

**LOCAL SERVICE AGREEMENT WORKING GROUP held at 9.00 am at
COUNCIL OFFICES LONDON ROAD SAFFRON WALDEN on
7 NOVEMBER 2003**

Present:- Councillor K Clarke – Chairman.
Councillors A Dean, S Flack and M A Hibbs.

Officers in attendance:- M Cox and B D Perkins.

LS1 PRESENTATION BY PETER PEARSON

Peter Pearson, Essex County Council, updated Members on progress with the Local Service Agreements which were being developed with districts across the county. Each district had been tasked with identifying areas that would benefit from an agreement. For Uttlesford the current service areas identified was the youth service, highways, waste/recycling, procurement, access to services and personnel. Considerable progress had been made in the first three areas. A draft agreement was being developed for the youth service and a Local Strategy Panel had been set up to ensure that it was appropriate for Uttlesford. Work was continuing on the Waste Strategy and with regards to highways, a draft proposal for an agreement had been prepared by ECC and circulated at the recent meeting of the Environment and Transport Committee. It had since been circulated to all Members. With regards to the other areas, these were at a more initial stage and officers were considering appropriate areas for more joint working.

Peter Pearson explained that his was an ambassadorial role, to aid communication between services and departments.

LS2 FUTURE OF THE GROUP

The Acting Chief Executive asked the Group Members to clarify how they saw the role and function of this Group. He envisaged the Group having a corporate role, ensuring that the Council's priorities were being met by the Local Service Agreements and that improvements were being made. He did not consider that the Group should necessarily be involved in the detail of the agreements. Members generally agreed with this approach. Councillor A Dean asked for a progress report covering all of the LSAs currently being developed. It was agreed that this would be prepared for the next meeting.

The Chairman then referred to the draft document for the Highways and Transportation Local Service Agreement. He thought it would be useful for Members to discuss the details of this proposal before the Environment and Transport Committee met in January and submitted its formal comments. It was suggested that an informal workshop should be arranged in the near future.

LS3 NEXT MEETING

A further meeting would be arranged for March/April 2004.

The meeting ended at 10.15am. Page 1