
DRAFT CORPORATE PLAN 2006/07

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report introduces the draft Corporate Plan for Members' consideration and approval. The absence of a specific Corporate Plan was identified as a weakness at the last Comprehensive Performance Appraisal (CPA) assessment and the work which has now taken place should address that issue.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Until about 2001, the Council produced a Corporate Plan annually. However, with the introduction of the statutory requirement to prepare an annual Best Value Performance Plan each June, it was decided to focus specifically on the latter, as the two documents seemed similar in a number of aspects.
- 2.2 The CPA report in September 2004 highlighted the absence of an up-to-date and regularly reviewed Corporate Plan as a weakness of the Authority. Consequently, the production of a new Corporate Plan has formed a key element of the Council's agreed CPA Improvement Plan.
- 2.3 With the budget process now completed for 2006/07, a new draft Corporate Plan has been prepared for Members' consideration and comment.

3 DETAILED CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 A copy of the new draft Corporate Plan will be sent to Members under separate cover. The Plan brings together the Council's main strategic priorities, picks up the key elements of the 2005/06 Performance Plan and includes the main aspects of the 2006/07 budget. None of the information contained within it is new as such, it has simply now been brought together again in one key main reference document. Subject to Member agreement, the plan will become the main reference document for the Council and will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis, in line with the budget process.
- 3.2 It is seen very much as a working document which succinctly explains what the Council is about, what it is currently working on and what it is aiming to do in the future over a period. The Plan is seen as a key element in cementing linkages between service planning and the budget process.
- 3.3 The Council will still need to produce a Performance Plan and that will be brought forward for Council approval in June, as required by legislation.

4 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The content of the Corporate Plan is in line with the decisions taken as part of the budget process.
- 4.2 In terms of its production, the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister has provided funding support through the CPA Capacity Building Fund, with the Improvement and Development Agency providing officer support preparing the plan in line with best practice. There have been no additional direct costs to the Council in producing the draft.

5 RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 It is proposed that the Council **RESOLVES**, subject to Members' consideration and comments, to approve the draft as the Council's Corporate Plan for 2006/07.

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