

Committee: Executive
Date: Monday 6 September 2010
Time: 6.30 pm
Venue: Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, OX15 4AA

Membership

Councillor Barry Wood (Chairman)	Councillor G A Reynolds (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Ken Atack	Councillor Norman Bolster
Councillor Colin Clarke	Councillor Michael Gibbard
Councillor James Macnamara	Councillor Nigel Morris
Councillor D M Pickford	Councillor Nicholas Turner

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare any interest and the nature of that interest that they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting.

3. Petitions and Requests to Address the Meeting

The Chairman to report on any requests to submit petitions or to address the meeting.

4. Urgent Business

The Chairman to advise whether they have agreed to any item of urgent business being admitted to the agenda.

5. Minutes (Pages 1 - 4)

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 12 July 2010.

Strategy and Policy

6. Local Economic Partnerships (LEP) (Pages 5 - 66)

6.35 pm

Report of Chief Executive and Strategic Director Planning, Housing and Economy

Summary

To understand the implications of the Government's proposals to create Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEP) and to seek approval for Cherwell District to be included in the submissions being made to the Secretary of State by two prospective LEPs.

Recommendations

The Executive is recommended to:

- (1) Support the inclusion of Cherwell District in both the Oxfordshire City Region Enterprise Partnership and the South East Midlands Enterprise Partnership as they are submitted to the Secretary of State for Communities & Local Government for consideration.
- (2) Request a further report when the Secretary of State for Communities & Local Government responds to all the LEP submissions he has received and when he provides final information on any rules which might be put in place which would prevent Cherwell District being part of two LEPs simultaneously (should the Secretary of State accept both the Oxfordshire City Region and South East Midlands LEP bids).

Service Delivery and Innovation

7. Review of the ICT Service (Pages 67 - 80)

6.45 pm

Report of Strategic Director Environment and Community and Head of Customer Service and Information Systems

Summary

This report seeks Executive consideration of the outcomes of the Member and Officer IT Review Group and approval for the way forward.

Recommendations

The Executive is recommended to agree:

- (1) Measures to reduce the cost of the Council's ICT Service through the implementation of an integrated, scalable and flexible staffing structure, selective external hosting of systems and improved procurement;
- (2) By the end of 2012/13, to make savings of a minimum of £300,000 resulting in a minimum 15% reduction to the base budget and which brings the costs of the function to 2.3% total Council spend (based on 2010/11 estimated total spend);

- (3) To continue to explore further cost reductions through shared service and joint opportunities with other Councils;
- (4) The proposed change to the ICT service desk availability from 8am – 6pm, to 7am – 5.15pm Monday to Friday;
- (5) Not to implement an additional Out Of Hours support service based on an assessed low risk of failure and impact plus additional cost;
- (6) The setting up of an Information Systems Corporate Governance group with a remit to provide a corporate overview to the use of ICT resources, approve projects for delivery and realise targeted savings identified in the project business cases.

8. Overview and Scrutiny: (1) Committee Report on Democratic Engagement with Young People and (2) Task and Finish Group Report on Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour (Pages 81 - 118) 6.55 pm

Report of Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Summary

To consider the following overview and scrutiny reports:

- Democratic Engagement with Young People (Appendix 1)
- Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour (Appendix 2)

The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will attend the meeting to present the reports.

Recommendations

The Executive is recommended to:

- (1) Note the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee scrutiny review into the Council's approach to Democratic Engagement with Young People.
- (2) Agree the Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommendation regarding the Council's approach to Democratic Engagement with Young People as detailed below:

Recommendation 1:

That the Council should adopt a more pro-active and structured approach to youth engagement in local democracy and that the Young People's Champion and officers should be invited to develop a formal policy and action plan to achieve this.

- (3) Note the work of the Task & Finish Group scrutiny review into Crime and Anti Social Behaviour.
- (4) Agree the Task & Finish Group recommendation regarding Crime and Anti Social Behaviour as detailed below:

Recommendation 1:

That the Council take an active role in promoting the positive activities which young people in the district are involved in.

Recommendation 2:

That the Council promote the success of the Street Wardens in Bicester and Banbury and that the possibility of developing the scheme in other areas of Cherwell be investigated.

Recommendation 3:

That Overview and Scrutiny investigate how the Council engages with young people in the District in more detail.

Recommendation 4:

That the Council embarks on intergenerational activities to tackle the perception of crime in the District.

Recommendation 5:

That the Council develop a policy on youth engagement and involvement as part of the Council's consultation and decision making arrangements.

9. Equality Performance Review & Self Assessment (Pages 119 - 174) 7.05 pm

Report of Chief Executive and Corporate Strategy and Performance Manager

Summary

To provide an overview of our achievements relating to our equalities work during 2009/2010 and report the results in relation to the internal self assessment which has been completed under the Equality Framework for Local Government (EFLG) 'Achieving' standard.

