

Cabinet

Agenda

2 November 2006

The Cabinet will meet at the **SHIRE HALL, WARWICK** on **THURSDAY, 2 NOVEMBER 2006 at 1.45 P.M.**

The agenda will be :

1. General

(1) Apologies for absence.

(2) Members' Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

Members are reminded that they should disclose the existence and nature of their personal interests at the commencement of the relevant item (or as soon as the interest becomes apparent). If that interest is a prejudicial interest the Member must withdraw from the room unless one of the exceptions applies.

Personal interests relating to any item on the agenda arising by virtue of the members serving as District/Borough councillors and as members of the Warwickshire Police Authority are declared below:

Councillor Alan Cockburn, Member of Warwick District Council.

Councillor Peter Fowler, Member of North Warwickshire Borough Council.

Councillor Colin Hayfield, Member of North Warwickshire Borough Council.

Councillor Richard Hobbs, Member of Stratford on Avon District Council and the Warwickshire Police Authority.

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse, Member of Rugby Borough Council.

Councillor Chris Saint, Member of Stratford on Avon District Council.

The public reports referred to are available on the Warwickshire Web
www.warwickshire.gov.uk/committee-papers



Councillor Izzi Seccombe, Member of Stratford on Avon District Council and the Warwickshire Police Authority.

Councillor Bob Stevens, Member of Stratford on Avon District Council.

(3) Minutes of the meeting held on the 12 October 2006 and Matters Arising.

(4) Requests for Discussion of En Bloc Items.

PART A - ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION (WHITE PAPERS)

2. Programme of Items for Future Consideration

The report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development.

The report contains details of all items programmed for consideration by the Cabinet up to the 1 February 2007, as taken from the Forward Planning System.

Recommendation:

That members note/ comment on the programme.

For further information please contact: Pete Keeley, Principal Committee Administrator. Tel: 01926 412450, e-mail petekeeley@warwickshire.gov.uk

3. The Vision

The report of the Chief Executive.

The report presents the proposed Vision Statement for the Council for 2006 – 2015. Every organisation needs a vision - a focused set of priorities, a set of outcomes to be achieved. The Vision will guide the Council in the planning and delivery of its services and resources so as to best achieve outcomes for the communities of Warwickshire. The Cabinet is asked to agree the Vision.

Recommendation:

That the Cabinet consider the proposed Vision Statement as a means of setting the strategic direction for the Council.

For further information please contact: Jim Graham, Chief Executive
Tel: 01926 412000, e-mail: jimgraham@warwickshire.gov.uk
or: Monica Fogarty, Head of Change Management. Tel: 01926 412514,
e-mail: monicafogarty@warwickshire.gov.uk

4. Half-Year Composite Performance Report 2006/07 (April 2006 – September 2006).

The report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development.

This report provides an analysis of the Council's performance for the half-year 2006/07 (the period 1st April 2006 to 30th September 2006) as part of the Performance Management Framework. It reports on performance against the key actions from the Corporate Business Plan, Corporate Headline Indicators (CHIs) and LPSA2 Targets.

Recommendations:

- (1) That Cabinet notes the contents of the report and note that half-year reports from individual directorates will be reported to relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committees.
- (2) That Cabinet identifies any aspects of performance where they believe there is potential to improve and consider the performance issues raised in the report that may require attention.

For further information please contact: Colin Gordon, Corporate Performance Officer. Tel: 01926 412559, e-mail: colingordon@warwickshire.gov.uk or Sue Littlewood, Corporate Planning Manager. Tel: 01926 412753, e-mail: suelittlewood@warwickshire.gov.uk

5. Development of the 2007/08 to 2009/10 Medium Term Financial Plan

The report of the Chief Executive and Strategic Director of Resources.

To inform members of the latest information on available resources, spending pressures and investment proposals for the period 2007/08 to 2009/10.

Recommendations:

That the Cabinet :

- (1) Notes the latest resource forecast and early indications of spending pressures and investment proposals from Directorates.
- (2) Requests that Overview and Scrutiny Committees review and comment on the information relevant to their terms of reference.

For further information please contact: Virginia Rennie, Group Accountant
Tel: 01926 412239, e-mail: 01926 412962

6. Projected 2006/07 Revenue Outturn

The report of the Strategic Director of Resources.

The report summarises the projected revenue outturn as at the end of quarter 2 (April to September 2006). It highlights the main reasons for any variations from the approved budget for each service and the projected reserves position at the year-end.

Recommendation:

That the Cabinet notes the projected 2006/07 revenue outturn position and the projected reserves at year-end, and requests Directorates to take appropriate management action to try to ensure that spending remains within budget.

For further information please contact: Sandra Dean, Budget Planning Officer. Tel: 01926 412013, e-mail: sandradean@warwickshire.gov.uk

7. Projected 2006/07 Capital Outturn

The report of the Strategic Director of Resources.

This report gives a mid-year update on the variations on projected capital outturn for 2006/07 and overall budget variances.

Recommendation:

That the Cabinet notes the revised spending forecast for capital schemes in 2006/07 and over the scheme lives.

For further information please contact: Charles Holden, Corporate Capital
Tel: 01926 412092, e-mail: charlesholden@warwickshire.gov.uk
or: Michael Furness, Principal Accountant Tel: 01926 412666, e-mail: michaelfurness@warwickshire.gov.uk

8. 2006/07 Annual Efficiency Statement Mid-Year Update

The report of the Strategic Director, Resources and Strategic Director, Community Protection.

Update on progress in achieving our forecast efficiency gains for 2006/07 and the 2006/07 Annual Efficiency Statement Mid-Year Update for approval to be submitted to DCLG.

Recommendations:

That the Cabinet:

- (1) Notes the latest forecast efficiency gains for 2006/07 for the County Council and the Fire and Rescue Service.
- (2) Approves the draft 2006/07 Annual Efficiency Statement mid-year update for the County Council attached at Appendix A to the report and the Fire Service, attached at Appendix B, for submission to the Government.
- (3) Authorises the Strategic Director of Resources, and Strategic Director of Community Protection, in conjunction with the respective portfolio holders, to make any changes necessary to the 2006/07 Annual Efficiency Statement mid-year update prior to its submission.

For further information please contact: Michael Furness, Principal Accountant. Tel: 01926 412666, e-mail: michaelfurness@warwickshire.gov.uk

9. Fairer Charging - Care at Home Services

The report of the Strategic Director of Adult Health and Community Services.

This report sets out proposals for a revised charging policy.

Recommendations:

That the Cabinet approves the following proposals for a revised charging policy.

- (1) Increase “buffer” to Income Support + 40% and increase the charge to £8.70, half way between our current charge and the group average.
- (2) Charging on planned hours is continued at the present time but a review of this decision is taken when the electronic time recording system is in place. In the meantime remove what is now seen as inconsistency with our banded charges and charge on the basis of a standard hourly rate rounded to the nearest half hour.
- (3) That the Council does not increase the savings figure from the current level of £21,000 but that this is increased annually in April in line with CRAG guidance.
- (4) That for the time being the Council does not charge a higher rate for service users who receive more than 18 hours home care.

- (5) That the rate for day care is increased from £2.22 per day or part day to £5.00 per day or part day.
- (6) That rate for transport is increased from £1.07 per journey to £1.20 per journey.
- (7) Providing all the above are approved it is proposed to implement the changes from 1 January 2007. This would need to be reviewed should any of the above recommendations be changed or not approved
- (8) That the proposed charges remain the same until April 2008.
- (9) A further report on disability related expenditure be brought back to Members in due course.

For further information please contact: Philip Lumley-Holmes, Financial Services Manager. Tel: 01926 41-2443, e-mail: philiplumley@warwickshire.gov.uk

10. Review of the Cultural Strategy

The report of the Chair, Adult and Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The report is the final report for the Scrutiny Review of the Cultural Strategy. This report was considered by the Adult and Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 12 July 2006.

Recommendations of the Adult and Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- (1) That the final report of the review of the Cultural Strategy be approved;
- (2) That the Cabinet agree the following recommendations:
 - (a) That no steps be undertaken to replace the current cultural strategy 2003-06 with another strategy.
 - (b) That future work in this area be referred to as Culture, Leisure and Sport.
 - (c) Notwithstanding (2)(a) above the current cultural strategy be assimilated in the overall promotion of culture leisure and sport within the development of the local area agreement and existing community strategies.
 - (d) That amongst the options being explored to develop services in this area; consideration be given to the feasibility of a County Wide Cultural 'Champions' Forum and a website portal providing a single point of access for all cultural, leisure and sports activities within Warwickshire.

The public reports referred to are available on the Warwickshire Web
www.warwickshire.gov.uk/committee-papers



For further information please contact: Ann Mawdsley, Senior Committee
Tel: 01926 418079, e-mail: annmawdsley@warwickshire.gov.uk or: Bill
Basra, Partnerships and Communities. Tel: 01926 476828, e-mail:
billbasra@warwickshire.gov.uk

11. Catholic Provision in Rugby

The report of the Strategic Director for Children, Young People and Families.

The report includes a draft response to the Catholic authority's consultation on Catholic provision in Rugby.

Recommendations:

- (1) That the Cabinet comment on and agree the draft response to the Diocesan School Commission's consultation document at Appendix A to the report.
- (2) That the Area Committee consider this matter further and the Cabinet receive a further report on the outcome of the consultation process at its meeting on 23rd November

For further information please contact: Mark Gore, Head of Service (Education Partnerships and School Development). Tel: 01926 742588, e-mail: markgore@warwickshire.gov.uk

12. Chedham's Yard, Wellesbourne: Investment and Regeneration

The report of the Strategic Director, Adult, Health & Community Services.

Chedham's Yard, a historic forge and wheelwright's yard in Wellesbourne, won the national final of the BBC programme 'Restoration Village' in September. As a result, the project will secure £1 million investment from the Heritage Lottery Fund, subject to satisfying the necessary requirements.

The project is promoted by the local community, with support from (among others) staff from the Warwickshire Museum Service. This is a further example of the Museum Service's role in supporting and enabling engagement by local communities with their local heritage.

The report outlines the potential benefits for Wellesbourne, and more widely for Warwickshire, and sets out the approach officers propose to take to supporting the local community with their project.

Recommendation:

The Cabinet is asked to endorse the approach proposed.

For further information please contact: Helen Maclagan, Head of Museum Service. Tel: 01926 418127, e-mail: helenmaclagan@warwickshire.gov.uk

13. Council Housing Disposal Policy

Report of the Strategic Director of Resources.

The report seeks approval to a policy for the disposal of Council housing not required for operational purposes.

Recommendations:

- (1) That approval be granted to the Council adopting a policy to offer for sale its 'non operational' housing to tenants at a discount reflecting the discount under Right to Buy legislation.
- (2) That no new service tenancies are granted for 'non-operational' Council housing.
- (3) That approval is granted to the sale of individual 'non-operational' Council housing in accordance with the above policy on terms and conditions acceptable to the Strategic Directors of Resources and of Performance and Development.

For further information please contact: Geoff Taylor, Deputy Estates Manager, Tel: 01926 412521, e-mail geofftaylor@warwickshire.gov.uk

PART B - ITEMS FOR EN BLOC DECISIONS (YELLOW PAPERS)

14. Delivering the Customer Service & Access Strategy – Funding options for a joint One Stop Shop in North Warwickshire

The report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development.

The report sets out the proposed funding options for Warwickshire County Council's participation with North Warwickshire Borough Council in a joint One Stop Shop in Atherstone

Recommendations:

That the Cabinet:

- (1) Approves the utilisation of £35,000 capital underspend from the Stratford Register Office to support the capital contribution to the joint one stop shop in Atherstone.

- (2) Notes that the Strategic Director for Performance and Development will fund from within existing resources the additional £25,000 towards the capital contribution.
- (3) Notes that the revenue funding will be the subject of a future bid to the Modernisation Fund.

For further information please contact: Kushal Birla, Head of Customer Service and Access. Tel: 01926 412013, e-mail:

kushalbirla@warwickshire.gov.uk

15. Changes to Indicated Admission Numbers – Southern Warwickshire

The report of the Strategic Director for Children, Young People and Families.

The report paper informs the Cabinet about current Admission Numbers in two schools and seeks authorisation for formal consultation to change those numbers.

Recommendation:

That the Cabinet authorises the Strategic Director for Children, Young People and Families to consult stakeholders on proposals to:

- (1) increase the Admission Number of Wellesbourne C of E Primary School, from 40 to 60 pupils per year; and
- (2) increase the Admission Number of Ettington C of E Primary School, from 20 to 25 pupils per year.

For further information please contact: Phil Astle, Assistant Head of Service – Service Planning. Tel: 01926 742166, e-mail:

philastle@warwickshire.gov.uk

16. Children's Centres – Phase 2

The report of the Chair of the Sure Start Policy Panel.

This report outlines the details on proposed sites and estimated costs for Phase 2 of the strategy for Children's Centres across Warwickshire. The report was considered by the Sure Start Policy Panel.

Recommendations of the Sure Start Policy Panel:

- (1) That the Cabinet agrees the proposals for Phase 2 of Children's Centres and notes the financial implications arising from the feasibility study and that the cost of the programme will be met from Government grant.

- (2) That the Cabinet approves the proposal to manage the programme within the overall grant allocation as set out in paragraph 2.4 of the report.

For further information please contact: Ann Mawdsley, Senior Committee
Tel: 01926 418079, e-mail: annmawdsley@warwickshire.gov.uk
or: Norma Smeaton, Head of Early Years and Childcare.
Tel: 01926 742259, e-mail: normasmeaton@warwickshire.gov.uk

17. The Consumer Advice Policy for Trading Standards

The report of the Strategic Director of Adult , Health & Community Services.

The report asks the Cabinet to consider a revised policy for the delivery of consumer advice by Warwickshire Trading Standards Service in light of the introduction of Consumer Direct West Midlands.

Recommendation:

That the Cabinet endorses the revised approach and formally adopts the policy.

For further information please contact: Anthea J Davies, Assistant Head of Trading Standards. Tel: 01926 414063, e-mail: antheadavies@warwickshire.gov.uk

18. Waste Strategy Implementation - Approval of Method for Allocating Capital Support to the District/Borough Councils

The report of the Strategic Director for Environment and Economy

Capital funding has already been allocated to implement aspects of Warwickshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy. Out of the total budget, £1 million has been provisionally allocated to provide capital support for the district/borough councils to contribute to reaching the targets established in the Waste Strategy. The report seeks approval for allocating the £1 million and the method proposed for distributing funding to individual district authorities.

Recommendations:

- (1) That £1 million is allocated to support district schemes that will contribute to the implementation of Warwickshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy.
- (2) That the Waste Strategy Implementation Project Board makes the decision on the allocation of funding to the districts in accordance with the objectives of Warwickshire's Municipal Waste

Management Strategy and following the procedures proposed in this report.

- (3) In making allocation decisions the Waste Strategy Implementation Project Board shall follow a fully transparent and objective process with the primary aim of maximising the total amount of recycling and composting carried out in Warwickshire.

For further information please contact: Kalen Wood, Waste Management
Tel: 01926 418064, e-mail: kalenwood@warwickshire.gov.uk

19. Land at Corner of Park Road and Mill Street, Bedworth

The report of the Strategic Director for Environment and Economy.

This report seeks authorisation for a land exchange between the County Council and the Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council on the site at the corner of Park Road and Mill Street, Bedworth. The exchange of land will facilitate the redevelopment of the site (as proposed in the Masterplan for Nuneaton and Bedworth Town Centres) and protect the alignment of any future highway improvements by the County Council to support the Masterplan proposals and regeneration of the Town Centre.

Recommendation:

That authorisation be given to transfer ownership of the land shown as plot 2 in Appendix A to the report from the County Council to the Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council in exchange for the land shown as plots 1 and 3, currently owned by the Borough Council.

For further information please contact: Margaret Smith, Transport Planning Unit. Tel: 01926 735682, e-mail: margaretsmith1@warwickshire.gov.uk

20. Delivery of HR services

The report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development.

The report seeks endorsement of changes in the way that HR services are delivered throughout the County Council, allowing more effective exploitation of the new HRMS system, greater economies of scale and a clearer focus on the delivery of HR advice and policy development.

Recommendation:

That the changes to the way that Human Resources (HR) services are delivered throughout the County Council, as set out in the report, including the creation of a single unit for transactional purposes, are endorsed

For further information please contact: Bob Perks, Head of Human Resources. Tel: (01926 41)2027, e-mail bobperks@warwickshire.gov.uk

21. Any Other Items

To consider any other items that the Chair decides are urgent.

PART C - EXEMPT ITEMS (PURPLE PAPERS)

22. Reports Containing Confidential or Exempt Information

To consider passing the following resolution:

‘That members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the items mentioned below on the grounds that their presence would involve the disclosure of confidential or exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of the Local Government Act 1972’.

