

EUROPEAN/INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY SUB-COMMITTEE

8 JULY 1999

PROGRESS MADE ON ITEMS HIGHLIGHTED AT THE LAST SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING

1. The outcomes of the international conference held in Italy have been disseminated to community organisations with a known interest in international issues. They have also received notes of the previous seminar and an invitation to attend the second seminar and following sub-group meeting.
2. An officer survey is being undertaken via the email system. In addition, an update of the school survey has been undertaken. See **Annex B**.
3. The names of interested officers are being gathered in order to set up an officer group.
4. Contact has been made with the two towns/villages that are twinned.
5. Contact has been made with the Council's Corporate Policy Unit.
6. Discussions have been held with the Council's Press Officer and press releases were issued in relation to the visit from Almere representatives. Details were released on the Milton Keynes website.
7. LGIB information has been received and summaries included in information to Members.
8. Europe Day was again celebrated in Middleton Hall. The event was opened by the Mayor. The day included a shopping centre quiz focusing on Europe, and a programme of dance and music. Community partners put up information stands. Officer discussions have been held to identify ways of taking the event forward and involving more groups in future years.
9. Contact has been made with the Sister Cities organisation, and the international links that could arise from this have been recognised in the recently agreed Tourism Strategy.
10. Initial contact has been made with some companies that might be interested in supporting and/or benefiting from international links. The London and Amsterdam Group, who are developing the new shopping centre extension, sponsored a lunch for the visitors from Almere.