Recommendations

The Executive is recommended to:

- (1) Note the progress in delivering the Corporate Equalities Action Plan and the Corporate Equalities Improvement Project.
- (2) Agree the completed 'Achieving' Equality Self Assessment'
- (3) Agree to continue with the equalities work programme for 2010/2011
- (4) Not seek external accreditation of our performance under the equalities standard for local government at this time and take the costs of this inspection as an efficiency saving.

Value for Money and Performance

10. **Asset Management Plan** (Pages 175 - 200) **7.15 pm**

Report of Head of Regeneration and Estates

Summary

To consider the Council's Asset Management Plan for 2010/11

Recommendations

The Executive is recommended to:

- (1) Approve the Asset Management Plan for 2010.
- (2) Approve that the proposal that vacant small industrial units be used for economic development purposes through lettings on flexible terms, and that this policy be monitored through future reporting on the Asset Management Plan.

11. **Performance and Risk Management Framework 2010/11 First Quarter Performance Report** (Pages 201 - 244) **7.25 pm**

Report of Chief Executive and Corporate Strategy and Performance Manager

Summary

This report covers the Council's performance for the period 1 April to 30 June 2010 as measured through the Performance Management Framework.

Recommendations

The Executive is recommended to:

- (1) Note the many achievements referred to in paragraph 1.4 of the report.
- (2) Request that officers report in the second quarter on the items identified in paragraph 1.5 of the report where performance was below target or there are emerging issues.
- (3) Agree the responses identified to issues raised in the end of year performance report in paragraph 2.1 of the report or to request additional action or information.

12. **2010/11 Projected Revenue and Capital Outturn at 30 June 2010 and 2009/10 Treasury Management Annual Report** (Pages 245 - 262) **7.45 pm**

Report of Head of Finance

Summary

This report summarises the Council's Revenue and Capital performance for the first 3 months of the financial year 2010/11 and projections for the full 2010/11 period.

These are measured by the budget monitoring function and reported via the Performance Management Framework (PMF) informing the 2010/11 budget process currently underway.

To receive information on treasury management performance and compliance with treasury management policy during 2009/10 as required by the Treasury Management Code of Practice. This report also reviews the treasury performance in Q1 2010/11.

Recommendations

The Executive is recommended to:

- (1) Note the projected revenue & capital position at June 2010.
- (2) Approve the changes in the 2010/11 capital programme as follows:
 - Slip £4.8m of project funding into the 2011/12 capital programme (detailed in Appendix 1) and consider this as part of the 2011/12 budget process
- (3) Note the performance against the 2009/10 investment strategy and the financial returns from each of the 3 funds (Appendix 2) and recommend that this report is considered by Full Council in line with CIPFA best practice.
- (4) Note the Q1 performance against 2010/11 investment strategy
- (5) Note the change in cumulative counterparty limits from £8m to £15m.

Other Matters

13. Strong Leader Model (Pages 263 - 270)

7.55 pm

Report of Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Summary

To consider arrangements for adopting the so called 'Strong Leader' model of Executive governance as required by the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, until this act is repealed later in the year.

Recommendations

The Executive is recommended to:

- (1) Note that the Government intend to repeal these requirements later in the year and consequently to agree a minimal response to ensure legislative compliance as set out in the following recommendations and endorsed by the minister in his letter as set out in Appendix 1.
- (2) Note that Cherwell already operates a Strong Leader Model
- (3) Agree the proposals in 1.3 to 1.7 in the report, including the changes to the approval process for the Scheme of Delegation, the appointment of Leader and Annual Council and recommend them to Council for approval.

- (4) Agree that a summary of the proposed changes be placed on the internet and any responses will be reported to Council.
- (5) Agree that the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be requested to draft constitutional amendments for consideration by Council to implement the changes.

Urgent Business

14. Urgent Business

Any other items which the Chairman has decided is urgent.

(Meeting scheduled to close at 8.05 pm)

Information about this Agenda

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence should be notified to democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk or (01295) 221587 prior to the start of the meeting.

Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare interests at item 2 on the agenda or if arriving after the start of the meeting, at the start of the relevant agenda item. The definition of personal and prejudicial interests is set out in Part 5 Section A of the constitution. The Democratic Support Officer will have a copy available for inspection at all meetings.

Personal Interest: Members must declare the interest but may stay in the room, debate and vote on the issue.

Prejudicial Interest: Member must withdraw from the meeting room and should inform the Chairman accordingly.

With the exception of the some very specific circumstances, a Member with a personal interest also has a prejudicial interest if it is one which a Member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest.

Local Government and Finance Act 1992 – Budget Setting, Contracts & Supplementary Estimates

Members are reminded that any member who is two months in arrears with Council Tax must declare the fact and may speak but not vote on any decision which involves budget setting, extending or agreeing contracts or incurring expenditure not provided for in the agreed budget for a given year and could affect calculations on the level of Council Tax.

Queries Regarding this Agenda

Please contact James Doble, Legal and Democratic Services james.doble@cherwell-dc.gov.uk (01295) 221587

Mary Harpley
Chief Executive

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