

## AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

<b>Name of Committee</b>	<b>Adult and Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>
<b>Date of Committee</b>	<b>22 November 2005</b>
<b>Report Title</b>	<b>2005/06 Cost Effectiveness Savings – Social Services Progress Report</b>
<b>Summary</b>	This report outlines the progress the Social Services Department has made to date in delivering the required cost effectiveness savings in 2005/06.
<b>For further information please contact:</b>	Philip Lumley-Holmes Financial Services Manager  Tel: 01926 412443
<b>Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework?</b>	No.
<b>Background papers</b>	2005/2006 Budget Resolution

### CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-

Details to be specified

Other Committees	<input type="checkbox"/> .....
Local Member(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> .....
Other Elected Members	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cllr Sid Tooth, Chair of Adult and Community Overview and Scrutiny Cttee Cllr Marion Haywood Cllr Richard Dodd
Cabinet Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cllr Colin Hayfield, Portfolio Holder, Adult and Community Services
Chief Executive	<input type="checkbox"/> .....
Legal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Victoria Gould, Legal Services
Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Clarke, County Treasurer
Other Chief Officers	<input type="checkbox"/> .....

- |                          |                          |       |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| District Councils        | <input type="checkbox"/> | ..... |
| Health Authority         | <input type="checkbox"/> | ..... |
| Police                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | ..... |
| Other Bodies/Individuals | <input type="checkbox"/> | ..... |

**FINAL DECISION YES**

**SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:**

Details to be specified

- |  |                          |       |
|--|--------------------------|-------|
| Further consideration by<br>this Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> | ..... |
| To Council                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | ..... |
| To Cabinet                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | ..... |
| To an O & S Committee                      | <input type="checkbox"/> | ..... |
| To an Area Committee                       | <input type="checkbox"/> | ..... |
| Further Consultation                       | <input type="checkbox"/> | ..... |

## **Adult and Community Services Overview And Scrutiny Committee – 22 November 2005**

### **2005/2006 Cost Effectiveness Savings – Social Services Department Progress Report**

#### **Report of the Director of Social Care and Health**

#### **Recommendation**

The Committee is asked to note the progress made by the Social Services in delivering the 2005/06 cost effectiveness savings target.

#### **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 As part of the 2005/06 Budget Resolution all departments (excluding schools) were required to identify 2.5% savings, wherever feasible from improvements in cost effectiveness with exceptions for Social Services and Fire and Rescue where the level of savings to be returned to the centre was limited to £1,580,000 and £199,000 respectively. Departments were required to return the majority of these savings to the centre. This report provides this information for the Social Services Department showing progress against the target.

#### **2 Departmental Savings Target**

- 2.1 The 2005/06 saving target for Social Services is £1,580,000. The Social Services budget has been reduced by this sum accordingly.

#### **3 Progress To Date**

- 3.1 In setting the department's budget, growth monies available to fund increased demand for social care were top-sliced by the required savings target. By doing this, the full value of this budget reduction has been reflected in budgets controlled by cost centre managers.
- 3.2. All cost centre managers have a responsibility to deliver Best Value in the services they procure or deliver. Managers are required constantly to scrutinise their area of service to deliver efficiencies in order to meet budget targets. The requirement for Councils to record efficiency gains under the

new Gershon regime means that departments must now have a mechanism for demonstrating that these savings are being delivered.

- 3.3. At the mid point of the financial year, the department has identified savings of £683,000. A summary is shown in Table 1.

<b>Table 1: Savings Identified to Date</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£000</b>
Children's Services:	
• Foster Care v Residential Care	250
Adult Services:	
• Land Developments	13
• Older People Residential (Internal v External)	20
• Home Care - Internal - External	350
Other:	
• Transport Services	50
<b>Total Identified to date</b>	<b>683</b>
Savings still to be identified	897
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,580</b>

- 3.4. £897,000 still remains to be identified. Providing the trends to reduce external residential and foster care and maintain our internal/external home care ratios continue, the department expects to achieve the necessary savings by the end of the financial year. We continue to explore further savings through family assessment and prevention for childrens services, community alternatives to residential care, occupational therapy and home care modernisation for adult services. In addition, we continue to review support services in the department. From these various avenues the department will ensure the savings are identified and will continue to monitor progress by periodic reports to departmental service groups and Directorate meetings.

## 4. Other Areas for Efficiency

- 4.1. This report is concerned primarily with actions within the department to deliver against the savings target set as part of the Council's Budget Resolution. There are two other areas of activity that are worthy of noting although they do not contribute to the savings target in the current year.
- 4.2. The Council is the Administering Authority for the Supporting People partnership. A programme of service reviews has yielded significant saving in the current year. As Supporting People funding is ringfenced, these cash savings are not available to individual partners and must be reinvested in supported housing schemes. Clarification is still being sought from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister on whether carry forwards of underspending arising from these savings can be used to offset potential loss of Supporting People grant in future years.

- 4.3. The Social Services Department is currently exploring different procurement options for agency social work and care staff. Currently, agency placements are procured from a wide range of suppliers. Savings are expected in next financial year when these arrangements are streamlined through a single agency who will act on the Council's behalf to negotiate lower rates than are currently achieved.

Marion Davis  
Director of Social Care and Health

Shire Hall  
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October 2005