

COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
STRATEGY SUB-COMMITTEE

Paper 15/04

Key Steps in Reporting to Government on the Council's Findings

Introduction

This paper briefly summarises the proposed key steps in assessing the findings of the engagement process and reporting back to the Government on these.

Progress of the Engagement Process

2. The five-stage engagement process devised by the Council for Sustainable Development (SD) is as follows -

- I.* Identifying Pilot Areas
- II.* Preparation of an "Invitation and Response" document
- III.* Directly involving the wider community
- IV.* Reporting
- V.* The Government to act.

3. With the deadline for responses to the "Invitation and Response" (IR) document, *Sustainable Development: Making Choices for Our Future* having passed on 12 November, we now need to focus on stage IV of the process.

Roles and Sequence of Events

4. The IR document describes stage IV of the process (“Reporting”) in the following terms –

“The Strategy Sub-committee of the Council, with the help of the Support Groups, will assess the response from the community and present a report to the Council. Points of consensus, as well as areas where there are conflicting views will be highlighted. Government bureaux will also be required to give their responses. The Council will then advise the Government on the way forward for the Pilot Areas, from the point of view of sustainable development.”

5. There are now a large number of reports available to the SSC, based on the feedback gathered during the four-month process of seeking community views on the IR document. The Rapporteur engaged by the Sustainable Development Unit (SDU) to provide independent analysis on this process has initially collated this feedback into a draft report, a copy of which is at **Annex A**. This is subject to further revision prior to presentation to the SD Strategy Summit (see below).

6. It is now intended to present this initial report to a public SD Strategy Summit on 13 December, in order to gather further views on the validity of the interpretation of the community feedback in the three Pilot Areas. A programme for the summit is at **Annex B**. Prior to this, the SDU

will send the report to relevant government bureaux and departments and ask for a formal response to the IR document and on the results of the community engagement process.

7. Following the response from government departments and bureaux, which we expect to receive in early January, the SD Strategy Rapporteur will work with the Support groups and this Sub-committee to prepare a draft final report on the strategy for consideration by the full Council. The Council's final meeting of its current term will take place towards the end of February, and at this meeting it will finalise its recommendations for the Government's consideration. A simple flow chart outlining the sequence of events is at **Annex C**.

Council Secretariat

1 December 2004