

Executive

Forward Plan

12 January 2009

Report of Chief Executive

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To review the Forward Plan of the key Executive decisions which will be taken over the next four months. These are the key decisions of which the Council's Executive is currently aware.

This report is public

Recommendations

The Executive is recommended:

- (1) To resolve to note the Forward Plan for the period referred to above.

Executive Summary

Introduction

- 1.1 The Forward Plan is updated and rolled forward on a monthly basis. As this takes place, the programme is adjusted with further key decisions being added and others rescheduled or removed. The covering introductory note identifies the Members of the Executive by name and title, as required by the Regulations.
- 1.2 Appendix 1 is a schedule of changes to the Forward Plan since the last publication and the plan itself.

Proposals

- 1.3 The proposals is to note the Forward Plan as attached.

Conclusion

- 1.4 Acceptance of these recommendations creates a Forward Plan for the Council as required by the Local Government Act 2000.

Background Information

- 2.1 The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 require that a forward plan be prepared by the Executive Leader. The Forward Plan sets out the planned key Executive decisions which will be taken on behalf of the Council over the next four months.
- 2.2 The definition of what constitutes a key Executive decision can be found in Article 13 of the Council's Constitution which has guided the compilation of the attached Forward Plan. In particular, determination of whether a decision is "key" has been assessed with regard to its financial significance, the impact on local people and the degree of discretion that can be exercised. The content of the Forward Plan is prescribed in the Regulations and reflected in the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules (page P4/(b)/7 of the Constitution).
- 2.3 The Forward Plan has to be updated and rolled forward on a monthly basis, and a new forward plan produced at least 14 days prior to the first day on which it comes into effect. Any outstanding matters from the previous plan will be rolled forward into latest plan.

Key Issues for Consideration/Reasons for Decision and Options

- 3.1 The Council must by law publish a Forward Plan. Acceptance of these recommendations creates a Forward Plan for the Council as required by the Local Government Act 2000.

The following options have been identified. The approach in the recommendations is believed to be the best way forward

- Option One** To adopt the recommendation. The Council must by law publish a Forward Plan. The only options concern its contents.
- Option Two** To propose amendments to the Forward Plan.

Consultations

- All Chief Officers** The plan has been updated in light of responses received.

Implications

- Financial:** None arising directly from this report.
Comments checked by Karen Curtin, Chief Accountant
01295 221564
- Legal:** The Council must by law publish a Forward Plan.
Comments checked by James Doble, Democratic,
Scrutiny and Elections Manager 01295 221587

Risk Management:

Risk assessment - No significant risk implications have been identified in connection with this report other than the consequences of not complying with the legal requirement to publish a Forward Plan. Each report to the Executive on the items in the Forward Plan will carry its own risk assessment.

Comments checked by Karen Curtin, Chief Accountant
01295 221564

Wards Affected

All

Corporate Plan Themes

The Forward Plan provides a framework for consideration of Council policies over the next four months.

Executive Portfolio

Councillor Barry Wood
Leader of the Council

Document Information

Appendix No	Title
Appendix 1	Draft Forward Plan
Background Papers	
None	
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