

**CABINET FEEDBACK:
ONE LEISURE FINANCE/CONSULTATION PROCESSES
(Report by the Cabinet)**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 At its meeting on 23rd June 2011, the Cabinet considered a report by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Social Well-Being) on the findings of the Panel's Working Group's regarding the financial performance of One Leisure and the Council's consultation and engagement policies, procedures and practices.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Panel established working groups to review:
- the financial performance of One Leisure and make recommendations on the services' future strategic direction; and
 - the Council's consultation and engagement policies, procedures and practices with a view to making recommendations on possible improvements to the current process.

3. DELIBERATIONS

- 3.1 The Cabinet discussed the Working Group's concerns over the rising cost of IT network and helpdesk services. Executive Councillors referred to the various elements of the service provided by the IT division and its use in the day to day running of the leisure centres. The Cabinet was conscious of the need to achieve savings and have requested the Executive Councillor for Organisational Development to review the Council's IT costs, including the basis upon which the IT network service is re-charged to users.
- 3.2 With regard to the Council's consultation and engagement policies, the Cabinet was conscious that the study emerged as a result of concerns raised by members of the public over the perceived weaknesses in the procedures employed by the Council during recent consultations.

In considering the Panel's recommendations, the Cabinet emphasised the need to consider them carefully given their potential impact on staff time and resources. Mention was made of the benefits of working with neighbouring authorities to build up a consultation database of information. In order to provide a comprehensive package of measures, the Cabinet has requested the Managing Director (resources) to undertake investigations as to how the current process can be improved and to report to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Social Well- Being) and Executive Councillors on the outcomes, findings and recommendations arising therefrom.

3. CONCLUSIONS

- 3.1 Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel are invited to note the contents of this report.

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