(NB. Copies of extracts describing exempt information are available in Warwickshire Libraries, the County Council Handbook and the Access to Information Register held in my office).

23. Exempt Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 October 2006 and Matters Arising.

24. Warwick - 31 Shakespeare Avenue Disposal

The report of the Strategic Director of Resources

Local member - Councillor Raj Randev.

The report seeks approval to sell 31 Shakespeare Avenue, Warwick, and provides additional information requested by members at a previous meeting.

For further information please contact: Geoff Taylor, Deputy Estates Manager. Tel: 01926 412521, e-mail: geofftaylor@warwickshire.gov.uk

PART D CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS (PURPLE PAPERS)

25. Annual Performance Assessment of Services for Children, Young People and Families in Warwickshire

Publication Embargoed until the 2 November 2006. At the meeting the report will be considered in public.

The report of the Strategic Director for Children, Young People and Families.

The public reports referred to are available on the Warwickshire Web
www.warwickshire.gov.uk/committee-papers



The Annual Performance Assessment summarises the performance of the Children, Young People and Families Directorate as assessed by Ofsted/CSCI.

For further information please contact: Geoff King, Head of Service – Commissioning, Planning and Partnerships. Tel: 01926 742389, e-mail: geoffking@warwickshire.gov.uk

**Shire Hall
Warwick
October 2006**

**JIM GRAHAM
Chief Executive**

Cabinet Membership

Councillor Alan Farnell (**Leader of the Council and Chair of Cabinet**)
cllrfarnell@warwickshire.gov.uk

Councillor Bob Stevens (**Deputy Leader**)
cllrstevens@warwickshire.gov.uk

Councillor John Burton (**Schools**)
cllrburton@warwickshire.gov.uk

Councillor Alan Cockburn (**Resources**)
cllrcockburn@warwickshire.gov.uk

Councillor Peter Fowler (**Performance and Development**)
cllrfowler@warwickshire.gov.uk

Councillor Colin Hayfield (**Adult, Health and Community**)
cllrhayfield@warwickshire.gov.uk

Councillor Martin Heatley (**Environment**)
cllrheatley@warwickshire.gov.uk

Councillor Richard Hobbs (**Community Protection**),
cllrhobbs@warwickshire.gov.uk

Councillor Chris Saint (**Economic Development**)
cllrsaint@warwickshire.gov.uk

Councillor Izzi Seccombe (**Children, Families and Young People**)
cllrmsseccombe@warwickshire.gov.uk

Non-voting Invitees - Councillor June Tandy (**Leader of the Labour Group**)
cllmrstandy@warwickshire.gov.uk and Councillor Jerry Roodhouse (**Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group**)
cllrroodhouse@warwickshire.gov.uk, or their representatives.

General Enquiries: Please contact Pete Keeley, Member Services, Performance and Development Directorate Tel: 01926 412450 Email: petekeeley@warwickshire.gov.uk

The public reports referred to are available on the Warwickshire Web
www.warwickshire.gov.uk/committee-papers



**The Cabinet met at the Shire Hall, Warwick on the
12 October 2006.**

Present

Cabinet Members:

Councillor Alan Farnell (Leader of the Council and Chair
of Cabinet),

“ Bob Stevens (Deputy Leader),

“ John Burton (Schools),

“ Alan Cockburn (Resources),

“ Peter Fowler (Performance and
Development),

“ Colin Hayfield (Adult, Health and
Community),

“ Martin Heatley (Environment),

“ Richard Hobbs (Community Protection),

“ Chris Saint (Economic Development),

Non-Voting Invitees:

Councillor June Tandy, Leader of the Labour Group,

“ Jerry Roodhouse, Leader of the Liberal
Democrat Group.

Other Members:

Councillors John Appleton, Sarah Boad, David Booth,
Richard Chattaway, Marion Haywood, Bob Hicks, Mick
Jones, Helen McCarthy, Raj Randev and John
Vereker.

Before the commencement of business Councillor Alan Farnell reported the death of former Councillor Fred Watson, O.B.E., M.M., It was agreed that it would be appropriate for tributes to be made at the County Council meeting on the 31 October.

1. General

(1) An Apology for absence

was received from Councillor Izzi Seccombe (Children, Families and
Young People).

2) Members' Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

Personal interests relating to any item on the agenda arising by virtue of
the members serving as District/Borough councillors and as members of
the Warwickshire Police Authority were declared below:

Councillor Alan Cockburn, Member of Warwick District Council.

Councillor Peter Fowler, Member of North Warwickshire Borough
Council.

Councillor Colin Hayfield, Member of North Warwickshire Borough Council.

Councillor Richard Hobbs, Member of Stratford on Avon District Council and the Warwickshire Police Authority.

Councillor Chris Saint, Member of Stratford on Avon District Council.

Councillor Bob Stevens, Member of Stratford on Avon District Council.

Councillor Josie Compton, Member of the Warwick District Council.

Other Declarations

Councillor Colin Hayfield declared a personal interest as a member of the Board of the Warwickshire Primary Care Trust

Agenda Item 5 – Developing Partnership Commissioning in Adult, Health and Social Care Services.

Councillor David Booth declared a personal interest as a governor of Lighthorne Heath Primary Care Trust

Councillor Sarah Boad declared a personal interest as a member of Leamington Sure Start Service and also in view of her husbands membership of the Supporting People Member Group.

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse declared a personal interest as a governor of Eastlands Primary School.

Councillor Mick Jones declared a personal interest as an employee of the Warwickshire Primary Care Trust.

(3) Minutes of the meeting held on the 7 September 2006 and Matters Arising.

(i) Minutes

Resolved:-

That the Minutes of the Cabinet's 7 September 2006 meeting be approved.

(ii) Matters Arising

Minute 9 – Post 16 Transport

Members were advised that the Chief Executive had written to the DfES expressing the Council's concern regarding the ambiguities surrounding the funding for home to college transport.

With regard to the abolition of the £40 surcharge for payment by instalments, members were advised that that resources had been identified that would enable the surcharge to be waived for the current year. Future resourcing would need to be considered under the budget process.

(4) Requests for the Discussion of En Bloc Items

It was agreed that items 10, 14 and 16 would be discussed before decisions were taken.

2. Programme of Items for Future Consideration

The Cabinet considered the amended report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development which had been circulated before the meeting.

The report contained details of all items programmed for consideration by the Cabinet on the 2 and 23 November, 2006.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet notes the programme.

3. Development of the Warwickshire Local Area Agreement (LAA)

The Cabinet considered the report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development.

The report followed on from the 7 September 2006 report by giving a summary of progress to date and submitting the Draft LAA that was submitted to Government Office on 29 September 2006.

Following introductory comments from Councillor Peter Fowler, Cabinet Member for Performance and Development, it was Resolved:

- (1) That the Cabinet notes the current position in relation to the development of the Warwickshire LAA.
- (2) That the Cabinet endorses the Draft LAA as submitted to Government Office on 29th September 2006.
- (3) That a Members Seminar be held during late November.

4. Developing Adult, Health & Community Services – Proposals on Structures

The Cabinet considered the report of the Strategic Director of Adult, Health and Community Services which set out the revised structures for Adult, Health & Community Services.

Following introductory comments from Councillor Colin Hayfield, Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services, Graham Betts indicated that he would confirm with Councillor Raj Randev the future arrangements for a team responsible for services for the sighted and partially sighted.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet agrees the revised structure of the new Directorate.

5. Developing Partnership Commissioning in Adult, Health and Social Care Services

Councillor Colin Hayfield, Cabinet Member for Adult, Health and Community Services introduced the report of the Strategic Director which proposed a programme of work to develop Partnership Commissioning in Adult Health and Social Care. It gave the national policy and local context for partnership commissioning in Warwickshire and described the current state of partnership commissioning in the county.

During the discussion Councillor Bob Stevens stressed the importance of partnership working between the Council and the new Warwickshire Primary Care Trust. He moved and it was Resolved:-

- (1) That the Cabinet agrees the proposals for the programme of work to develop Partnership Commissioning in Adult, Health and Social Care Services.
- (2) That the Chief Executive writes to the Warwickshire Primary Care Trust stressing the County Council's commitment to partnership working.

6. Stratford and Warwick Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships - Proposed New Working Arrangements

The Cabinet considered the report of the Strategic Director of Community Protection and County Fire Officer.

A formal submission to merge the two existing Stratford on Avon and Warwick Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) into a single South Warwickshire CDRP is being prepared. This report sets out the case for a merger.

During his introduction of the item Councillor Richard Hobbs, Cabinet Member for Community Protection, indicated that the Cabinet was being asked to agree the principle of the proposal. The final detail, including such matters as membership structure and reporting lines, would be submitted through the Area Committees.

Resolved:

- (1) That the proposal to develop a formal submission to merge the two existing Stratford on Avon and Warwick District Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) into a new, single South Warwickshire CDRP be endorsed by the Cabinet.
- (2) That the draft submission be brought to the Cabinet, before it is submitted to the Home Secretary and following consultation with the Warwick and Stratford Area Committees.

7. Bishop Wulstan Catholic School

Councillor John Burton presented the report of the Strategic Director of Children, Young People and Families which informed the Cabinet of progress to date on alternative proposals for Catholic provision in the Rugby. The report also proposed further reports to the Area Committee and to the Cabinet in due course, in response to consultation on the future of Catholic provision in Rugby by the governors of the schools concerned and the Diocesan Schools Commission of the Archdiocese of Birmingham.

Councillor June Tandy stressed that provision should be made for community use of the sports hall at the Bishop Wulstan School and the sports halls at the Hartshill and Harris Schools which were referred to later on the agenda. She urged that legal agreements with the schools concerned should incorporate suitable clauses.

Marion Davis, Strategic Director of Adult, Health and Community Services, confirmed that this would be feed back into the negotiations with the schools concerned.

It was then Resolved:

- (1) That the Cabinet notes the report and welcomes the work the Diocesan Schools Commission and the Catholic schools are undertaking to assess the support of the Catholic community for the proposals
- (2) That a response to the consultation document be prepared for the meeting of the Cabinet on 2 November
- (3) That the Cabinet considers the final proposals of the DSC and the governing bodies of the Catholic schools in Rugby and the outcome of the consultation exercise at its meeting on 23 November.

8. Modernisation of Registration Services: development of service level agreement type relationship with Registrar General.

The report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development was considered.

The report outlined the development of a new relationship with the Registrar General's Office, moving away from a rigid scheme assessment to a service level agreement arrangement with a national Code of Practice. The Cabinet was recommended to approve the adoption of the new arrangement at the earliest opportunity after April 2007 and agree to the use of some capital resources to improve the delivery of Registration services to the public in Warwickshire North and East.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet approve:

- (1) the acceptance of a new scheme assessment for Registration Services based on the Registrar General's model Scheme and Code of Practice as soon as possible after April;
- (2) the inclusion of a move to local pay agreements for Registration Service staff as part of the new scheme, to facilitate the implementation of the County Council's Pay and Conditions Review and a more flexible, multi-skilled workforce; and
- (3) the utilisation of capital underspend to the amount of £26,992 from the Stratford Register Office move to support the upgrading of Register Offices at Nuneaton and Rugby.

9. Rugby: Harris School

The joint report of the Strategic Directors of Resources and Children, Young People & Families was considered .

The report updated Members on developments on the scheme since December 2005 when approval was given to the project to be financed from the sale of surplus land at the school. The Cabinet's approval was sought to the acceptance of the most economically advantageous tender, the increased project cost in the capital programme and revised funding arrangements for the project.

Under Agenda Item 7 Members had been advised that consideration would be given to community use of the school's sports hall being provided for in a legal agreement with the school.

Resolved:

- (1) That approval be given for the acceptance of the lowest tender submitted by GAJ Construction Ltd in the sum of £2,286,198, subject to terms & conditions agreed by the Strategic Directors of Resources and Performance & Development.
- (2) That the capital cost of the project in the 2006/07 capital programme be increased from £2.330 million to £2.744 million.
- (3) That approval be given for the use of £0.308 million unallocated resources available from the Children, Young People & Families Directorate Capital Programme, to fund the shortfall on the project.

10. A Strategic Approach to Employment and Skills in Warwickshire

Councillor Chris Saint, Cabinet Member for Economic Development, presented the report of the Strategic Director for Environment and Economy which related to the review of employment and skills by the Economic Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Cabinet was asked to

approve the preparation of a strategy for the County's role in addressing future employment and skills needs.

Councillor Mick Jones, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, referred to paragraph 3.2 and stressed the need for priority to be given to focussing on (a) Employability skills at entry level and (b) Young people and schools for inclusion in the County Strategic portfolio of services for skills development and improvement of future employment rate.

He also highlighted the importance of joint working with partners.

Councillor Chris Saint endorsed these views and highlighted the opportunities presented for working with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

He drew attention to the established ways of dealing with young people and schools through organisations such as Connexions and to the Regional Development Agency's review of the regional economic strategy.

Marion Davis, Strategic Director of Children, Young People and Families, indicated that the 14 – 19 Strategy Group was bringing together various threads. She reminded members that the Government White Paper on Further Education would be released shortly.

John Scouller, Head of Skills, Tourism and Economy, reported that work was being undertaken with Job centres and other organisations to reduce the number of unemployed young people.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet:-

- (1) Welcomes the conclusions from the Economic Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee seminar on Employment and Skills.
- (2) Agrees to them being used as a basis for the development of an Employment and Skills Strategy for the county.

11. Warwickshire's Social Care Complaints and Representations Policy and Procedures for Adults and Children Young People and Families

The report of the Strategic Directors of Adult Health & Community Services, Children, Young People & Families, and Performance and Development was considered.

The policy and procedures update and develop the previous social services complaints and representations procedures. They are designed to comply with new Regulations and Section 7 Guidance from DoH and DfES, and to support the Council's commitments under the Customer service and Access Strategy 2006/9.

Resolved:

- (1) The Cabinet endorses the draft policy and procedures.
- (2) The Cabinet notes that an Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken and the recommendations from this have been considered

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12. Review of Financial Standing Orders

The report of the Strategic Director of Resources was considered.

The report summarised the outcome of a review of the Council's Financial Standing Orders and proposed amendments which are to be recommended to full Council for approval.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet recommends that the amendments proposed to Financial Standing Orders are reported to the Council for approval.

13. Establishment of a Shadow Governing Body for Hartshill School

The report of the Strategic Director of Children, Young People and Families was considered.

The County Council needed to establish a shadow governing body for Hartshill School to work alongside the Interim Executive Board.

Under Agenda Item 7 Members had been advised that consideration would be given to community use of the school's sports hall being provided for in a legal agreement with the school.

legal agreement incorporating the use of agreed that

Resolved:

That the Cabinet approves the arrangement described in this report for the establishment of a shadow governing body for Hartshill School.

14. The Recycling of Plastics at Recycling Centres

The Cabinet considered the report of the Strategic Director for Environment and Economy.

The report detailed options for recycling plastics. It proposed that the recycling plastics bottles should continue. If other plastics were separated out then, for these to be recycled, they were likely to require export outside Europe. In the UK the other plastics would be used as a fuel.

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse expressed concern at the proposal to export waste plastics to China for recycling. He considered that before a decision was taken, the Cabinet should be presented with a formal business case and a risk assessment. He also indicated that there should be some comment on

climate change aspects of the proposal. He suggested that the Cabinet should refer the issues to the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

During the discussion the following points were made:-

- It was estimated that approximately 120 tonnes of plastics per annum from Warwickshire would be included in the plastics exported to China.
- The proposal would achieve high standards and would provide an audit trail.
- The Overview and Scrutiny Committee could examine the issues if it so wished.
- There was a need for the Cabinet need to take a decisions today because of the waste plastic that had been stockpiled and needed to be disposed of.
- There was public pressure to recycle plastics and any delay in taking a decision would result in waste plastic not being collected and possibly attract public criticism.
- A break clause could be incorporated into any contract thereby avoiding the need to renegotiate.
- Members' comments expressed at the meeting would influence the contract negotiations.

Councillor Martin Heatley moved and it was Resolved:

- (1) That the Council continues to collect plastic bottles High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) and Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) at Warwickshire's nine Household Waste Recycling Centres for recycling.
- (2) That where the cost of handling other grades of household plastics are similar to those for plastic bottles, that these are exported to China for recycling.
- (3) That the Council review the options for recycling all plastic polymers in 12 months time.

15. Government Consultations on Planning Delivery Grant: 'Allocations Criteria for 2007/8' and 'Housing and Planning Delivery Grant'

The report of the Strategic Director for Environment and Economy was considered.

The report concluded that the response to these consultations should emphasise the unfair nature of the proposed Planning Delivery Grant 'Allocations Criteria for 2007/8' and the need for it to be revised to reward consistent high performance, including meeting the latest agreed targets and milestones. On the proposed replacement grant, the 'Housing and Planning Delivery Grant', the report concluded that proposed direct payments to councils runs the risk of replacing the 'plan-led' with a 'money-led' planning system. Instead, incentives should be geared to providing more support for plan-making.

