

**Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development**

**Report to Scrutiny Board (Safer and Stronger Communities)**

**Date: 11<sup>th</sup> March 2013**

**Subject: Community First Programme.**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Summary of main issues**

1. In November 2012, a request was made by Councillor Stuart Golton for Scrutiny to review how Community First funding (Neighbourhood Match funding element) is being administered within Leeds.
2. Community First is a £30m programme funded by the Office for Civil Society on behalf of the government and delivered by the Community Development Foundation. Whilst acknowledging that the governance and accountability arrangements for the Community First programme were not the responsibility of the Council, the Scrutiny Board agreed to hold a working group meeting to discuss the issues surrounding this particular funding programme, including those raised by local Community First Panels, with a view to providing feedback to the Office for Civil Society.
3. This working group meeting took place on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2013. Reflecting on the key issues raised during this meeting, the attached draft report summarises the Scrutiny Board's observations in relation to the Community First Programme.

**Recommendations**

4. Members are asked to consider and agree the attached draft report summarising the Scrutiny Board's observations in relation to the Community First Programme.

**Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

5. None.

<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.