

## **PARTNERSHIP MEMBERSHIP: PROPOSALS FOR BUSINESS INVOLVEMENT**

### **1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To inform the Partnership of additions to the membership since the last meeting on 15 September 1999.
- 1.2 To recommend a method of involving representatives of the business sector in the work of the Partnership.

### **2. Background**

- 2.1 On 15 September 1999 the Partnership considered proposals that the existing full membership of eleven be increased by a further three, to include the following people:
  - (a) The Director of Racial Equality
  - (b) The Manager of Victim Support
  - (c) The Executive Director of the Economic Partnership
- 2.2 After discussion, the Partnership agreed to include representatives from the Racial Equality Council and Victim Support in view of their close connection with community safety in Milton Keynes. Partnership members also acknowledged the importance of the business sector in crime reduction work, but balanced this with a concern that the group should not become so large as to be unwieldy. The coordinators were asked to investigate ways in which the business sector could become more closely involved with decision making.
- 2.3 Following the meeting both Maureen Rock, Director of Racial Equality and Melinda May, Manager of Victim Support, were invited to join the Partnership. Each has accepted the invitation.
- 2.4 As requested, the coordinators have also considered ways in which the business sector might be involved in the work of the Partnership. The Economic Partnership and the Chamber of Commerce already send representatives to the Community Safety Forum, and each has some involvement on the various strategy delivery groups. Consequently operational and consultative links have been established, but these do not yet extend to the strategic level. Proposals for developing these links are detailed below.

### **3. Recommendation**

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Corporate Affairs Manager of the Chamber of Commerce and the Executive Director of the Economic Partnership be included as associate members of the Crime and Community Safety Partnership. In this capacity, they would be added to the mailing list and would have an opportunity to attend Partnership meetings. Although associate members have no voting rights on the Partnership, this arrangement would enable the business representatives to attend when matters arise which are of particular relevance to them.

**Note:** These proposals are acceptable to the two organisations concerned. If the Partnership agrees, arrangements will be made accordingly.

**Richard Solly**  
**23 November 1999**