Resolved:

That the report be endorsed and the response to these consultations emphasise the following:-

- (1) The proposed Planning Delivery Grant 'Allocations Criteria for 2007/8' would be unfair on councils such as Warwickshire County Council. It should be revised to reward consistent high performance, including meeting the latest agreed targets and milestones.
- (2) The proposed 'Housing and Planning Delivery Grant' direct payments to councils runs the risk of replacing the 'plan-led' with a 'money-led' planning system. If incentives are to be used then they should be geared to housing levels set out in adopted development plan documents with allocation of grant providing more support for plan-making.

16. Warwickshire Quality Rail Partnership - Bedworth Railway Station Upgrade

The Cabinet considered the report of the Strategic Director for Environment and Economy.

The report set out a proposal to allocate £164,000 of Public Transport Minor Works funding to the upgrade of Bedworth railway station as part of the Warwickshire Quality Rail Partnership.

Members were concerned that local members had not been consulted directly about the report. John Deegan, Strategic Director of Environment and Economy apologised for the oversight.

It was noted that Members now have access to the Council's Forward Planning System which contains details of all reports to member meeting.

Resolved:-

That the scheme to upgrade Bedworth Railway Station be included in the 2006-7 Transport Capital Programme at the increased cost of £164,000.

17. Minerals and Waste Development Scheme

The report of the Strategic Director for Environment and Economy was considered.

The report proposed that the timetable for preparing the Minerals Local Development Documents set out in the Minerals Local Development Scheme be revised to allow additional time for preparing the Preferred Options Paper subject to agreement with the Secretary of State.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet endorses the submission of the proposed revision of the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme detailed in Appendix A of the report subject to agreement with the Secretary of State.

18. Any Other Items

There were no urgent items to consider.

19. Report Containing Confidential or Exempt Information

Resolved:

That members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the item mentioned below on the grounds that their presence would involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 3 and 4 of the Local Government Act 1972.

20. Road Adoption and Highway Development Control Agency Arrangements with Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council and Rugby Borough Council.

The Cabinet considered the report of the Strategic Director for Environment and Economy.

The current arrangements for the Agency for S38 (Road Adoptions) with Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council and Rugby Borough Council could potentially be improved.

The Cabinet authorised the Strategic Director of Environment and Economy and the Strategic Director of Performance and Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment, to negotiate and report on proposals to modify the highway agency arrangements with Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council and Rugby Borough Council.

The Cabinet rose at 2.40 p.m.

.....
Chair of Cabinet

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee Cabinet

Date of Committee 2 November 2006

Report Title Programme of Items for Future Consideration

Summary The report contains details of all items programmed for consideration by the Cabinet up to the 1 February 2007 meeting, as taken from the Forward Planning System.

For further information please contact: Pete Keeley
Principal Committee Administrator
Tel: 01926 412450
petekeeley@warwickshire.gov.uk

Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? No.

Background papers None

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- Details to be specified

- Other Committees
- Local Member(s)
- Other Elected Members
- Cabinet Member Councillor Alan Farnell
- Chief Executive
- Legal David Carter, Strategic Director of Performance and Development.
- Finance
- Other Chief Officers
- District/Borough Councils

- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals

FINAL DECISION YES

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

AMENDED REPORT

Agenda No 2

Cabinet - 2 November 2006.

Programme of Items for Future Consideration

**Report of the Strategic Director of Performance and
Development**

Recommendation

That members note/ comment on the programme.

Set out in the attached Appendix is a programme of key and non-key decision items to be submitted to the meetings of the Cabinet up to the 1st February 2007.

The programme is based on information contained in the Forward Planning Database.

DAVID CARTER
Strategic Director of Performance and
Development

Shire Hall
Warwick
October 2006

Subject	Key Decision?	Directorate
<u>Cabinet - 23 November</u>		
Delivering Performance Improvement in Adult Social Care (2006-2007) [The report sets out a response to the need for further performance within adult social care that has been developed with support from the Commission for Social Care Inspection.]	No	Adult, Health and Community Services
Improving Health and Reducing Health Inequalities across Warwickshire [This report identifies the main health priorities across all of the Local Area Agreement blocks and recommends that the Health Improvement and Wellbeing Board is given the authority to ensure that action is delivered and monitored across the County and across the work blocks. It also recommends that this Board ensure that the County Council is also making appropriate contributions to the priorities.]	No	Adult, Health and Community Services
Corporate Parenting Strategy [Following extensive consultation, a policy document, strategy and action plan have been produced outlining the responsibilities of WCC and partner organisations towards looked-after children in Warwickshire. This report highlights governance and corporate partnering arrangements and proposed monitoring through a Corporate Parenting Elected Members Standing Group and review through the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.]	Yes	Children, Young People and Families
Commissioning of Connexions Services (deferred from 12.10.06 meeting) [Report outlining commissioning of Connexions services]	Yes	Children, Young People and Families
Changes to Schools' Indicated Admission Numbers in Central Warwickshire. Proposals to consult on changing the IANs for one secondary school and two primary schools in Central Warwickshire.	Yes	Children, Young People and Families

Subject	Key Decision?	Directorate
<p>Changes to Schools' Indicated Admission Numbers in Southam. Proposals to consult on changing the IANs of Southam College.</p>	Yes	Children, Young People and Families
<p>Changes to schools' priority areas Proposal to consult on changing the priority areas of four primary schools in the Rugby area</p>	Yes	Children, Young People and Families
<p>Catholic Provision in Rugby [Consider the final proposals of the Diocesan Schools Commission and the governing bodies of the Catholic schools in Rugby and the outcome of the consultation exercise]</p>	Yes	Children, Young People and Families
<p>Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan 2007-2010 [A report for members that includes the draft Integrated Risk Management Plan 2007-2010 for consultation.]</p>	No	Community Protection
<p>Irrecoverable Debts EXEMPT [Authority is requested to write off two irrecoverable debts. We have agreed with Legal Services and Internal Audit that these debts cannot be pursued any further and that it would be uneconomical to do so]</p>	No	Environment and Economy
<p>Stratford Bridge Consultation Results Report to inform Members of outcome of public consultation events, results from judging panel and proposed next steps.</p>	Yes	Environment and Economy

Subject	Key Decision?	Directorate
<p>De-trunking of roads</p> <p>[The A446, A38 and A435 are due to be detrunked and therefore to become the responsibility of the and Economy County Council. The report is to provide information about discussions that have been held with the Highways Agency and concerns about the proposals.]</p>	No	Environment and Economy
<p>Government Responses to consultations on EU funding proposals for 2007-2013 and the UK's new Assisted Areas map [The Government held consultations on its proposals for the new Structural Funds programme, new England Rural Development programme and new Assisted Areas map during the first half of 2006. Government Responses to all three consultations are expected during October, including announcements on regional funding allocations and the publication of the new Assisted Areas map. This report summarises the implications for Warwickshire and requests Cabinet support for the ongoing efforts of officers to maximise the benefits of future regional policy and funding for Warwickshire.]</p>	No	Environment and Economy
<p>Changes to the Constitution</p> <p>[To consider various proposed changes to the Constitution]</p>	No	Performance and Development
<p>Disability Equality Scheme</p> <p>[To consider the Disability Equality Scheme and action plan, and approve for publication]</p>	No	Performance and Development
<p>Funding of Black and Minority Ethnic Projects [This report sets out the proposed funding from the Race Equality Budget for Black and Minority Ethnic projects in Warwickshire.]</p>	No	Performance and Development
<p>Capital Programme Variations and Capital Review [The Cabinet has delegated power to approve changes to the Capital Programme which are fully funded and cost less than £1.5 million. It is not always possible to anticipate specific variations to the capital programme in advance. In the circumstances, there may or may not be a need for a report under this heading.]</p>	Yes	Resources

Subject	Key Decision?	Directorate
<p>Options for the Shire Hall.</p> <p>[The report presents the findings of the investigations as to the viability of the options for the future redevelopment, occupation and use of the Shire Hall Complex, and presents a proposed way forward To seek approval for the proposed options to be part of a public consultation exercise and the working through of detailed feasibilities to secure funding and a programme for delivery]</p>	Yes	Resources
<p>Redevelopment of North Leamington School.</p> <p>A joint report of the Resources and Children, Young Persons and Families Directorates to update Members on progress, propose the next steps and seek approval to investing in those next steps in order to deliver the project to the aspired programme.</p>	Yes	Resources
<p>Determine Request for Concessionary Rent - Bulkington Village Centre, Nuneaton</p> <p>Request for continued concessionary rent.</p>	No	Resources
<p><u>Cabinet 7 December</u></p>		
<p>Strategy for the inclusion of pupils with emotional, behavioural and social difficulties (deferred from 2.11.06 as consultation period extended) [Consider proposed strategy following consultation with all stakeholders]</p>	Yes	Children, Young People and Families
<p>Proposed Kingsbury Water Park Outdoor Education Centre</p> <p>[Following consideration of the proposals at County Council in December, Members requested further work on option 3 be undertaken by officers with a view to a report being presented to a future Cabinet meeting]</p>	Yes	Children, Young People and Families

Subject	Key Decision?	Directorate
Capital Programme Projects (deferred from 7.9.06 meeting) [Quarterly update on capital programme projects included as and when resources become available]	Yes	Children, Young People and Families
Paddox Primary School EXEMPT [Report concerning land issue]	Yes	Children, Young People and Families
Change to School's Indicated Admission Number in Alcester [Proposals to consult on changing the IAN of Alcester High School Technology College]	Yes	Children, Young People and Families
Woodloes Primary Schools, Warwick [Possible proposal to consult on amalgamating the existing two schools]	Yes	Children, Young People and Families
Area Community Education Councils - future funding arrangements [Report seeking Cabinet approval for the future arrangements for the funds allocated to ACECs - it relates only to the funds used to support work with 0-19 year olds; the 19+ funds will be the subject of a separate report]	Yes	Children, Young People and Families
West Midlands Regional Fire Control - Local Authority Controlled Company (LACC) [A report for members to gain approval for establishing a local authority controlled company [LACC] that will be responsible for running the Regional Fire Control Centre in the West Midlands]	Yes	Community Protection
Merger of the Stratford and Warwick Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships [The report outlines the submission to merge the two CERPs into a single South Warwickshire CDRP]	No	Community Protection
Migrant Workers [Report provides an overview of the available information on the recent influx of migrant workers.]	No	Environment and Economy

Subject	Key Decision?	Directorate
<p>Annual Review of Corporate Environmental Sustainability and ISO14001 [This report details the work achieved in support of Environmental Sustainability over the past 12 months undertaken by Environment & Economy, Performance & Development, Community Protection, and Resources. The report also seeks approval of the Corporate Environmental Objectives for the coming financial year 2007/8 which will add the two remaining Directorates. The approval of these Objectives at this stage will enable Heads of Service to embed the relevant environmental objectives in their Service Plans.]</p>	No	Environment and Economy
<p>Development of the Local Area Agreement [This reports submits, for the consideration of Cabinet members, the final LAA submission before it is sent to Government Office West Midlands on 8th December 2006.]</p>	No	Performance and Development
<p>Capital Programme Variations and Capital Review [Variations to the capital programme and capital review. To go to Cabinet - 7th December 2006 or appropriate meeting of Council as and when variations to the capital programme are required. Following the decision of County Council in December 2001, Cabinet has delegated power to approve changes to the Capital Programme which are fully funded and cost less than £1.5 million. Variations to the Capital Programme above this threshold will have to be taken to the County Council. The nature of these reports are such that we cannot anticipate specific variations in advance.]</p>	Yes	Resources
<p>Capital Receipt Strategy/Policy [To agree a future strategy for the use of capital receipts]</p>	No	Resources
<p>Proposal for a Core Revenue and Capital Budget for 2007/08 to 2009/10 [To outline the proposals, from Strategic Directors Management Team, for a core revenue and capital budget for the period 2007/08 to 2009/10.]</p>	No	Resources

Subject	Key Decision?	Directorate
<u>Cabinet 11 January 2007</u>		
Street lighting hours of operation [At present virtually all street lights in Warwickshire operate throughout the night. Modest savings (with limited potential effect on public safety) might be made to the street lighting energy budget by switching off selected lights after midnight. Major savings (with a more significant potential effect on public safety) could be made through widespread switching off of lights. The present estimate for street lighting energy costs in 2007/08 is in the region of £1.5 million.]	Yes	Environment and Economy
Minerals and Waste Development Framework: Minerals Core Strategy - Preferred Options [The document sets out the preferred options for dealing with the submission of the Minerals Core Strategy. It is due to go out for a 6 week period of consultation which will provide an opportunity for stakeholders to comment on the Preferred Options.]	Yes	Environment and Economy
Local Transport Plan Settlement for 2007-08 and Outline Transport Capital Programme for Transport 2007-08 to 2009-10 [The report summarises the content of the settlement letter from the Government and makes outline recommendations for allocation of resources for the Transport Capital Programme for 2007-08 to 2009-10.]	Yes	Environment and Economy
Stoneleigh Park - Centre of Rural Excellence Proposals Phase 1 Site Infrastructure Works DEFERRED FROM 12 OCTOBER [Elements of the wider vision for the transformation of Stoneleigh Park into an internationally renowned Centre for Rural Excellence are being progressed as separate phases. Cabinet approval is sought for endorsement for WCC to be contracted to undertake the design and construction of Phase 1 road and infrastructure works.]	Yes	Environment and Economy
Local Area Agreement: Production of Final Draft [This report will provide the first outline of the final submission to Government Office.]	No	Performance and Development

Subject	Key Decision?	Directorate
<p>Capital Programme Variations and Capital Review [Variations to the capital programme and capital review. To go to Cabinet - 7th December 2006 or appropriate meeting of Council as and when variations to the capital programme are required. Following the decision of County Council in December 2001, Cabinet has delegated power to approve changes to the Capital Programme which are fully funded and cost less than £1.5 million. Variations to the Capital Programme above this threshold will have to be taken to the County Council. The nature of these reports are such that we cannot anticipate specific variations in advance.</p>	Yes	Resources
<p>Feedback from 2007/2008 Budget Consultation [To feedback the information from the 2007/2008 budget consultation with the public.]</p>	No	Resources
<p>Feedback from Overview & Scrutiny Committees on the 2007/2008 to 2009/2010 Spending Proposals [To feedback from Overview & Scrutiny Committees on the 2007/2008 to 2009/2010 spending proposals of Directorates]</p>	No	Resources
<p><u>Cabinet 1 February 2007</u></p>		
<p>Street Lighting Energy Contract [Approval to commission Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation(ESPO) to obtain quotes for the energy supply for street lighting from July 2007 and for delegated powers to accept the quotes.]</p>	Yes	
<p>Local Area Agreement: Final Draft [This report will seek endorsement of the final draft of the LAA on behalf of the Council prior to submission to Government Office]</p>	Yes	Performance and Development

Subject	Key Decision?	Directorate
<p>Joint Warwickshire County Council/Warwick District Council Contact Centre Business Case [On 27 June 2006, Cabinet agreed to a business case being submitted on a possible joint Warwickshire County Council and Warwick District Council Customer Service Centre.]</p>	No	Performance and Development
<p>Business Case for Extended Schools Pilot [On the 27 June 2006, Cabinet agreed to a One Stop Shop being established in an Extended School subject to a business case being submitted for agreement.]</p>	No	Performance and Development
<p>Capital Programme Variations and Capital Review [Variations to the capital programme and capital review. To go to Cabinet - 7th December 2006 or appropriate meeting of Council as and when variations to the capital programme are required. Following the decision of County Council in December 2001, Cabinet has delegated power to approve changes to the Capital Programme which are fully funded and cost less than £1.5 million. Variations to the Capital Programme above this threshold will have to be taken to the County Council. The nature of these reports are such that we cannot anticipate specific variations in advance.]</p>	Yes	Resources
<p>2006/2007 to 2008/2009 Capital Programme - update as at Quarter 3 [To inform members of the latest forecast capital programme and to seek any additional approvals required]</p>	No	Resources
<p>2006/2007 Projected Revenue Outturn - Quarter 3 [To highlight key issues of spending, resourcing and the associated service implications of variations between the 2006/2007 Revenue Budget and forecast spending.]</p>	No	Resources
<p>2007/2008 to 2009/2010 Budget - An Updated Position and Draft Budget Resolution [To inform Members of the updated position on 2007/2008 to 2009/2010 budget and to recommend a budget resolution to Council on 6th February 2007.]</p>	No	Resources

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee **The Cabinet**

Date of Committee **2 November 2006**

Report Title **The Vision**

Summary The paper presents the proposed Vision Statement for the Council for 2006 – 2015. Every organisation needs a vision - a focused set of priorities, a set of outcomes to be achieved. The Vision will guide the Council in the planning and delivery of its services and resources so as to best achieve outcomes for the communities of Warwickshire. Cabinet is asked to agree the Vision.

