

2009/10 Corporate Plan- Public Consultation Process 7th October 2008

Report of Corporate Director (Finance & Performance)

PURPOSE OF REPORT			
To agree a process for developing the information to be used in the public consultation exercise for preparing the 2009/10 Corporate Plan.			
Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Key Decision	Referral from Corporate Director
Date Included in Forward Plan	N/a		
This report is public			

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) That Cabinet determine a process for agreeing the information to be used for the 2009/10 Corporate Plan public consultation exercise.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 At their meeting on 31st July, Cabinet agreed the 2009/10 Budget and Policy Framework process. Within the framework was a timetable for undertaking the annual public consultation exercise for refreshing the 3 year Corporate Plan.
- 1.2 Under the agreed timetable, the public consultation exercise is due to start on Thursday 23rd October and continue for 8 weeks. The timing of the exercise reflects full council receiving for endorsement the Local Strategic Partnership's Sustainable Community Strategy (LSP SCS) at its meeting the day before, Wednesday 22nd October.
- 1.3 To assist members bring forward any changes to the existing Corporate Plan, a briefing session on Priority Setting was held on Thursday 18th September which provided a range of information in respect of current priorities both inside and outside the council, in particular the council's current Corporate Plan, the LSP's draft SCS, and the County wide Local Area Agreement.
- 1.4 As part of the same exercise, proposals regarding the Council's specific capital investment priorities are also being sought. Clearly these need to fit closely with and support the Corporate Plan proposals, but they do not need to be included specifically as part of the public consultation exercise.
- 1.5 Information was also provided by way of a checklist to help bring forward realistic, achievable options for consideration.

- 1.6 Members were encouraged to share this information with their groups with a view to bringing forward options that could be agreed by Cabinet prior to the public consultation exercise commencing.
- 1.7 At the time of writing this report, no options have been received. However the Leader of the Council has asked to receive any proposals from members prior to the meeting so that the process can be co-ordinated and reported into the meeting.
- 1.8 As it is unlikely that all possible options for amending the Corporate Plan will be available for this meeting, it is recommended that authority for agreeing the information to be used in the public consultation exercise be delegated to the Leader of the Council

2.0 Options Appraisal.

- 2.1 Option 1 - that authority for agreeing the information to be used in the public consultation exercise be delegated to the Leader of the Council.
- 2.2 Option 2 – that Cabinet approve an alternative arrangement for agreeing the information to be used in the public consultation exercise

3.0 Preferred Option

- 3.1 The preferred option is option 1. This allows the information to be used for the public consultation to be co-ordinated and agreed without calling a special meeting of Cabinet. Full consideration of the outcome of the consultation exercise will be reported back into Cabinet to allow further consideration of the priorities to be included in the 2009/10 Corporate Plan prior to recommendation to full Council.

RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK

The refresh of the Corporate Plan is an integral part of the Council's Policy Framework.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(including Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)

None directly from this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None directly from this report

SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Section 151 Officer has been consulted and has no comments to add.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Legal Services have been consulted and have no comments to add

MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Deputy Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no comments to add.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Special Meeting of the Budget and Performance Panel agenda 16.9.08

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