1 SUMMARY

1.1 This report presents a new corporate consultation strategy for consideration and approval by Members.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Council agreed a consultation strategy some years ago that has proved useful in steering our approach to consultation. However, consultation remains a key issue and the opportunity has been taken to revamp the strategy to ensure it remains fit for purpose.
- 2.2 Improving consultation is an issue that remains high on the national and local Government agenda. The opportunity has therefore been taken to re-look at and re-draft our strategy in an attempt to:-
 - Improve and better co-ordinate our approach to consultation.
 - Further improve the quality of consultation.
 - Increase public participation in decision making.

The draft strategy is attached at appendix 1 and takes account of these priorities and the work that is already going on to address them.

3 **RISK IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 If the Council fails to consult effectively there is a risk to its reputation.

4 **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There may be resource implications arising from reviewing consultation arrangements.

5 **RECOMMENDATION**

5.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

To adopt the revised corporate consultation strategy.

Paul Warren

Chief Executive

Background Papers:-

None

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