For further information please contact: Jim Graham Monica Fogarty
Chief Executive Head of Change
Tel: 01926 412000 Management
Tel: 01926 412514

Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? No.

Background papers None

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- Details to be specified

- Other Committees
- Local Member(s)
- Other Elected Members Cllr Booth
- Cabinet Member Cllr Peter Fowler
- Chief Executive
- Legal
- Finance
- Other Chief Officers Strategic Directors Management Team 11th October 2006

- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals Monica Fogarty. Head of Change Management

FINAL DECISION

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

Agenda No

The Cabinet - 2 November 2006

The Vision

Report of the Chief Executive

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to consider the proposed Vision Statement as a means of setting the strategic direction for the Council.

1. Background

- 1.1 Every organisation needs to be clear on its purpose and aspirations so that it focuses on achieving its objectives and plans the deployment of resource and effort accordingly. The County Council adopted its present 'Vision' in 2004. Whilst this Vision still holds currency, recent discussions have suggested the need to refresh the vision.
- 1.2 Over the early part of the Modernisation/New Ways of Working Programme, discussions with Group Leaders and Deputies have also recognised the need for a refreshed vision. The New Ways of Working programme in itself will be essential to ensure that the culture and capacity of the Council is best placed to deliver on the key Vision outcomes.
- 1.3 The purpose of this paper is to offer a Vision Statement for consideration.

2. Current position

- 2.1 The Council has recently undergone significant structural change so as to ensure it has a structure that is fit for purpose in meeting the challenges it faces. However unsettling, the changes to structure are very much the beginning of a process to build the culture and ways of working that a modern county council needs.
- 2.2 Hence the need for a clear 'Vision' is paramount. We need a clear picture of:-
 - *Where the Council wants to get to*
 - *What the Council stands for;*
 - *What the Council wants to achieve;*
 - *How we want to be regarded by our public;*
 - *How we want staff to identify with their Council*
 - *How we want to work with and influence other agencies*

- 2.3 All of the above calls for clarity on objectives and direction, and the approaches, styles and ways of working we wish to adopt to get there. This vision will then allow the Council to put in place a roadmap, through an integrated the Corporate Business Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy which will direct the development of its New Ways of Working Programme as a key enabling element in delivery.
- 2.4 The Council will also want and need to demonstrate its progress and achievements in pursuing its Vision. The development and operation of a robust performance management approach is essential to be able to demonstrate success and to ensure the best return on investment for resources deployed. Delivery on planned outcomes and commitments is the means by which the performance of the Council will be judged.
- 2.5 Once the Vision and objectives have been agreed it is important that a delivery plan is put in place. A business model for delivery of the Vision is essential to ensure a corporate, collective approach to achieving the key outcomes through collective working and shared accountability.

3. Progress so far.

- 3.1 Officers have considered the current vision elements that are in place. Strategic Directors have offered their views as to future priorities for the Council as a whole and for each service area. The wider senior management group has also dedicated time to articulating their view of 'what the Council of the future could look like'.
- 3.2 A draft vision is set out as Appendix 1 for Cabinet's consideration.

Jim Graham
Chief Executive
Shire Hall
Warwick

Core Vision Statement 2006 - 2015

Warwickshire County Council:-

*Putting Customers first; Improving Services
& Leading our Communities*

The Council's Priorities* in striving for this Vision are:-

- Raising standards of Customer Service and Access to our Services
- Giving every Child and Family the best opportunities in life and raising levels of Educational Attainment
- Improving Community Safety and reducing fear of Crime
- Promoting Healthy Lifestyles
- Supporting Older People to live independently
- Strengthening the Warwickshire Economy
- Improving and Sustaining our Environment
- Strengthening our Communities and celebrating our Heritage

We will work to achieve these outcomes by:-

- Working in partnership with others
- Engaging with the Community
- Confronting Inequalities and narrowing the gap between the best and worst
- Ensuring Value for Money by making best use of public resources
- Providing Local Services

So that in dealing with us the Experience will be:-

- ❖ For our **Citizens** - community leadership with quality services, in the right place at the right time.
- ❖ For our **Partners** - being good to do business with and willing to share resources, power and risk
- ❖ For our **Staff** - providing the culture, development and tools to do the job well so they can be proud to work for Warwickshire

* Our Corporate Business Plan will set out specific targets and actions to deliver on our VISION

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee

Cabinet

Date of Committee

2nd November 2006

Report Title

Half-Year Composite Performance Report 2006/07 (April 2006 – September 2006).

Summary

This report provides an analysis of the Council's performance for the half-year 2006/07 (the period 1st April 2006 to 30th September 2006) as part of the Performance Management Framework. It reports on performance against the key actions from the Corporate Business Plan, Corporate Headline Indicators (CHIs) and LPSA2 Targets.

For further information please contact:

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colingordon@warwickshire.gov.uk

Sue Littlewood
Corporate Planning Manager
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Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework?

No.

Background papers

Corporate Business Plan 2006/9

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-

Details to be specified

Other Committees

.....

Local Member(s)

.....

Other Elected Members

Cllr Booth "has reservations on the PI relating to Children in care achievement"

Cabinet Member

Cllr. Bob Stevens, Cllr Peter Fowler

Chief Executive

Jim Graham

Legal

Sarah Duxbury – Comments incorporated.

Finance

.....

Other Chief Officers

SDMT

District Councils

.....

Comp report

- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals Key Officers within the departments

FINAL DECISION YES

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

Cabinet – 2nd November 2006

Half-Year Composite Performance Report 2006/07

Report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development

Recommendation

- 1) That Cabinet notes the contents of the report and notes that half-year reports from individual directorates will be reported to relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committees.
- 2) That Cabinet identifies any aspects of performance where they believe there is potential to improve and considers the performance issues raised in the report that may require attention.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Half-Year Composite Performance Report shows the estimated performance of our Corporate Headline Indicators (CHIs) at year-end. The report also shows a summary of our progress for the first half of the year against actions in the Corporate Business Plan 2006/09 and an update on the LPSA2 Targets. The report is grouped under the five LAA (Local Area Agreement) themes and the supporting sixth theme.
- 1.2 The report indicates the performance of CHIs and CBP Actions with the following traffic lighting system,
 - Green Star (★) is used to indicate potential high performance and exceeding Targets / Milestones beyond a pre-defined tolerance limit.
 - Blue Circle (●) is used to indicate potential good performance and meeting Targets / Milestones within pre-defined tolerance limits.
 - Red Triangle (▲) is used to indicate potential poor performance and missing Targets / Milestones beyond a pre-defined tolerance limit.

The report also indicates the trend of the CHIs with the following symbols,

- Green Arrow (↗) is used to indicate a trend of continuous performance improvement over time.
- Blue Arrow (→) is used to indicate that performance is fluctuating over time.
- Red Arrow (↘) is used to indicate a trend of performance declining over time.

The other additional symbol in the report is to indicate those actions that have been deferred or superseded and any PI's that cannot sensibly have a year-end estimated position or do not have enough historic data for Trend indication. In this instance a White Square (□) is used.

In addition to the 'traffic light' reporting, commentary is provided as further detail for explanation, analysis or information as required.

2. Next Steps

- 2.1 The report is presented to enable a review of performance for the first half of 2006/07 and how Directorates see the year-end position of our key performance indicators and actions from the Corporate Business Plan. Thereby allowing Cabinet to identify any issues that they particularly wish to be highlighted on our corporate performance so far in 2006/07 and any actions to be taken during the rest of the year to address these issues.
- 2.2 As Members are aware, we are reviewing the format and presentation of this information with a view to introducing a new format from April 2007.

David Carter
Strategic Director of
Performance & Development

Shire Hall, Warwick.

2 Children and Young People

Performance Indicators for 2006/07












Performance Indicators (CHI, LPSA2, BV, CBP Targets)	2004/05 Alert (Actual vs Target)	2005/06 Alert (Actual vs Target)	2006/07 Target	2006/07 Year-end Estimate	2006/07 Alert (Estimate vs Target)	Trend	Commentary
CH30 - % looked after children adopted			8	Not available			
CH31 - % Year 11 children in care gaining 1 or more A*-G grade			90	66			The target figure was determined nationally some time ago. All local authorities were expected to reach this level by 2006. Although there has been a downward shift from last year it must be remembered that the numbers of pupils are relatively small (27) and changes from year to year are not statistically significant.
CH39 - No. pupils excluded per 1,000 pupils			0.95	1.55			This figure represents a fall of over 18% on last year's total and therefore shows a steady decrease in exclusions for the year. It is expected that exclusions will fall still further with the implementation of managed moves.
CH51 - Av. score per student entered			310.2	558.3			This is a provisional results and subject to change. Also, targets for this indicator need to be reviewed in line with changes to the Post 16 point scoring system.
CH52 - % 16 year olds achieving 5 or more A*-C grades			62	Not available			
CH55 - % pupils achieving Level 4 or above in KS2 English			82	82			Provisional result. This is above both the statistical neighbours and national average and is in line with the target agreed with the DfES.
CH56 - % pupils achieving Level 4 or above in KS2 Maths			83	78			Provisional result. Performance is above both statistical neighbours and national. However, it still remains short of the aspirational target agreed with the DfES.
CH82 - % Schools with Healthy School Status			50	50			The standards required to meet this target have changed mid-year. The current half year position is 33%.

Children and Young People

Performance Indicators (CHI, LPSA2, BV, CBP Targets)	2004/05 Alert (Actual vs Target)	2005/06 Alert (Actual vs Target)	2006/07 Target	2006/07 Year-end Estimate	2006/07 Alert (Estimate vs Target)	Trend	Commentary
06 M1/1 - % School meals standards met			100	100			This is the interim food based standards needing to be met by September 2006. There are other school meals targets in 2007 and 2009.
BV197 - % Change in under 18 conception rate relative to the 1998 baseline			-25	-15			

Children and Young People

Progress on Corporate Business Plan actions for 2006/07

Action	Performance	Commentary
Develop the role of the Local Authority as champion of parents and pupils. - Develop the Hear by Right Standard with full implementation complete by March 2009.		Implementation plan with milestone targets to be agreed by March 2007.
Support the development of extended schools and Children's Centres. - All schools providing access to the five core offer services for Extended Schools by September 2010.		15% completed. Progress is on track
Support the development of extended schools and Children's Centres. - To provide 21 Children's Centres across Warwickshire by March 2009.		13 Children's Centres available at the moment and further development on track.
Deliver the County Youth Offer and promote update of opportunities. - Develop the offer and targets in place by March 2007.		
Reduce exclusion from Education. - Reduce the level of fixed and permanent exclusions to 50% of the current rate in 3 years.		
Improve the outcomes for vulnerable children, children in need and looked after children.		
Ensure children are protected from emotional, physical and sexual abuse and neglect.		
Ensure children in Warwickshire feel safe from bullying. - Systems to be in place by March 2007 to record incidents in bullying.		
Reduce the fear of crime and antisocial behaviour. - Agree targets within the LAA for reduction in fear of crime for young people.		
Integrate services for children and young people with disabilities. - To create a unified, responsive and supportive service which achieves positive outcomes for disabled children, young people and their families.		
Improve outcomes for children and young people experiencing mental health difficulties. - All secondary school to have access to good quality counselling services by 2009.		60% access to be achieved by March 2007 (i.e. 21 schools out of 34).

Children and Young People

Update on LPSA2 Targets for 2006/07

Project	Indicator	Status	Commentary
Improve educational attainment - Early Years.	Number of children achieving level 6 or above at Foundation Stage in Personal and Social Education (PSE) and Communication Language and Literacy (CLL).	On Target	Staff in place to begin to deliver the support services from September 2006. A project plan is in the process of completion and the project is currently on target.
Improve educational attainment - Key Stage 2 results through music & dance.	Enhanced attainment at Key Stage 2 level 4 in English, Maths, and Science of a cohort of 516 pupils in 12 Warwickshire Schools.	On Target	Project staff recruited. Year Four Children from 12 Nuneaton and Bedworth Primary Schools have embarked on Year 1 of this joint three year Music and Dance project involving over 500 pupils. All Music Project schools have been fully staffed by the County Music Service. The Pre-Instrumental Stage of the Music project is now fully underway.
Improve educational attainment - Improving destinations for young people.	Percentage of Year 11 leavers who are in positive destinations at November following completion of Statutory Education in July.	On Target	Two project staff recruited. The project will formally commence mid-October 2006. Data to identify progress and trends will not be available until November. All preparatory work has been completed.
Healthy Schools.	To increase the number of schools in Warwickshire achieving Healthy Schools status.	On Target	Initial targets for Healthy Schools are very challenging. However, the LPSA2 targets are expected to be met consistently from Summer 2007.

3 Safer and Stronger Communities

Performance Indicators for 2006/07

Performance Indicators (CHI, LPSA2, BV, CBP Targets)	2004/05 Alert (Actual vs Target)	2005/06 Alert (Actual vs Target)	2006/07 Target	2006/07 Year-end Estimate	2006/07 Alert (Estimate vs Target)	Trend	Commentary
CH74b - No. of deliberate fires per 10,000 pop.			34.99	38.82			Primary deliberate fires are better than target this year, with deliberate small fires pushing the figure worse than target overall. Initiatives are underway in all 5 districts to try and combat this problem.
CH75b - No. of injuries in accidental dwelling fires per 100,000 pop.			3.43	3.18			
CH83 - % reduction in total crime			-15% by 2008	+14.6% on 2006/07 Target figure			The actual number of crimes recorded for the last 12 months (Oct. 05 to Sept. 06) is 44,944. The target number for 2006/07 is 40,570 with the year-end estimate being 46,474, double the actual figure for the first six months.
CH84 - % reduction in youth offenders re-offending within 12 months			-37	-37			On target. Re-offending calculated annually over 12 month period following initial selection of young people to be tracked.
CH92 - % residents worried about crime			52	53.67			2006/07 survey currently being carried out - figures available January 2007.
06 M2/1 - % key actions achieved in the Antisocial Behaviour Strategy			100	Not available			The timescales on some actions have slipped due to a long-term illness.
06 M2/2 - Implementation of the 3 year IRMP Action Plan			Not available	Not available			Project mandates have been developed for the IRMP objectives in accordance with the agreed timescales.
06 M2/3 - % Primary Schools with Fire Safety education delivered			100	80			The schools programme is run from Sept - Jun. It is therefore not possible to record an accurate performance year-end forecast. However, 100% of primary schools will be visited in total.
06 M2/4 - % Secondary Schools with Fire Safety education delivered			75	77			Of the total number of schools in Warwickshire, we have 69% as part of the schools programme. Of these we will complete 100% from Sept-Jun.

Update on LPSA2 Targets for 2006/07

Project	Indicator	Status	Commentary
Reduce Crime & the fear of crime.	The number of violent offences in Warwickshire recorded by Warwickshire Police.	Ahead of Target	All available data points to the project being either ahead or on target. However, it should be noted that due to the installation of a new crime recording system within Warwickshire Police there is a backlog of reported crimes that are not currently included in recent performance figures.
	The number of burglary offences in Warwickshire recorded by Warwickshire Police.	Ahead of Target	
	The number of thefts of motor vehicles in Warwickshire recorded by Warwickshire Police.	On Target	
	The number of thefts from motor vehicles in Warwickshire recorded by Warwickshire Police.	Behind Target	
Reduce youth re-offending in Warwickshire	The Percentage of Young People who re-offend within 12 months based on the cohort identified between October 1st to December 31st each Year.	No Data available yet.	This is an annual target and can only be measured at the end of each year as the offending cohort is selected Oct-Dec each year and tracked forward over the following 12 months.
	Increase the number of parents receiving targeted support from YOT and increase parents satisfaction rate with this service.	On-Target	We now have 2 of our 3 parenting workers in place and are able to increase our offer of parenting programmes to young offender's parents.
	Increase the number of victims participating in a restorative process and increase victims satisfaction rate with this service.	On-Target	Gradual increase of victims participating in restorative processes with satisfaction rates remaining within target.
Reduce Arson.	To reduce the number of deliberate secondary fires occurring on grassland, in refuse containers, outdoor structures, derelict property/vehicle and intentional straw. (As recorded on FDR3).	On Target	Targets are to be reported during the next quarter. A project co-coordinator has been recruited. All Area Risk Teams are working towards the achievement of the targets.
	To reduce the number of deliberate primary vehicle fires (As recorded on FDR 1).	On Target	

Safer and Stronger Communities

Project	Indicator	Status	Commentary
Reduce Arson.	To reduce the number of deliberate primary property fires- including garages, sheds and caravans, buildings - including those under construction, deliberate non-domestic (commercial) property fires and deliberate fires in educational establishments (As recorded on FDR1).	On Target	Targets are to be reported during the next quarter. A project co-coordinator has been recruited. All Area Risk Teams are working towards the achievement of the targets.

