

Agenda Item

Executive Board

1 August 2007

PJ/smep



Draft Service Level Agreement – East Devon DC & Community Council of Devon

Summary

This report sets out a proposed Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the Community Council of Devon (CCD) which we have been asked to sign. (Appendix A)

Recommendation

That the Council commits to the Community Council of Devon for 3 years through signing the SLA. The potential links to Local Development Framework (LDF) programmes need to be recognised.

a) Reasons for Recommendation

The SLA is mainly a clarification of the relationship that has been in place for many years.

b) Alternative Options

- Not to sign the SLA
- Recommend alterations to the SLA be negotiated

c) Risk Considerations

That the Council's financial situation or service needs may require a change in service level with the CCD.

That the CCD do not meet their service level and fail those in need of the service.

d) Policy and Budgetary Considerations

Positive Impact Overall

Social inclusion of potentially excluded groups

Improve satisfaction with East Devon as a place to live or with EDDC Services

Increase number of 'engaged' communities

Delivering jobs/services/infrastructure to regenerate and/or improve overall wealth

e) Date for Review of Decision

March 2010

1 Main Body of the Report

- 1.1 East Devon District Council has worked alongside the CCD for many years. The CCD are basically an 'infrastructure' organisation but who are also commissioned to run some services for rural communities.
- 1.2 Our main uses of CCD have been on Parish Planning, plus work on the use and sustainability of community halls. We have funded them to carry out this work for many years, almost at the same budgetary level £6,500 p.a.
- 1.3 This SLA basically confirms and clarifies that relationship for the future. It is not a contract as such but demonstrates what EDDC may reasonably expect in return for their annual grant.
- 1.4 Parish Planning may dovetail with the Local Development Framework Programme so we need to ensure this point is recognised by CCD.
- 1.5 Such agreements are an expected part of working between statutory and 'Third Sector' organisations these days.
- 1.6 The CCD also 'hosts' the "Rural Housing Enabler" post who assist in rural affordable housing but this is subject to a separate agreement.

Legal Implications

No legal observations.

Financial Implications

The 2007/08 payment was increased by inflation to £6,700 which equates to the figure specified in Part 2 of Appendix A.

Consultation on Reports to the Executive

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Background Papers

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Peter Jeffs – Ext. 2652
Corporate Director - Communities

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