

Visit to Wycombe District Council
31 January 2002

- Present:- David Rowlands – Bill Lidgate – Cllr Langley - David Picken.
- Criteria Determination – A proforma is used to assess the suitability of any claims made under headings of Community Safety as per Section 17 of Community safety Act 1998. Equal Opportunities, Best Value/ Finance and provision to the whole community.
- Decisions – Are made ultimately by Cabinet following comments from Head of Service or Lead officer. There is a conscious decision not to contract out statutory responsibilities and every effort is made to try and minimise duplication of roles. Decisions can be influenced by items such as lack of reserves or inadequate Equal Opportunities policies. Anxious to ensure that there is no 'Cosy Slipper' feeling to applications.
- Monitoring – Seen as excessive in some areas and would be happy to accede to Parent Body monitoring where appropriate. They see the need to introduce some form of Quality mark which would allow qualifying organisations to have 3 year funding programs and/or application submission periods. It is recognised that there are possible problems with this such as dealing with 'top up' applications mid term.
- CC Interface – They see a need for change by having more bi-lateral working greater use of 'Compact' and a managed realignment of funding. They see the 'Sure Start' program as being a failure and in general there is a tendency for funding to be too locally focused and the bigger picture needs to be seen.