Healthier Communities and Older People





4 Healthier Communities and Older People

Performance Indicators for 2006/07

Performance Indicators (CHI, LPSA2, BV, CBP Targets)	2004/05 Alert (Actual vs Target)	2005/06 Alert (Actual vs Target)	2006/07 Target	2006/07 Year-end Estimate	2006/07 Alert (Estimate vs Target)	Trend	Commentary
CH23 - % users satisfied with Home Care Service			63	63			The survey is carried out during January for the end of the financial year.
CH24 - Older people helped to live at home per 1,000 pop. aged 65 and over			74	70.2			The year-end estimate is based on the work of PHILIS being implemented.
CH25 - Intensive home care per 1,000 pop. aged 65 and over			9.5	10			
CH26 - Admissions of supported residents 65 or over to residential / nursing care per 10,000 pop. aged 65 and over			71	71			Admissions are in line with last years performance and we are in line to achieve target by 31st March.
CH28 - Number of delayed transfers of care per 100,000 pop. aged 65 or over			32.6	32.6			Delays have reduced considerably during this financial year. Therefore we are heading towards achieving the target set for 31st March.
06 M3/1 - No. of people receiving direct payments at 31/3/07 per 100,000 pop. aged 18 and over			121	121			The increase in Direct Payments has been consistent throughout the year so far. There has been an increase in the number of Direct Payments for homecare following the transfer of homecare contracts. We have also been working closely with operational teams to identify further areas of improvement.
06 M3/3 - No. of mortalities from circulatory diseases in Nuneaton & Bedworth			103	Not available			
06 M3/5 - Meet the CPA standard for Visits to High Risk Premises			100	100			
06 M3/7 - % of key actions delivered against plan			100	Not available			

Healthier Communities and Older People

Progress on Corporate Business Plan actions for 2006/07

Action	Performance	Commentary
06 M3/2 - Interim Arrangements for Formal Joint Commissioning in place by March 2007.		On Target.
06 M3/4 - To achieve national clean air silver awards for WCC workplaces by December 2006.		Draft policy still in consultation stage with a target of implementing the policy early in 2007. The award is now likely to be achieved in the Summer of 2007, in line with the Health Bill and new legislation for the workplace being introduced.
06 M3/6 - Deliver programme of participative outreach and creative activities for older people by March 2007.		<p>What has been achieved so far,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of the social services arts grant to older peoples organisations. • Meeting with organisations to discuss the development of participatory arts projects for older people. • Assisting groups to develop arts proposals to apply for funds to run the projects. • MILAN – Social Services Arts Grant has enabled the participative sewing project for the Elder Asians Women’s Group. <p>Additional support requested in the following projects,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assisting older people (over 50 years) to develop the Stratford Writers Festival. • Advising a local group to access resources for a reminiscence project (New Arley NW). • Assisting Bedworth Arts Centre to develop a funding bid to access Heritage Lottery funds (£50k over 2 years) which will support local communities including older people. • Dancescape (Subregional Dance Development Project - funded by County Arts Service) working in partnership with NBBC Housing Section to deliver 10 tea dances in sheltered accommodation in the borough.
06 M3/8 - To launch a state of the art Mobile Library Fleet during 2007 to meet the current and future needs of citizens living in rural, isolated and disadvantaged communities.		<p>Vehicle specification confirmed. After benchmarking with library services in the UK on new mobile build we have chosen the Optare Solo SE Microbus.</p> <p>The features are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low floor entry to the vehicle to enable ease of access. • A Bus chassis which will enable ease of maintenance, access to small remote areas and increased resale value.

Healthier Communities and Older People

Update on LPSA2 Targets for 2006/07

Project	Indicator	Status	Commentary
Reduce Health Inequalities.	Improve Mortality Rates from all Circulatory Diseases in Nuneaton & Bedworth for persons under 75 years.	On Target	Partnership arrangements have been finalised and recruitment arrangements made to support the work completed in September 2006. There is an agreed action plan with targets for the current year with overall progress on track. Progress on actual targets can only be reported on at end of year but in terms of milestones the project is on track.
Improve the independence of Older people.	The gap between the percentage of older people aged 65 or over surveyed, who report being satisfied with the home care commissioned by WCC and satisfied with the services purchased directly using Direct Payments and perfection (i.e. 100%).	On Target	All preparatory work is now complete. Contract monitoring staff to be recruited. Job descriptions have recently been graded and an electronic time recording system is being purchased to support the project.







5 Economic Development and Enterprise

Performance Indicators for 2006/07

Performance Indicators (CHI, LPSA2, BV, CBP Targets)	2004/05 Alert (Actual vs Target)	2005/06 Alert (Actual vs Target)	2006/07 Target	2006/07 Year-end Estimate	2006/07 Alert (Estimate vs Target)	Trend	Commentary
CH11 - % people of working age in employment			78	79			
CH15 - % positive destinations for 16+ school leavers			93.9	Not available			Estimate not possible as data collected by Connexions and available in November 2006.
CH85 - % new VAT registrations per 10,000 working age residents			60	58			2005/06 Actual data available in October 2006.
CH86 - % increase in VAT Registered Business Stocks			1	1			2005/06 Actual data available in October 2006.
CH87 - % Proportion of the working age population claiming key benefits			10.2	10.4			

Economic Development and Enterprise

Progress on Corporate Business Plan actions for 2006/07

Action	Performance	Commentary
06 M4/1 - Progress Stratford waterfront flagship project, including implementation of 2007 first phase of street scene improvements by March 2007		Half way through major public consultation on new pedestrian/ cycle footbridge. Continuing to work with Stratford District Council and Royal Shakespeare Company to develop wider World Class Stratford project. The milestone of 'progressing' the waterfront project is on target.
06 M4/2 - Rollout BIDS concept in Leamington and Bayton Road to a vote in 2007/08 by May 2007.		On target.
06 M4/3 - Deliver the new Camp Hill village centre and progress contract for Phase 3 housing subject to financial feasibility by March 2007.		Work progressing well on Community Building in the Village Centre. Detailed Planning Permission now secured for the whole of the Village Centre area. Development agreement with Lovell to be signed (and Developer financial contribution secured) in the next month or so. Work can then continue on site on Phase 2, once road stopping up orders in place, but this may not now be until Spring 2007. However, overall programme will still be on target. Initial re-housing and demolition has taken place for Phase 3. Negotiations on funding for Phase 3 continue to go well with AWM and EP, with in principle / outline agreements now in place.
06 M4/4 - Secure longer term external funding for Building Sustainable Neighbourhoods within the context of its contribution to WCC's localism agenda, by February 2007.		Draft report prepared and initial Member consultation has been carried out on this. Budget Pressures bid submitted. Bids also being prepared to AWM and ERDF. An outline bid to Big Lottery's Reaching Communities fund has been accepted and a full application has now been submitted. Milestone will be achieved, once full application successful.
06 M4/5 - Agree the Employment and Skills Strategy together with an Action Plan for 2007/08 by March 2007.		On target.
06 M4/6 - Plans including potential for medical technologies park for Ansty and engagement in proposals for motor sports at Fen End developed by March 2007.		A feasibility study has been undertaken to explore the potential of a medipark at the Ansty Site. This is still ongoing. WIP are supporting the Fen End development. The Prodrive (Fulcrum) planning application was approved in early August 2006 by Warwick District Council. This is pending a final decision by the Department for Communities and Government. The team are also working on promoting Motorsport valley to potential investors. The team have committed to 3 exhibitions to deliver this.

6 Environment

Performance Indicators for 2006/07

Performance Indicators (CHI, LPSA2, BV, CBP Targets)	2004/05 Alert (Actual vs Target)	2005/06 Alert (Actual vs Target)	2006/07 Target	2006/07 Year-end Estimate	2006/07 Alert (Estimate vs Target)	Trend	Commentary
CH44a - % satisfied with Footways & Pavements			57% by 2010	49			
CH44b - % satisfied with Rural Road Surfaces			54% by 2010	49			
CH88 - % reduction in tonnage of Household Waste per head sent to Landfill			5	7.1			
CH89 - % users who are satisfied with local bus services			58	58			
CH90 - % reduction for all killed & seriously injured (KSI) compared to the average 2001-2004 baseline			-10	Not available			Estimates are not provided for this indicator.
CH93 - % change in the number of kilograms of Household Waste collected per head of population			0	0			
06 M5/1 - Rating for delivery report and LTP			Good	Not available			LTP and Delivery reports submitted on time, result expected in December.

Update on LPSA2 Targets for 2006/07








Project	Indicator	Status	Commentary
To increase the proportion of household waste arising recycled (through an increase in the recycling of glass, metal, plastic and some textiles).	Total tonnage of household waste recycled as measured by BVPI 82a(ii) minus the tonnages of paper, card and 50% of textiles.	Behind Target	Currently we are planning for the establishment of specific initiatives to lead and boost performance and the achievement of the targets to commence in 2007/08.
Improve Road Safety	Number of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road traffic collisions in Warwickshire as measured by BVPI 99a(i).	Figures produced at year-end. No data available yet.	Four projects are involved in the scheme progress on each is as follows, <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Motorcycling – Research project let and in progress; report due November 2006. 2. Kerbsafe - Additional casual staff appointed, will undergo training September - December 2006 to start January 2007. 3. Training Trainers – Detailed strategy to be finalised September 2006. 4. Speed Aware – Operations started on the ground.

7 Development and Resources

Performance Indicators for 2006/07

Performance Indicators (CHI, LPSA2, BV, CBP Targets)	2004/05 Alert (Actual vs Target)	2005/06 Alert (Actual vs Target)	2006/07 Target	2006/07 Year-end Estimate	2006/07 Alert (Estimate vs Target)	Trend	Commentary
CH01 - % residents satisfied with the way the County Council runs things			58	Not Available			Public Satisfaction Survey (PSS) currently in progress with results expected in December 2006.
CH04 - CPA rating			3 Star	3 Star			
CH05 - % staff satisfied overall with WCC as a place to work			70	78			
CH07 - % Year-end budget variance from budget			-1	-1			
CH91 - % of phone calls meeting Corporate response time standards			96	Not Available			
06 M6/4 - % public enquiries satisfied at First Point of Contact			80	80			
06 M6/9 - Advertising spend equivalent of positive prominent coverage achieved in local press			£3m	£3m			

Progress on Corporate Business Plan actions for 2006/07

Action	Performance	Commentary
06 M6/1 - Customer Service and Access strategy agreed by 31st October.		Achieved. Agreed by Cabinet on 27th June 2006.
06 M6/5 - Develop and implement the Warwickshire Local Area Agreement by March 2007.		The development of the LAA is progressing well and is in line with the timetable agreed. The first Draft was submitted in accordance with GOWM deadlines on 29/9/06. This positive progress is underpinned by the collective efforts of individuals and agencies with a growing feeling of trust and collaboration emerging.
06 M6/8 - Agreed costed programme of signage renewal in place by September 2006.		Achieved. Programme agreed by Strategic Directors Management Team in September 2006.
06 M6/12 - Revised medium term financial planning framework agreed by July 2006.		Achieved. Approved by Cabinet on 13th July 2006 and County Council on 18th July 2006.
06 M6/13 - Revised Corporate Property Strategy agreed by March 2007.		The Accommodation Board will review strategy by January 2007 with a view to providing an updated Strategy by March 2007.
06 M6/14 - Capital receipts strategy agreed by October 2006.		In progress. Strategy has been drafted and comments sought from officers before taking forward
06 M6/15 - Formal ICT strategy agreed by December 2006.		Project underway. Presentation made to SDMT on 12th July 2006. Outline of areas to be covered in Strategy has been signed off by Project Board. ITT run and consultants (NCC) appointed to assist with developing the strategy. Project Board also approved January 2007 date for presentation of Strategy to SDMT – date slipped primarily due to absence of key project resource.

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee Cabinet

Date of Committee 02 November 2006

Report Title Development of the 2007/08 to 2009/10
Medium Term Financial Plan

Summary To inform members of the latest information on available resources, spending pressures and investment proposals for the period 2007/08 to 2009/10.

For further information please contact: Virginia Rennie
Group Accountant
Tel: 01926 412239
01926 412962

Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? No.

Background papers Detailed information on spending pressures and investment proposals produced by Directorates.

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-

Details to be specified

- Other Committees
- Local Member(s)
- Other Elected Members Cllr Tandy and Cllr Roodhouse - for information
- Cabinet Member Cllr Farnell and Cllr Cockburn
- Chief Executive Jim Graham - reporting officer
- Legal David Carter
- Finance Dave Clarke - reporting officer
- Other Chief Officers The information has previously been considered by SDMT
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police

Other Bodies/Individuals

FINAL DECISION NO

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

Further consideration by this Committee

To Council Council will approve the 2007/08 to 2009/10 Medium Term Financial Plan and Budget at its meeting on 6 February 2007

To Cabinet Further reports updating the information will be considered, as necessary by Cabinet before February 2007.

To an O & S Committee The relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee will consider the detailed information at their autumn meeting.

To an Area Committee A presentation of the budget position for 2007/08 will be given at each Area Committee in November 2007

Further Consultation

Cabinet - 02 November 2006

Development of the 2007/08 to 2009/10 Medium Term Financial Plan

Report of the Chief Executive and Strategic Director, Resources

Recommendation

Cabinet are recommended to:

- Note the latest resource forecast and early indications of spending pressures and investment proposals from Directorates.
- Request that Overview and Scrutiny Committees review and comment on the information relevant to their terms of reference.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 In approving the medium term financial strategy in July, Members reinforced the need to ensure that a budget is produced that will help deliver the Council's objectives and enable the organisation to modernise to meet the challenges facing the authority.
- 1.2 However, it was also recognised that new resources over the medium term, from traditional sources such as government grant and council tax, will be limited. Therefore any budget proposals moving forward would need to consider disinvestment and further improvements in efficiency as a means of generating the further investment resources.
- 1.3 This report aims to provide a very early indication of the issues to be faced in developing and approving the 2007/08 to 2009/10 medium term financial plan. It provides a preliminary list of spending pressures, the possible actions that will need to be taken if the required resources are not forthcoming and investment proposals from Directorates.

2 Recap of the Medium Term Financial Strategy

- 2.1 The medium term financial strategy agreed by Council at their meeting in July states:

“The County Council will plan on the basis that:

- ◆ Inflation and the corporate costs of capital (through to the end of the current approved programme) will be funded from government grant and council tax income.
- ◆ Subsequent to this the corporate costs of funding a base capital budget to ensure the long-term maintenance of our asset infrastructure will be funded from council tax income.
- ◆ Any other unavoidable pressures Members wish to meet will be funded from the balance of council tax income and reducing investment in low priority services.
- ◆ Spending on schools and pupil related services is guaranteed to the level of the Dedicated Schools Grant.
- ◆ New developments will be funded from efficiency savings (with a minimum of 2.5% cash savings generated each year) and any further reduced investment in low priority services.”

3 Budget Guidance to Directorates

3.1 In practical terms, implementation of this strategy will mean the consideration of the budget in two parts:

- ◆ The cost of doing what we currently do and funding it from government grant, council tax and disinvestment.
- ◆ The generation of efficiency savings and further disinvestment to fund investment proposals.

It is accepted that there will be some overlap between the categories. But it is felt that at this early stage, retaining this split makes the consideration of the volume of information concerned more manageable and enables the key decisions to be clearly identified.

3.2 To provide the information to underpin the development of the budget Directorates have been asked to separately identify:

- ◆ Inflation
- ◆ Other spending pressures
- ◆ Details of the actions and decisions the Directorate would need to take to meet all the other spending pressures assuming no additional resources are available
- ◆ Investment bids (both revenue and capital).

3.3 Directorates returned this information at the end of September 2006. Work is still underway checking the figures for accuracy, compliance with the guidance, consistency and completeness. Whilst this may result in minor changes it is unlikely to significantly change the picture presented in this report.

4 Available Resources

4.1 **Appendix A** outlines the latest forecast of available resources for the medium term. It shows that the financial position of the authority is very tight over the whole period. However, the situation is most critical in 2007/08 where it is expected there will be £7.999 million on-going and £5.050 million one-off resources available for allocation. In considering the available resources the following points are worthy of noting:

- ◆ The assumed increase in the council tax each year is 5%. This is the maximum allowed if the authority is not to break the capping limit. Each 1% increase in the council tax less than 5% will reduce the available on-going resources by £1.850 million.
- ◆ No provision for the possible costs of the pay and conditions review (single status) has been included in the figures. Work is underway to assess realistic cost estimates of both the potential on-going cost and the cost of any back-pay. This is the key issue that will need to be included as part of any final 2007/08 budget resolution.
- ◆ The forecasts for the level of general reserves available are based on the forecast position as at quarter 1 budget monitoring. This figure is particularly volatile, depending on fluctuations in the money markets and/or interest rates.

