new voluntary sector review process;*
 3. *That the terms of reference for the quick review of voluntary sector grant aid was not available for the Sub-Committee to consider;*
 4. *That the Sub-Committee notes the importance of any findings of the quick review of voluntary sector grant aid to the 2004/05 budget setting process;*
 5. *That the outcome of the voluntary sector grant aid fast track review should be reviewed by the Finance & General Purposes Scrutiny Sub-Committee in July 2003 as part of Sub-Committee's initial review of the 2004/05 Budget Setting process.*

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. At its meeting on 10 February 2003 the Finance and General Purposes Scrutiny Sub-Committee scheduled consideration of the Best Value Review of Roles and Responsibilities of, and Council Relations with, the Voluntary Sector including Grant Aid for its meeting on 22 April 2003. This review was included within the 2002/03 scheduled for Best Value Reviews.
3. At its meeting on 12 March officers provided the Sub-Committee with advice

that the process for undertaking the review had now changed following the agreement of a report by Executive on 11 March 2003. The new approach would be made up of two parallel processes:

- Work about relationships with the voluntary sector to take place through the COMPACT group;
 - A fast track review of voluntary sector grant aid.
4. Officers have indicated that scrutiny will have an opportunity to look at the outcome of the fast track review before it is returned to the Executive for final consideration.
 5. Attached at Appendix 1 is a copy of the Executive Report of the 11 March 2003 and the terms of reference of the review.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6. There are no additional legal implications raised by this reference report.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

7. There are no specific resource implications raised by this reference report.

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

8. There are no specific equalities implications raised by this reference report.

REASON FOR LATENESS

9. The Finance & General Purposes Scrutiny Sub-Committee met to consider this item on 11 March 2003 after the deadline for agenda dispatch. The recommendations of the Sub-Committee were accordingly not available until after this date.

Report Audit Trail

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CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / EXECUTIVE MEMBER

Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Borough Solicitor & Secretary	No	N/A
Chief Finance Officer	No	N/A
Executive Member	No	N/A

Background Papers**Held At****Contact**

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