
Overview & Scrutiny Panel (Corporate and Strategic Framework)

Report of the meeting held on 2nd September 2008

Matters for Information

3. GROWING SUCCESS – CORPORATE PLAN

In conjunction with Item No. 23 of the Report of the Cabinet, the Panel has been acquainted with the outcome of the annual review of the Corporate Plan – Growing Success. The revised document contains fewer priorities and will be used to inform the Council's financial planning. Members have taken into account work undertaken by the Corporate Plan Working Group in the course of the review.

The Panel has discussed a range of matters associated with the Plan, including climate change, affordable housing and public transport, particularly in rural areas. Emphasis has been placed on the fact that the Plan refers only to matters that fall within the Council's remit. Given its links to the Council's financial planning, the Panel has decided to extend the Corporate Plan Working Group's remit by requesting it to investigate the cost implications of each priority area identified within the Plan.

The Panel has expressed their satisfaction with the content of the Plan and recommended the Cabinet to request the Council to adopt it.

4. FINANCIAL FORECAST

In conjunction with Item No. 21 of the Report of the Cabinet, the Panel has been acquainted with the present position in relation to the Council's financial forecast for the period up to 2018/19. Members have been informed of potential variations in a number of sources of income and other factors that could affect the Council's financial position.

The Panel has acknowledged the uncertainty created by inflation in the current economic climate and, in that context, Members have stressed the importance for the Council of identifying the necessary spending adjustments in order to achieve the Proposed Spending Plan referred to in the report.

5. CUSTOMER SERVICE STRATEGY ACTION PLAN

Further to Item No. 9 of their Report to the meeting of the Council on 20th February 2008, the Panel has reviewed the Action Plan to the Customer Service Strategy. Having received clarification of a number of items within the Plan and an outline of future plans to develop the way the Council delivers its service to the public, Members have recommended the Cabinet to approve the content of the Customer Service Strategy Action Plan.

J A Gray
Chairman