5 Spending Pressures

5.1 Directorates have identified spending pressures of £16.165 million for 2007/08, increasing to £25.901 million by 2009/10. These are detailed for each Directorate in **Appendix B**, alongside the Directorates proposals as to how they would manage the pressure if additional resources were not forthcoming.

5.2 A separate justification form has been prepared for each spending pressure. These identify in more detail the reason for the additional spending need and the management action needed to balance the Directorates budget if additional funding is not forthcoming. These are currently being collated into a single publication. As soon as this is issued two copies will be placed in each Group room.

6 Efficiency Savings

6.1 The medium term financial strategy assumes a minimum of 2.5% cash efficiencies will be generated each year. If this is to be identified by way of a pro-rata top-slice then the level of efficiencies required from each Directorate is shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Impact of 2.5% Efficiencies Top-slice on Directorates in 2007/08	
	£m
Adult, Health and Community Services	2.393
Children, Young People and Families	1.585
Community Protection	0.504
Environment and Economy	0.922
Performance and Development	0.232
Resources	0.397
Total	6.033

- 6.2 There have been significant difficulties in some services in agreeing how the efficiencies in the current year should be found. To the extent efficiencies of this level are not generated then the level of resources for on-going developments will be reduced on a £-for-£ basis.
- 6.3 If the level of available resources is to be increased above the levels shown in **Appendix A**, or generating efficiencies of this level for individual Directorates is felt not to be possible, then there are a number of options available:
- ◆ Generate efficiencies from corporate projects. For example, the customer service centre taking resources out of Directorates budgets on the basis of the business cases
 - ◆ Implement a series of value for money/cost cutting reviews. A proposal as to how this could be taken forward will be considered by SDMT shortly. The initial priority programme of services was reported to Cabinet in April 2006. Further work has subsequently been undertaken and amendments to this programme were reported to SDMT.
 - ◆ Agree a programme of disinvestment in lower priority services. Achieving any savings from this option is clearly linked to the development of a clear corporate vision and service objectives clearly identifying higher and lower priority services. With Directorates already potentially having to identify options to find £16.2 million of pressures savings there will be limited scope for further savings that do not have a significant impact on service delivery in the short to medium term.

7 Investment Proposals

- 7.1 At their meeting in July Leaders Liaison Group agreed a list of medium term objectives that should form the basis of investment proposals for both revenue and capital.
- 7.2 The investment proposals, from Directorates, are listed at **Appendix C** and have been listed according to the key medium term objective the proposal will support. However, it should be recognised that many of the bids will directly impact on more than one objective. The list includes both revenue and capital bids to ensure the borrowing costs of any capital investment proposals are picked up as part of the revenue cost of proposed investments.

8 Summary Position

- 8.1 Table 2 summarises the total resources available to the authority. However, it must be borne in mind that these resources are an accumulation of one-off and on-going resources. A detailed breakdown of the resources available can be found in **Appendix A**.

Table 2: Available Resources Position 2007/08 to 2009/10			
	2007/08 £m	2008/09 £m	2009/10 £m
Government Grant	75.826	77.722	79.665
Council Tax (assuming 5% increase every year)	204.428	215.508	226.963
Collection Fund Deficit	(0.300)	(0.300)	(0.300)
Reserves (based on Quarter 1)	3.600	0.000	0.000
Local Authority Business Growth Incentive Scheme	1.750	2.450	0.000
Total Available Resources	285.304	295.380	306.328
Less Spending Allocations			
- base budget	(268.425)	(279.629)	(293.230)
- inflation	(8.101)	(8.057)	(8.211)
- cost of capital programme (corporate only)	(0.977)	(1.739)	(1.328)
Net Available/(Shortfall) in Revenue Resources	7.801	5.955	3.559
Cash Efficiency Savings (2.5% each year)	6.033	6.184	6.339
Less Spending Allocations Already Agreed			
- customer service centre	(0.785)	0.000	0.000
Net Development Resources	5.248	6.184	6.339
Total Resources	13.049	12.139	9.898

- 8.2 Against these resources, Directorates have identified additional spending pressures amounting to £16.165m for 2007/08, £19.910m in 2008/09 and rising to £25.910m in 2009/10. These figures do not include any spending pressures arising from single status.
- 8.2 Furthermore, Directorates have identified investment proposals amounting to £7.178m in 2007/08, £8.880m for 2008/09 and rising to £9.513m in 2009/10.
- 8.3 Where on-going solutions to manage spending pressures are identified and/or investment proposals funded in one financial year the impact in future years will be reduced by an equivalent amount.
- 8.4 If all of the information presented above is taken into account then, without services absorbing their own spending needs, there is a significant shortfall of resources for both strands of the budget process in 2007/08. This situation will

only resolve itself in future years if decisions on how to manage spending pressures in 2007/08 have an on-going impact.

9 Next Steps

- 9.1 Table 2 clearly outlines that some difficult decisions will be needed to achieve a balanced budget for 2007/08 and over the medium term. This is especially so once the potential impact of single status is factored in and if retaining resources to invest to deliver the modernisation agenda remains a priority.
- 9.2 Cabinet is asked to request that, over the next six weeks, the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee will consider the spending/investment proposals for each Directorate. The results of this consideration will be reported to Cabinet on 11 January 2007.

JIM GRAHAM
Chief Executive

DAVE CLARKE
Strategic Director,
Resources

Shire Hall
Warwick

11 October 2006

Available Resources 2007/08 to 2009/10 - update as at 2 November 2006

Table 1: Available Revenue Resources 2007/08 to 2009/10 with new Medium Term Financial Strategy									
	2007/08			2008/09			2009/10		
	On-going £m	One-off £m	Total £m	On-going £m	One-off £m	Total £m	On-going £m	One-off £m	Total £m
Government Grant	75.826		75.826	77.722		77.722	79.665		79.665
Council Tax (assuming a 5% increase each year)	204.428		204.428	215.508		215.508	226.963		226.963
Collection Fund Deficit		(0.300)	(0.300)		(0.300)	(0.300)		(0.300)	(0.300)
Reserves (based on Quarter 1)		3.600	3.600		0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000
Local Authority Business Growth Incentive Scheme		1.750	1.750		2.450	2.450		0.000	0.000
Total Available Resources	280.254	5.050	285.304	293.230	2.150	295.380	306.628	(0.300)	306.328
Less Spending Allocations									
- base budget	(268.425)		(268.425)	(279.629)		(279.629)	(293.230)		(293.230)
- inflation	(8.101)		(8.101)	(8.057)		(8.057)	(8.211)		(8.211)
- cost of capital programme (corporate only)	(0.977)		(0.977)	(1.739)		(1.739)	(1.328)		(1.328)
Net Available/(Shortfall) in Revenue Resources	2.751	5.050	7.801	3.805	2.150	5.955	3.859	(0.300)	3.559
Cash Efficiency Savings (2.5% each year)	6.033		6.033	6.184		6.184	6.339		6.339
Less Spending Allocations Already Agreed									
- customer service centre	(0.785)		(0.785)			0.000			0.000
Net Development Resources	5.248	0.000	5.248	6.184	0.000	6.184	6.339	0.000	6.339
Total Resources *	7.999	5.050	13.049	9.989	2.150	12.139	10.198	(0.300)	9.898

Note

* These figures do not include a provision to meet any additional costs faced by the authority as a result of the pay and conditions review (single status) A 5% council tax increase has been assumed as this the capping level and represents the maximum level of resources available from this source.

Spending Pressures and Funding Strategy

Spending Pressures		2007/08 Cost £000	2008/09 Cost £000	2009/10 Cost £000	How pressure would be managed without additional resources
Community Protection					
CP-02	Implementing the outcomes of the assessment and development centres for fire-fighters	35	36	37	Reprioritisation of the existing training and development budget with the overall effect of slowing down the delivery of assessed training needs.
CP-03	Permanent funding for the firebreak scheme to replace the need to identify external funding annually	13	13	14	Continue to seek ad hoc external funding on an annual basis from external sources or internal social inclusion/young people's funds. If not successful then the scheme may have to be stopped in future years.
CP-04	Provision of maintenance arrangements for operational ladders	30	31	31	Continue with the existing service arrangements or reprioritisation of the existing maintenance budget which is already earmarked for other pieces of essential operational equipment.
		78	80	82	
Children, Young People and Families					
CYPF-02	Funding for the family support workers & parenting post to replace Children Fund grant only confirmed until 2007/08	0	122	125	
CYPF-03	Increased demand for statutory services for looked after children, child protection register referrals and care leavers	415	425	437	
CYPF-04	Additional pressures on the education social work service for e.g. "missing children", attendance and admin support	96	98	101	
CYPF-05	8 posts and other running costs to provide additional information to parents from new legislative requirements	185	214	243	
CYPF-06	Underlying base budget pressure for the Youth Offending Team to sustain current statutory service levels	76	101	104	
CYPF-07	Estimated cost of Primary School Improvement Partners (inspectors) above level of DfES funding provided	133	136	140	
CYPF-08	Mainstream home to school transport	60	61	63	
CYPF-09	Implementation of a common assessment framework for integrated working in Children's Services	146	150	153	Approximately £30,000 per annum is expected from partner agencies
CYPF-10	Underlying base budget pressure in the assessment, statementing and review service	100	100	100	
CYPF-11					The directorate will review all services, but in particular its discretionary services in order to release resources for redirection towards the spending pressures. Discretionary services include, for example: aspects of the youth service, home to college transport, the county music service, the intercultural curriculum support service, the education of looked after children service and REEACH which is non statutory but promotes better outcomes for black and ethnic minority children. In addition the directorate will review its capacity for generating cash-backed efficiencies through improved commissioning and procurement, changes to charges and fees and reviewing the current level of support services.
		1,211	1,407	1,466	
Environment and Economy					
EE-02	Permanent funding for the Speed Aware scheme to replace one-off funding received in 2006/07	30	31	31	Increased workload for existing staff to continue as much of this work as possible within existing resources.
EE-03	2 posts to implement the government's wish for authorities to review speed limits on all A and B roads	51	52	53	Increased workload for existing staff to continue as much of this work as possible within existing resources.
EE-04	Impact of the annual increase in household waste tonnages on the cost of disposal	18	192	371	Costs will be absorbed within the service in 2007/08. In future years it will not be possible to dispose of some of the waste collected.
EE-05	Purchase of landfill allowances in 2009/10 based on forecast of being 5,000 tonnes short of meeting landfill targets	0	0	500	Review progress on implementing the waste strategy to determine a funding strategy over the medium term. Without a solution the authority would fail to meet its waste targets and would incur penalty fines.
EE-06	Additional post to meet the duty to monitor mining and landfill sites as we are unable to charge for unplanned visits	30	31	31	The post would be part funded from fees earned. Any balance would be found from reprioritising work elsewhere within the service.
EE-07	Contingency to meet the costs of a planning appeal against a decision made by the Regulatory Committee	100	0	0	The decision of the Committee was against officer advice and therefore a contingency should be identified in corporate/democratic resources.
EE-08	Delivering two public planning enquiries biannually as required under the 2004 Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act	200	0	200	The directorate would need to identify resources to meet these costs through savings or cuts in other areas.

Spending Pressures and Funding Strategy

Spending Pressures		2007/08 Cost £000	2008/09 Cost £000	2009/10 Cost £000	How pressure would be managed without additional resources
EE-09	Allocation to fund the shortfall in the Stratford Upon Avon park and ride scheme due to higher costs/lower patronage	333	362	391	Funding will be from increased revenue (fares), surpluses from decriminalisation and on street parking charges in Stratford and reallocating the budget currently used to develop LTP transport initiatives.
EE-10	Gypsy and traveller services	78	38	0	The directorate would need to identify resources to meet these costs through savings or cuts in other areas.
EE-11	Funding for Warwickshire Education Business Partnership to replace resources now allocated directly to schools	210	215	220	Promote sales to schools and company sponsorship to raise income. If this is not successful then the service would be cut back to match the resources available.
EE-12	Succession funding for Building Sustainable Neighbourhoods	139	143	147	Funding is being sought from AWM, ERDF the Big Lottery etc. If this is unsuccessful then the team of six will be disbanded.
EE-13	Expansion of the work-life balance project, maintenance for the HUB , fall-out of grant funding for business centres	45	46	47	Reduce services and staffing to the level of funding available within the business development group
EE-14	Opportunities centres in Warwickshire	66	157	183	Seek additional external funding and raise the income generation capacity at both centres with service savings to be identified to pick up any shortfall.
EE-15	Elliot Park Innovation Centre - lower than expected occupancy rates resulting in a shortfall in income	175	120	50	Reduce operating costs where possible and seek to relocate WCC services in the short term to the Centre to increase occupancy. Any remaining shortfall would need to be funded from elsewhere in the directorate..
EE-16	Master planning and feasibility	45	0	0	Increased workload for existing staff to continue as much of this work as possible within existing resources. There may be delays in developing further schemes.
		1,520	1,387	2,224	
Other Services					
OS-03	WCC Elections - to increase the annual provision to meet costs being charged by District/Borough councils	15	15	15	There will be an overspend in election year of about £60,000 that will fall on general reserves. At this point a one-off allocation to make good any shortfall would need to be made.
		15	15	15	
Adult, Health and Community Services					
AHCS-02	Underlying base issue - Libraries, Learning, Culture	500	510	520	Restructuring of the management arrangements for the service is planned to deliver savings of this level over the three year period. However, there may be some shortfall in the first year as the changes will take time to implement.
AHCS-03	DDA compliant counter - Kineton Library	8	0	0	Reprioritise the minor works programme
AHCS-04	Improvement in minority languages stock	40	41	42	Reprioritise book purchase programme impacting on other client groups
AHCS-05	Specialist book materials - older citizens	30	31	32	Reprioritise book purchase programme impacting on other client groups
AHCS-06	Reduced income from Learning and Skills Council	110	112	114	Reduction in range of learning opportunities, increasing charges
AHCS-07	Biodiversity - museum service	40	41	42	Reprioritise staff time causing delays in responding to other service demands
AHCS-08	Museum Service - public demand for information through the Freedom of Information Act	27	28	29	Potential reduction in opening hours to respond to postal/internet enquiries
AHCS-10	Overspend in 2006/07	1,150	1,150	1,150	A management strategy for Adult Services to manage the spending pressures is being developed. It is expected to deliver £3.3m, £5.4m and £6.8m respectively over the period 2007/08 to 2009/10. The strategy includes increasing income, commissioning new/restructured services, reducing management and support and reducing development and other costs. The spending pressures in Adult Services will be accommodated through this strategy in the priority order listed here. Any spending pressures not managed through this strategy will have to be met through a reduction in services.
AHCS-11	Underlying base issue - Adult Services	5,965	6,084	6,206	See above
AHCS-12	Loss of government grant	749	968	1,191	Reprioritise services within actual grant levels potentially reducing services

Spending Pressures and Funding Strategy

Spending Pressures		2007/08 Cost £000	2008/09 Cost £000	2009/10 Cost £000	How pressure would be managed without additional resources
AHCS-13	Supporting People	160	163	166	Vital part of the Council's CPA judgement. Resources will need to be moved from adult services to meet this pressure affecting capacity for adult services Need to review FACS criteria and further service change to meet growth in demand Reprioritise service provision to meet service developments and contribute to overall Directorate pressure.
AHCS-14	Adult Services demographic growth	2,925	6,746	11,464	
AHCS-15	Funding strategy for Trading Standards				
		11,704	15,874	20,956	
Resources					
RE-02	Saltisford phase 2 running costs	522	532	543	Some funding should arise as staff moving into Saltisford Phase 2 vacate other buildings. This may be insufficient and it would then be necessary either to charge the occupying directorates without giving them a budget or by an increased charge (also without budget) for all directorates that use the main offices in Warwick. £17,000 of this cost can be met from the Central Purchasing Unit's budget. The balance of £18,000 will be met by efficiency savings not yet identified. Cut spending on 'planned' (as opposed to reactive) building maintenance by nearly half from the current £1.3 million. The external redecoration programme would be totally eliminated. From within directorate budgets but minimising cost by early implementation of appropriate strategy.
RE-03	Environmental procurement officer post - loss of funding	35	35	35	
RE-04	Asbestos/water hygiene surveys, revenue remedial works etc - legal requirements	580	580	580	
RE-05	Catering service deficit (arising partly from 'Jamie Oliver' effect)	500	0	0	
		1,637	1,147	1,158	
TOTAL		16,165	19,910	25,901	
Schools					
CYPFS-02	Additional grants to parents/organisations to provide mainstream places for early years children with special needs	32	33	34	Half of the costs to be top-sliced from DSG with the agreement of the schools forum £100,000 in 2007/08 to be funded from the underspend in the current financial year Continue with the existing service arrangements or reprioritisation of the existing maintenance budget which is already earmarked for other pieces of essential operational equipment.
CYPFS-03	Underlying base pressure for the education of looked after children service	93	95	97	
CYPFS-04	Management of the tree stock on Warwickshire school sites	100	100	100	
CYPFS-05	Underlying base pressure for out of county school placements from the assessment, statementing and review service	315	315	315	
CYPFS-06	New requirement to undertake a school workforce census for the DfES on an annual basis	50	0	0	
TOTAL		590	543	546	

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee

Cabinet

Date of Committee

02 November 2006

Report Title

Projected 2006/07 Revenue Outturn

Summary

The report summarises the projected revenue outturn as at the end of quarter 2 (April to September 2006). It highlights the main reasons for any variations from the approved budget for each service and the projected reserves position at the year-end.

