

**JOINT ADVISORY SUB COMMITTEE FOR
CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

2 SEPTEMBER 1998

Present: Councillors Angell (Chairman), Barnard, Mrs Hirst, Mrs Shillcock,
Ward and Worrall

10. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Sub Committee held on 27 May 1998 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

11. The Crime & Disorder Act 1998 and Youth Offending Teams (Item 1)

The Director of Social Services & Housing submitted a report on the requirements for local authorities, in conjunction with the Police and Probation Service to establish Youth Offending Teams (YOT) covering all local authority areas.

The report described the service the YOT would be expected to provide, the options for the geographical boundary of the YOT and initial estimates of the possible resourcing implications. Further discussions were to be held with the other agencies involved, particularly Probation, to clarify the level of resource which would be available to support the work of the YOT.

RESOLVED

- (i) that the requirements placed on the local authority in contributing to the establishment of a local YOT be noted;
- (ii) that the Sub Committee endorses the explorative work being undertaken in relation to the geographical boundaries of the YOT and notes that while a "stand alone" YOT for Bracknell Forest appears the most likely option at this point we continue to press Windsor and Maidenhead to reconsider their position with respect to a joint YOT. with Bracknell Forest; and
- (iii) that Officers develop detailed costings for the establishment of a YOT based on inter-agency funding and that figures be brought forward as part of the budget preparation for 1999/2000 and 2000/2001.

12. National Childcare Strategy – Implications for Bracknell Forest (Item 2)

The Director of Education submitted a report on the "Green Paper" published earlier in the summer which set out how the Government intended to develop its National Childcare Strategy.

The intention of the Government was that the Early Years Development Partnership should be expanded into a local Childcare Partnership responsible for assessing local childcare needs and how they should be met for children aged 0 to 14. The Government recognised that this expansion might make the Partnership unwieldy and recommended that consideration be given to the establishment of sub-groups

reporting back to the main Partnership. The expanded membership was likely to include representation from the Training and Enterprise Council, local employers groups, specific local employers and a range of bodies with an interest in the care of older children. Final Government guidance on membership was expected to be issued in October.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

13. Multi-Agency Neighbourhood Review (Item 3)

The Director of Education presented a report on the opportunity for running a pilot scheme to bring together a number of agencies, both from within the Council and outside to support a multi-agency community development project within the Borough.

The creation of a unitary authority offered opportunities for closer working between departments of the Council. Discussions had taken place within the Corporate Management Team about the potential for conducting a multi-agency neighbourhood review to identify aspects of the community where quality of life could be improved by collaboration between agencies. The proposed review would focus on a particular area of the Borough and following analysis of several indicators of need the geographical area of Old Bracknell, Wildridings and Easthampstead had been identified for the pilot study.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

14. Review of Day Care Provision for Children Under Section 19 of the Children Act 1989 (Item 4)

The Director of Social Services & Housing presented a report for information on the review of day care and related services for children under 8 years which was currently being conducted in compliance with the requirements of the Children Act 1989.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

The meeting commenced at 7.30p.m.
and concluded at 8.45p.m.

CHAIRMAN