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**REPORT TO SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL (Sb)  
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE  
15<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 01**

The *Asian Over 60s Club* is an organisation based at two locations in Derby. (The venue pertinent to this report being a room in Sinfin Moor Church, Arleston Lane, Sinfin, Derby.) The club is financed by Derby City Council and SRB 3 funding.

In 1997, members of the club approached Councillors Oakes and Shepherd asking for financial help from South Derbyshire District Council to fund an increase in the hours that the club meets. (The club meets five hours per day, five days a week, 46 weeks a year.) Councillors Oakes and Shepherd passed the request to the council but the request was rejected because of a lack of budgetary provision.

Far from being daunted by the rebuff, members of the club continued to attend the Councillors' Surgeries asking for help. A number of meetings between the Councillors of both Ticknall and the adjacent Sinfin wards, officers of the City and District councils, club members and Mark Todd MP were held. The outcome of these meetings being that councillors Pabla and Shepherd were advised to present a report to committee outlining the case for District Council funding for the club.

The club was established to provide a focal point for the elders of the Asian community and to facilitate the cultural requirement for males to be out of the house during the day. Derby City Council Social Services fund £2000 approx for three days/week rent and the SRB 3 funding of £7000 provides for the remaining two days' rent, a driver/careworker, 2 kitchen assistants (1 day/week), a cook (1 day/week) and funds the food. Unfortunately, the SRB funding ceases after 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2002.

To cover the underfund, councillors Pabla and Shepherd have investigated alternative sources of finance. Derbyshire County Council have been contacted and some funding appears to be available. South Derbyshire CVS has met with the ward councillors and representatives of the group and help from the *Community Fund* and the *Awards for All* scheme have been identified as possible sources of finance.

The loss of the SRB 3 funding could jeopardise the viability of the club. The Derby City Council Development Officer has stated that the majority of the 25 persons attending the Arleston Lane venue are South Derbyshire residents. Derby City Council has indicated a willingness to continue funding to the current level. This means that Derby City Council is partially funding an activity primarily used by residents outside their area.

Councillors Pabla and Shepherd consider that the Asian Over 60s Club provides much needed support for a disadvantaged section of our community. They ask that provision be made in South Derbyshire District Council's budget to fund the two days' rent currently provided by the SRB 3 (approximately £2000 pa inc. further hours if possible at the church) and that a contribution be made to the remainder of the activities of the club.

Cllr Pabla .....

Cllr Shepherd ..... 15/11/01

larger boundary permitted the Strategic Health Authority to encompass the key clinical network and provided the best links and ability to handle performance management at a strategic level. Glossop had been included to meet the criteria of co-terminosity with the aggregate of local authorities. The implications of this preferred option for patients and partner organisations were reported.

In presenting the report, Councillor Carroll expressed general support for the preferred option submitted and recognition of the economies of scale provided by the proposals. There was some question over the geographic links between parts of the area proposed.

Members commented on the proposals, again recognising the benefits of the preferred option and in particular the inclusion of Glossop within the Strategic Health Authority's area. The reduction in the number of health authorities was welcomed together with the 'shifting power' principles whereby frontline services would have a greater say in service delivery. It was hoped that the review would lead to the development of further doctors' surgeries and co-ordination benefits.

**RESOLVED:-**

*That the Council supports the preferred option submitted for the proposed boundaries for the Strategic Health Authority and the proposed name of the "Trent Health Authority".*

(b) The Asian Over 60's Club

The Committee received a report from the Ticknall Ward Members seeking financial support for the Asian Over 60's Club. The Club currently received funding from Derby City Council and through the Single Regeneration Budget. This Council had been approached for financial support in 1997 but the request had to be declined at that time due to a lack of budgetary provision. The Club was established to provide a focal point for the elders of the Asian community. The SRB 3 funding of £7,000 per annum ceased after March 2002 and the Ticknall Ward Members had been involved in a number of meetings and had investigated alternative sources of finance. The loss of the SRB 3 funding could jeopardise the viability of the Club and the Members felt it provided much needed support for a disadvantaged sector of the community. Provision of £2,000 per annum was sought as a Service Development Proposal to assist this organisation.

In receiving the report, a number of Members voiced strong support given the cultural need and the lack of facilities in this part of the District. A Service Development Proposal could be considered as part of the budgetary process and officers were asked to examine other ways of assisting the Asian community in this part of South Derbyshire. A contrary view was expressed that there were many other worthy causes and this request should not be considered in isolation. Members asked about the project's exit strategy from SRB funding and felt that applications for financial support should be encouraged from other organisations.

**RESOLVED:-**

- (1) *That a service development proposal be submitted with a recommendation of support from the Committee for the establishment of budget of a least £2,000 to give financial support to the Asian Over 60's Club.*
- (2) *That Officers investigate other ways of assisting the Asian community in this area of the District.*

Note:- Councillor Douglas wished it to be recorded that he was not in favour of these decisions.

CS/54. **MEALS ON WHEELS SERVICE**

The Committee received a presentation from John Simmonds, Head of Operations at the County Council's Social Services Department. A Best Value Review had recently been undertaken for the Meals on Wheels Service and details were provided of the process, current service provision and key issues for the Service. Mr Simmonds explained the consultation undertaken and the gradual shift from provision of a hot meal service to the delivery of frozen meals which were heated on site. This decision was supported by statistics on the nutritional loss for food that was kept warm as compared to that that was reheated and the results of a food taste panel. Details were given of the principles agreed for the revised service and the options considered. At a meeting of the County Council's Cabinet on September 11th it had been agreed to move to a totally frozen meal service. The cost to service users would rise to £1.30 per meal and this would be used to improve the quality of meal provided.

A financial profile was provided for a three year period, detailing the initial cost increase and subsequent savings over time. Other issues considered by the County Council were contributions to Luncheon Clubs, an equity of three meals per service user and the issues for each district council which contributed to the Service.

Members took the opportunity to ask questions. The equity of meal provision was welcomed and further information was sought on the increase in meal costs, the consultation undertaken with service users and negotiations with district councils on the levels of financial contribution. Concerns had been raised through tenant consultation meetings and details were given of the special arrangements which would be made for service users, based on a needs assessment.

**RESOLVED:-**

*That the Presentation on the Meals on Wheels Service be received.*

CS/55. **CRIME AND DISORDER AUDIT - PRESENTATION**

The Committee received a presentation from Stuart Batchelor, the Community and Leisure Development Manager. The second Crime and Disorder audit had recently been completed and an outline was given of the audit to strategy process and crime statistics with Ward profiles. The Government had established a number of Crime and Disorder Reduction