For further information please contact:

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Budget Planning Officer
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sandradean@warwickshire.gov.uk

Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework?

No.

Background papers

Projected spend and budget monitoring papers held by individual directorates.

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-

Details to be specified

Other Committees

.....

Other Elected Members

Cllr Tandy and Cllr Roodhouse - for information

Cabinet Member

Cllr Farnell and Cllr Cockburn

Chief Executive

Jim Graham, Chief Executive – for information

Legal

David Carter - for information

Finance

Dave Clarke - reporting officer

Other Chief Officers

The relevant Strategic Director has prepared comments in individual appendices

District Councils

.....

Health Authority

.....

Police

.....

Other Bodies/Individuals

FINAL DECISION NO

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

Further consideration by this Committee A further quarterly monitoring report is planned for February 2007 and the Final Service Outturn will be reported in June 2007.

To Council

To Cabinet

To an O & S Committee

To an Area Committee

Further Consultation

Agenda No

Cabinet - 02 November 2006

Projected 2006/07 Revenue Outturn

Report of the Strategic Director of Resources

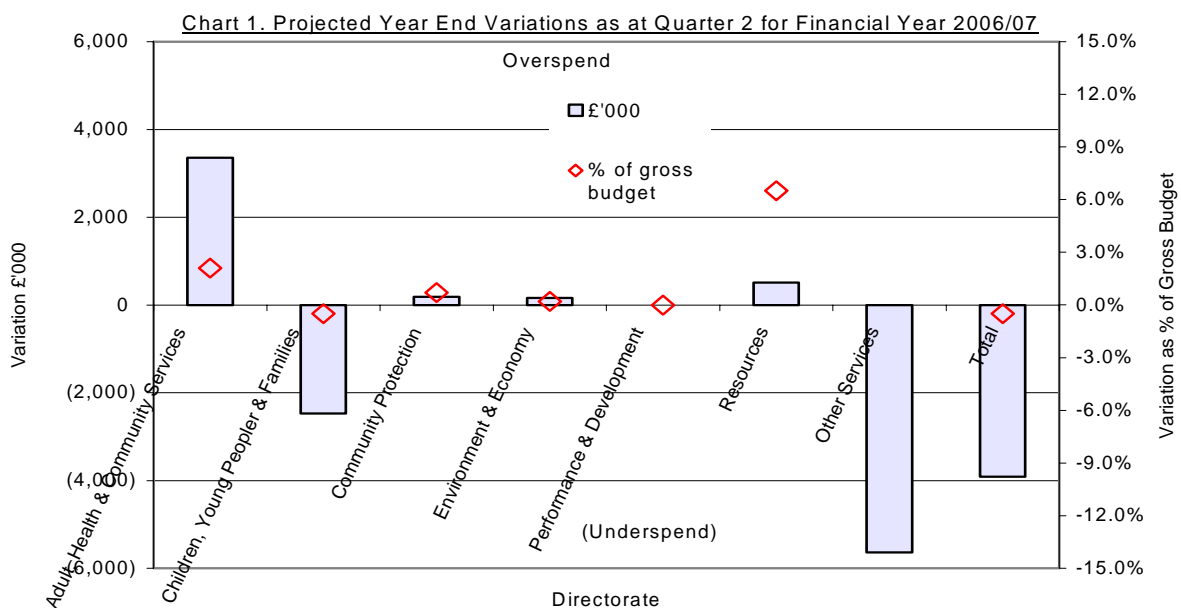
Recommendation

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- Notes the projected 2006/07 revenue outturn position and the projected reserves at year-end, and requests Directorates to take appropriate management action to try to ensure that spending remains within budget.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the projected outturn for 2006/07 based on the information known at the end of the second quarter.
- 1.2 At this stage the estimated 2006/07 underspend is £3,910,000. Chart 1 below shows the predicted over/underspend for each directorate compared to the current budget, and the projected variation as a proportion of the gross budget of the Directorate, together with the authority's total position. As further information becomes available and new issues develop, these projections will be refined and presented in subsequent quarterly reports.



Note: Other Services projected variation to gross budget of minus 18%, due to their current underspends, are outside the scale of this chart.

2 Spending Compared With Estimates

2.1 Table 1 below shows a summary of the projected year-end position of each Directorate, and a reconciliation back to the adjusted budget approved by Cabinet in April 2006.

Table 1: Summary of Projected Variations

Appendix No.	Service	Adjusted 2006/07 Original Budget (see note 1 below) £'000	Approved Revisions (see note 2) £'000	Current Budget £'000	Projected Overspend/ (Underspend) £'000
A	Adult, Health & Community Services	106,887	(96)	106,791	3,355
B	Children, Young People & Families	127,906	2,416	130,322	(2,474)
C	Community Protection	23,695	772	24,467	182
D	Environment &	55,347	445	55,792	159
E	Performance & Development	5,142	1,627	6,769	0
F	Resources	4,435	(23)	4,412	506
G	Other Services	30,112	(813)	29,299	(5,638)
	Total	353,524	4,328	357,852	(3,910)

Note 1 – Since the original budget was set at Council in February 2006, the Strategic Director, Resources has approved a number of tidying-up adjustments following the restructuring of the authority and these were reported to Cabinet on 6 April 2006. These changes are reflected in the adjusted 2006/07 original budget column in the table above and have a nil effect on the bottom-line.
 Note 2 - The savings from restructuring reported to Cabinet on 7 September 2006 have been included in the 'approved revisions' column in the table above. These savings have been added to the Modernisation Fund, held in Other Services, and have a nil effect on the bottom-line.

2.2 The current budget is £4,328,000 higher than the adjusted budget reported to Cabinet on 6 April 2006. The main reasons are summarised in Table 2 below.

Table 2. Summary of Revisions to the Adjusted Budget

Description	£'000
Principal repayment to, and new allocation from, the Virtual Bank	260
Use of service reserves carried forward and repayment of overspends in 2005/2006	3,631
Other approved use of/(transfers to) reserves	437
Total	4,328

2.3 The projected variation after allowing for these revisions to the budget is an underspend of £3,910,000. Further details are attached in **Appendices A-G**, in which Directorates highlight the main variations that they are projecting.

- 2.4 Any projected underspends by services form a contribution to their reserves. This money is then available to support spending in future years, subject to the scheme of carry forwards. Plans to use any underspend to finance spending in 2007/08 will be considered as part of the 2007/08 budget process. Where Directorates are projecting an overspend there are two options available to finance this: they may either use accumulated reserves from previous years, or if such reserves are not available, making good the overspend will be first call on the 2007/08 budget. The following commentary highlights the most significant variations.
- 2.5 There are still currently significant underspends forecast in Children, Young People & Families and Other Services, while at the same time there are projected overspends in Adult, Health & Community Services, Community Protection, Environment & Economy and Resources.
- 2.6 The predicted underspend within the Children, Young Persons and Families Directorate has increased from £1,309,000 reported in Quarter 1 to £2,474,000 in Quarter 2. This has occurred mainly in Children's Residential Care and the Standards Fund. The Standards Fund is a variety of grants provided by the DfES to support initiatives to improve the standard of education within schools. In order to tie in with the academic year, 2006/07 Standards Fund resources are provided for a 17 month period running from April 2006 to August 2007. Underspends relate to resources planned to be used between April and August 2007 and there should be no resulting adverse financial or service consequences (see **Appendix B**).
- 2.7 A combination of favourable interest rates, and well performing external fund managers means it is forecast the County Council will receive £3,088,000 more interest than anticipated at the start of the year. Furthermore, lower than anticipated borrowing interest rates are predicted to enable the County Council to incur £2,662,000 less in interest payments to service it's borrowing than projected (see **Appendix G**).
- 2.8 Adult, Health and Community Services predicted overspend has reduced slightly from £3,533,000 to £3,355,000 after management action in 2006/07. The main budget pressures still faced by the Directorate are the difficulties of continuing to commission services for people with disabilities in a high cost market dominated by a few suppliers, along side the need to increase the size of the support team in order to respond to adverse reviews. A detailed report on these problems is being prepared and will be taken to a special Cabinet on 20th October (see **Appendix A**).
- 2.9 In the Resources Directorate, there is still a forecast trading shortfall of £506,000 for the County Catering Business Unit. This is largely due to the reduction in meal numbers following the Jamie Oliver adverse publicity campaign. New menus have been introduced to promote healthier eating in our schools, and the shortfall is now slightly less than the £538,000 previously reported in Quarter 1 (see **Appendix F**).

3 Reserves

- 3.1 In the 2005/06 Final Revenue Outturn report to Cabinet on 27 June 2006 our reserves were predicted to be £37,253,000 as at 1 April 2006. It is now projected that our reserves at 31 March 2007 will be £32,958,000. Details are shown in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Reserves Projection

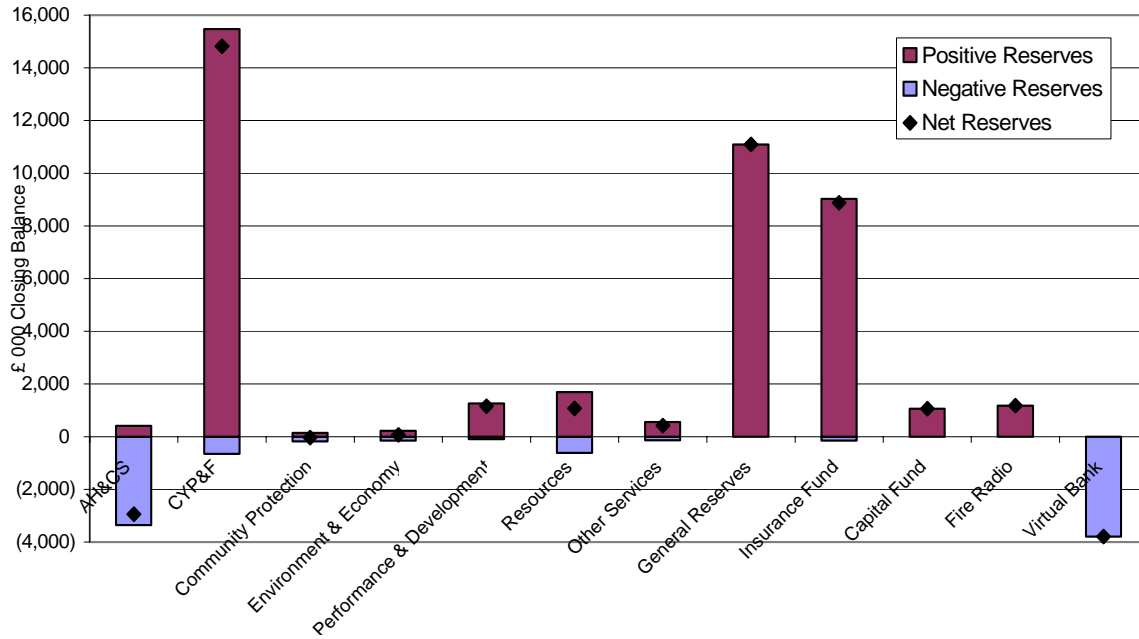
Reserve	In-hand / (overdrawn) 1/4/2006 £'000	Planned contribution/ (use) in 2006/07 £'000	Additional contribution/ (use) requested £'000	Effect of Projected Variation £'000	Estimated In- hand/ (overdrawn) 31/3/2007 £'000
General Reserves (note1)	7,686	(2,168)		5,574	11,092
Capital Fund (note 2)	1,329	(269)			1,060
Earmarked - Schools	10,667			1,380	12,047
Earmarked - Non Schools	17,571	(5,768)		(3,044)	8,759
Total	37,253	(8,205)	0	3,910	32,958

Note 1 – The above General Reserves in hand balance as at 1/04/2006 excludes £505,000 for the Landfill Allowances Scheme. Although this amount is currently being treated as part General Reserves with the agreement of our external auditors, it is only a notional amount in 2005/06 accounts rather than real cash that can be used to support any spending at this stage. Therefore, it has been excluded from the General Reserves available to support spending in the above table.

Note 2 – The capital fund is used to help fund capital expenditure as required. Changes were reported separately as part of the capital review to Cabinet in September 2006.

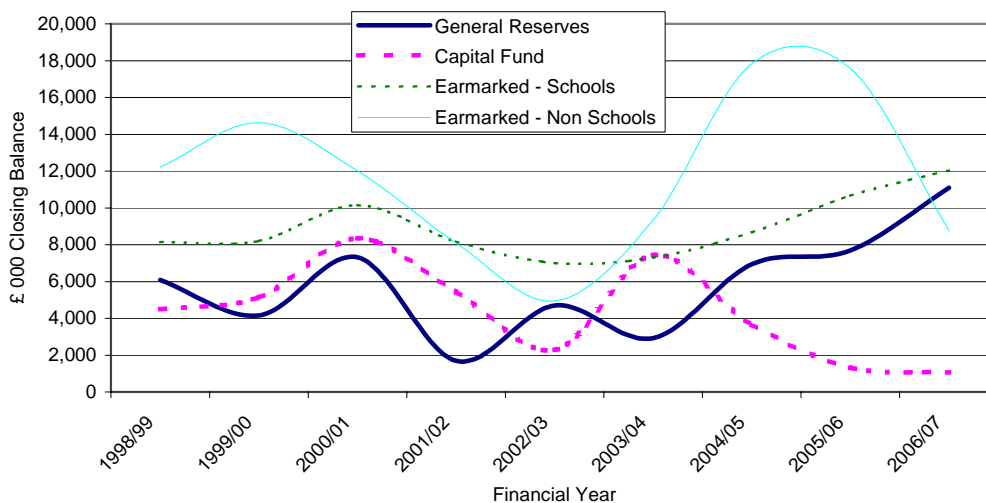
- 3.2 No further drawdowns from or transfers to reserves have been requested by Directorates in their latest quarterly budget monitoring returns.
- 3.3 Reserves are analysed in more detail in **Appendix H**. Overdrawn reserves (except Virtual Bank, Fire Pensions and the Schools IT loan reserves) are a first call on 2007/08 budgets. Meanwhile, any Directorate reserves that are overdrawn in the current year are effectively a temporary call on General Reserves until they are repaid. The projected year-end balances are summarised in Chart 2 overleaf.

Chart 2. Projected Reserves Balances at 31 March 2007



- 3.4 The planned revisions to the reserves position since 1 April 2006, including 2005/06 carry forward use of earmarked reserves, have reduced reserves by 21.7%. The underspend that is currently projected in Quarter 2 will increase reserves by 10.3%, resulting in a net 11.4% reduction since the start of the current financial year.
- 3.5 General reserves are projected to end the year at £11,092,000. This is currently significantly higher than the £5,500,000 level recommended by the Strategic Director, Resources as the minimum adequate level of general reserves. The main reason for the increase is the projected underspend on Other Services, but this may fluctuate as the base rate and inflation levels change during the course of the year. Any reserves available to support the 2007/08 budget will be considered as part of the 2007/08 budget process in the context of long term trends in reserve balances shown in Chart 3.

Chart 3. Long Term Trends in Reserves



4 Movements In Projections

- 4.1 The projected underspend of £3,910,000 at Quarter 2 compares to a projected overspend of £1,843,000 forecast at the end of Quarter 1. Table 4 below summarises the changes.

Table 4: Summary of Changes in Variations from Quarter 1 to Quarter 2

Appendix No.	Service	Quarter 1 Projected Overspend/ (underspend) £'000	Quarter 2 Projected Overspend/ (underspend) £'000	Change (Note 1) £'000
A	Adult, Health & Community Services	3,533	3,355	(178)
B	Children, Young People & Families	(1,309)	(2,474)	(1,165)
C	Community Protection	217	182	(35)
D	Environment & Economy	(92)	159	251
E	Performance & Development	0	0	0
F	Resources	538	506	(32)
G	Other Services	(4,730)	(5,638)	(908)
	Total	(1,843)	(3,910)	(2,067)

Note 1 - A positive number indicates an increasing overspend or a reducing underspend

5 Summary

- 5.1 An underspend of £3,910,000 is currently forecast in 2006/07, which would leave reserves totalling £32,958,000 at the end of the year.

