

Agenda Item No

TO: RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 8TH OCTOBER 2002

SUBJECT: BLACK COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE FEASIBILITY STUDY

FROM: POLICY SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide an update on the progress of the feasibility study on the establishment of a Black Community Resource Centre.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In October 2001, the Executive agreed to allocate £5,000 from its Community Plan allocation to finance a feasibility study into the establishment of Black Community Resource Centre in Royal Leamington Spa.
- 2.2 The work is being spearheaded by the Warwick District Racial Equality Council but also working with the African Caribbean Project. Officers of Warwick District Council have also been involved.
- 2.3 So far the following opportunities have been examined:
- a) the purchase of a social club that has been on the market - this could not progress as funds could not be raised in time to meet the requirements of the seller. The property has since been sold.
 - b) using part of the Sikh Community Centre - this failed to progress as no agreement could be reached in principle about the use of the property.
 - c) using part of an underused car park next to Bath Place Community Venture. Discussions have been held with the Bath Place Community Venture and the African Caribbean Project to ensure active co-operation and maximising the space of all organisations involved. This appears to have potential and it is on this site that it is proposed to focus the architects work and then the business case.
- 2.4 The feasibility study as result of the above has not yet been completed.

3. POLICY AND BUDGETARY FRAMEWORK

- 3.1 The proposal if implemented would fulfil one of the actions in the Warwick District Community Plan Social Inclusion theme. Funding of £5,000 is available to pay for the feasibility study.

4. OUTCOMES

4.1 To consider if there is any action to be taken in the light of this update.

Chris Elliott
Strategic Director

Background Papers

Report to the Executive October 2001

Areas in District Affected: All but particularly Clarendon

Executive Portfolio Area and Holder: Customer/Community - Councillor Kohler

For Further information about this report please contact:

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