DAVE CLARKE
Strategic Director, Resources

Shire Hall
Warwick

17 October 2006

Adult, Health and Community Services
Summary of Projected Variations 2006/2007 as at Quarter 2

Description	Corporate Objective Number (Please complete)	Revised Budget	Projected Overspend (Underspend)	Reason	Management Action	Projected Overspend (Underspend) after Management Action	Service Consequences
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
		£'000	£'000			£'000	
Older people	2	51,790	170	Ext Residential (£523k) Home Care £1,082k, Internal Residential £279k, Other inc. care management (£668k)	See note 1 below	0	See note 1 below
Disability	2	27,289	3,503	Residential £1,492k, Home Care int. & ext. £4,215k, Other inc. care management (£2,204k)	See note 1 below	3,503	See note 1 below
Other Adult Services	2	(3,217)	(823)	Currently some development resources held back	See note 1 below	(700)	See note 1 below
Supporting People	2	0	154	The cost of the SP Team is in excess of the specific grant available	See note 2 below	154	Reduced ability to respond to adverse external review and improve performance indicators
Support services	2	15,179	(15)	A number of overspends and underspends, none exceeding £10k, or 5% of budget.	This will be monitored monthly by SMT and vacancy levels and development needs will be further reviewed in order to bring spending down to help service pressures	(100)	No significant direct service impact
Total Adult Service		91,041	2,989			2,857	
Library & Information	1	10,321	692	The budget has been balanced in previous years by finding one-off savings in the year. These have not been identified in 2006/07 to date and a permanent solution has yet to be found.	See note 1 below	498	See note 1 below
Heritage & Culture	1	2,860	11	Overspend on specific projects	To be met from carry forward underspend	0	No service impact
Total Libraries, Learning and Culture		13,181	703			498	
Trading Standards	4	2,569	0			0	
Total		106,791	3,692			3,355	

General Comments

Note 1. There are significant base problems within Adult, Health & Community Services and a detailed report is being presented to a special cabinet on 20th October to outline the impact on services of bringing spending back in line with available resources.

Note 2. It has been necessary to increase the size of the Support Team in order to respond to adverse reviews. The extra cost is not covered by the specific grant for that purpose and the County Council together with the Supporting People Commissioning Board will need to address how this is to be met. It is vital that our performance in this area is improved as it is an important element of the County Council's overall performance.

Children, Young People and Families
Summary of Projected Variations 2006/2007 as at Quarter 2

Appendix B

Description	Corporate Objective Number (Please complete)	Revised Budget	Projected Overspend (Underspend)	Reason	Management Action	Projected Overspend (Underspend) after Management Action	Service Consequences
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
		£'000	£'000			£'000	
Children in Need - Division	2	0	160	Efficiency Savings still to be identified.	By year end the final tranche of efficiency savings will have been identified by the division.	0	Difficulty in meeting the service's objectives and business plan without reducing statutory services budgets.
Children's Residential	2	3,547	(639)	This under-spend reflects lower than expected placements.	Monitored by monthly cost centre management and quarterly FSM meeting and report to DMT.	(639)	None
Educational Social Workers	1,2	1,115	107	This is due to overall referrals to the ESW service increasing by 35% over the last 12 months, and the DFES placing new duties on the ESW service to support an increase in targets for schools within the county	Pressures on the budget are increasing throughout th year, efficiency measures are in place to attempt to limit the overspend to the forecasted amount.	107	The overspend will be met from underspends elsewhere in the directorate.
SEN Administration & Statementing & Review	1	6,561	100	These over-spends are predominantly associated with staffing costs exceeding the budget allocation. £30,000 of the over-spend is associated with new statements.	Efficiency measures are in place to attempt to limit the overspend to the forecasted amount.	100	The overspend will be met from underspends elsewhere in the directorate.
Children's Planning Team & Educational Psychologists	1,2	1,772	180	The Child Planning Team over-spend of £68,000 is associated mainly with higher than expected computer and systems costs. The EPS over-spend is the result of less income than previous years as well as the full year effect of staffing costs	Efficiency measures are in place to attempt to limit the overspend to the forecasted amount.	180	The overspend will be met from underspends elsewhere in the directorate.
Pupil Referral Unit & Education Out of School	1	3,950	527	With new ways of working with Clients by the PRU it is anticipated that there will be a reduced amount of income for this service. There is also a greater than expected demand for statutory Education Out of School.	Efficiency measures are in place to attempt to limit the overspend to the forecasted amount and possibly reduce it.	527	The overspend will be met from underspends elsewhere in the directorate.
Out of County School Placements	1	6,101	316	Greater than expected placements in second quarter.	Management are continuing to carefully monitor this complex and volatile demand led budget.	316	The overspend will be met from underspends elsewhere in the directorate.

Children, Young People and Families
Summary of Projected Variations 2006/2007 as at Quarter 2

Appendix B

Description	Corporate Objective Number (Please complete)	Revised Budget	Projected Overspend (Underspend)	Reason	Management Action	Projected Overspend (Underspend) after Management Action	Service Consequences
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
		£'000	£'000			£'000	
Transport	1	11,521	507	£480,000 of this forecasted over-spend is attributable to Post 16 Transport. Increased numbers, cost and delayed policy and pricing decisions are expected to result in this overspend. The remainder of the over-spend is attributable to mainstream transport due to increased contract costs.	Management are continuing to carefully monitor this complex and volatile demand led budget. With trends in transport costs and pupil numbers being monitored and more sophisticated processes for forecasting numbers being developed. Policy & pricing decisions will enable the overspend to be limited to the forecasted figure.	507	The overspend will be met from underspends elsewhere in the directorate's budget.
Intercultural Curriculum Support Service	1	1,103	(120)	This relates to un-spent carry-forward as well as savings within the service in the anticipation of the major service review and implementation.		(120)	
Nursery Education Grant	1	7,319	(339)	The original forecasts were based on all providers being open for 38 weeks per year but in practice this has not been the case, which in turn affects our expenditure.	Management are continuing to carefully monitor this complex and volatile demand led budget.	(339)	None
Revenue Contribution to Capital	6	303	(300)	Due to tighter financial control over capital projects as well as some slippage on projects.	The revenue contribution to capital programme will be monitored and adjustments made in order to maximise the effectiveness of the service as well as to meet the aims of the Asset Management plan.	(300)	None
Pensions	6	3,151	98	On going and one off Pensions costs for both teaching and non-teaching staff are greater than anticipated.		98	The overspend will be met from underspends elsewhere in the directorate's budget.
Efficiencies & Contingencies	6	734	(734)	The Directorate top sliced budgets internally to create a "development fund" for future years. Also contingent budgets and pay and price have not been allocated to over-spend areas but will help to meet any directorate over-spend at year end	Both these efficiency and contingent budgets could be called upon at any moment, but at present this is not anticipated.	(734)	The Directorate will have less of a need to reduce reserves at year end to fund over-spends in other areas.
Other		(143,992)	(105)	A number of overspends and underspends.	Monitored by monthly cost centre management and quarterly FSM meeting and report to DMT.	(105)	Various relatively minor service consequences being managed by the directorate.
Directorate - Non TSF non Schools - Sub Total		(96,815)	(242)			(402)	

Children, Young People and Families
Summary of Projected Variations 2006/2007 as at Quarter 2

Description	Corporate Objective Number (Please complete)	Revised Budget	Projected Overspend (Underspend)	Reason	Management Action	Projected Overspend (Underspend) after Management Action	Service Consequences
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
		£'000	£'000			£'000	
TSF - Standards Fund 17 month Grant	1	670	(477)	Under TSF rules these funds can be spent over a 17 month period to August 2007.	It is anticipated that these funds will be totally spent by August 2007 with current spending plans on track.	(477)	None
Directorate - Non Schools		(96,145)	(719)			(879)	
Schools	1	226,467	(1,595)	The predicted underspend on schools' delegated budgets is primarily the result of many minor unplanned under-spends.. This is particularly the case in primary schools.	Active budget management (including 3 year plans) by the schools with support from Education professionals.	(1,595)	None
Total		130,322	(2,314)			(2,474)	

General Comments

It is worthwhile noting that other divisions are only delivering a balanced budget position via substantial efforts. Many budgets are only being forecast to be within budget by the end of the year through the active management of vacancies and other resources. If every post was filled this would exceed the current budget.

Community Protection
Summary of Projected Variations 2006/2007 as at Quarter 2

Description	Corporate Objective Number (Please complete)	Revised Budget	Projected Overspend (Underspend)	Reason	Management Action	Projected Overspend (Underspend) after Management Action	Service Consequences
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
		£'000	£'000			£'000	
Unidentified Efficiency Top Slice	4	(144)	144	The Directorate is required to make 2.5% efficiency savings to balance the 2006/07 budget. This was higher than in previous years (1%).	Cabinet have now agreed an efficiency scheme which will enable us to achieve this years required savings of £493k. However the full amount of the savings will not be achieved until 2008/09 and in the current year we will only realise part year savings of £33k. Management have reduced the shortfall to £144k mainly through making one-off efficiency savings, which will need to be replaced in future years.	144	Cabinet have approved our efficiency savings for 2006/07 which will enable us to recoup these losses over the medium term (by 2008/09) and service delivery will not be affected.
Other Minor Variations	4	24,611	38	Various small variances.	Management are currently reviewing these variances to see what action can be taken and to put a rectification plan in place.	38	The Service will ensure that any actions taken will not effect our service delivery.
Total		24,467	182			182	

General Comments

The Department for communities and Local Government implemented new financial arrangements for firefighters pensions with effect from April 2006. At present the Directorate is still trying to gather information on the actions required to implement and administer these new arrangements, this has made it difficult to accurately forecast the expenditure on pensions at Qtr 2. Once these issues have been resolved the Directorate should be in a position to forecast more accurately at Qtr 3.

Environment Economy Directorate
Summary of Projected Variations 2006/2007 as at Quarter 2

Description	Corporate Objective Number (Please complete)	Revised Budget	Projected Overspend (Underspend)	Reason	Management Action	Projected Overspend (Underspend) after Management Action	Service Consequences
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
		£'000	£'000			£'000	
Waste Management	3	11,880	(71)	Our expectation on the tonnages disposed of is less than budgeted.	None required.	(71)	None
Planning Policy	5	487	7	Previous years' efficiency savings have been covered by holding vacancies open and reducing running costs including travel costs	Investigate how the savings can be made on an ongoing basis.	7	None
Development Group	3	577	132	Savings target of £55k yet to be identified and £85k on the Districts work.	1 admin post not to be replaced and other operations activities ie training /travel to be reduced. This is a statutory service for highways consultation, minerals and waste planning, and the Group is also a generator of income from S106, S278 and S38 monies from developers for highway works and other departments in the council. It is anticipated that income levels can be increased following the increase in the planning fee and from monitoring of sites.	100	The £85k is the excess cost of Nuneaton and Bedworth and Rugby BC undertaking S38 road adoption work. Long term savings of about £75- 90k would be made if Members agree to bringing this work in- house.
Waste and Environment - Other	3	2,629	10	Minor increases in costs .	The budget will be scrutinised for cost savings and potential income.	0	None
Strategy Support and Organisational Development	3	1,594	(23)	Gypsy and travellers sites have recently been transferred to this directorate . The majority of the rental income is not collectable due to problems on site with some of the residents. This has been offset by savings from holding vacant posts elsewhere in the service.	In the first instance a budget is required to cover these costs . The problem with the residents needs to be resolved to allow the rents to be collected.	(23)	Vacant posts have enabled us to cover the costs of the Gypsy sites and the efficiency savings for this service
Eliot Park Innovation Centre	5	70	52	There is a shortfall in income at the Eliot Park innovation Centre(EPIC) amounting to £52,000 ,	Officers will continue to monitor the costs on EPIC and seek every opportunity to reduce the deficit , including reviewing the existing management arrangements	52	
Skills Tourism and Economy	5	4,269	82	The contributions to the Pride in Camp Hill project (PINCH) are £33,000 higher than expected and this service has been asked to find £86,000 in additional efficiency savings .It should be noted that significant cost reductions have been made to achieve the existing savings target.	Review of staffing levels has been undertaken, potential for increased income and reduction in running and project costs are being investigated.	32	Any further service consequences will be reviewed once the impact of current management action has been assessed, and will be included as part of quarter 3 monitoring.

Environment Economy Directorate
Summary of Projected Variations 2006/2007 as at Quarter 2

Description	Corporate Objective Number (Please complete)	Revised Budget	Projected Overspend (Underspend)	Reason	Management Action	Projected Overspend (Underspend) after Management Action	Service Consequences
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
		£'000	£'000			£'000	
Transport Planning	5	2,976	139	This mainly relates to the Bishopton park and ride running costs and reduced income amounting to £113,000. The income target for the Transport Planning service was increased by £50,000 to meet the efficiency savings .This has been partially offset by increased income under the New Roads and Street Works Act (NRASWA).	Review other areas in the division for income which include recharges to capital and the decrim projects.	139	None
Decriminalisation - Virtual Bank	5	705	(277)	Funding for Decriminalisation of parking in the remainder of the county will not be fully committed in 2006/07.	Ensure there are sufficient funds to roll out the project across the County.	(277)	Carry forward to later years
Highways	3	15,333	271	Increased share of savings target £167,000 , plus small increases in administration and depot costs and unbudgeted costs to repair vandalism to winter maintenance equipment.	The potential overspend should be absorbed within budget for the year by cutting back on planned works in the depots savings within the administration budget and additional income.	100	The full efficiency savings target should be found from savings in administration and additional income in a full year but this shortfall represents the part year effect
Other Minor Variations including Capital Financing	6	15,272	100	A number of variations including £48,000 for Legal services	Directorate Leadership team to review areas for saving as a matter of priority. Meeting to discuss Legal Services SLA scheduled for October.	100	
Total		55,792	422			159	

General Comments

Column D identifies that there is a potential overspend of £422,000 and after taking action to improve this position we anticipate an overspend in the region of £159,000 . However we need to carry forward the underspend of £277,000 on the Decriminalisation project so the impact on our reserves will be a deficit of £436,000 (£159,000 plus £277,000 as above in column G) . In order to achieve the savings a number of actions are being made including a reviewing vacant posts , identification of other potential areas of income and areas where efficiencies can be made, and as a final resort a cut back in services. Ongoing savings of £75k to £90k are anticipated in Development Group by bringing in-house services which are currently provided by the Districts under an agency agreement. However, this is dependent on policy decisions by Members.

Performance and Development
Summary of Projected Variations 2006/07 as at Quarter 2

Appendix E

Description	Corporate Objective Number (Please complete)	Revised Budget	Projected Overspend (Underspend)	Reason	Management Action	Projected Overspend (Underspend) after Management Action	Service Consequences
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
		£'000	£'000			£'000	
Corporate Human Resources	6	1,463	(32)	This underspend arises from the delay in spend on the management costs for the pay & conditions review.	Review whether costs will be needed to continue the project next year.	0	No service consequences
Customer Service & Access	6	2,777	80	The overspend relates to the Coroner service, with £33k relating to a prior year's debt for post mortem work. The balance of £47k relates to anticipated pressures across the Coroner's service which is demand driven.	Strict monitoring of the anticipated overspend with a view to bringing it down to a manageable level.	0	No service consequences
Improvement & Support Services	6	1,055	(75)	The underspend relates to Judges House; £47k in respect of income relating to 2005/06 but received in 2006/07. The balance of £28k relates to miscellaneous savings and anticipated inflationary increase in Court Service income.	Underspend will be used to offset overspends elsewhere in the directorate.	0	No service consequences
Law & Governance	6	215	118	Part of this overspend relates to the post of Overview and Scrutiny Manager. In addition, Legal Services are forecasting an overspend of approximately £60k.	Funding for the Overview & Scrutiny Manager will be determined during the year pending resolution of Modernisation funding issues. Legal Services will monitor their budgets closely during the remainder of the year to ensure that expenditure and income are in balance.	0	No service consequences
Other budgets	6	1,259	16	Other minor variations.	Overspend will be absorbed within other budgets.	0	No service consequences
Total		6,769	107			0	

General Comments

There are still bids outstanding for Modernisation funding. If these bids are not successful then the forecast outturn will be affected adversely.

Resources Directorate
Summary of Projected Variations 2006/07 as at Quarter 2

Appendix F

Description	Corporate Objective Number (Please complete)	Revised Budget	Projected Overspend (Underspend)	Reason	Management Action	Projected Overspend (Underspend) after Management Action	Service Consequences
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
		£'000	£'000			£'000	
County Catering Business Unit	2,6	0	506	Current forecast trading deficit - largely due to unexpected reduction in meal numbers (Jamie Oliver impact)	New menus have been introduced. The impact of these on the take-up of meals, and therefore on the deficit, will gradually become clearer as the autumn term progresses.	506	There will be no service consequences other than the provision of more healthy meals. The deficit will be met from the reserves accumulated by the directorate in earlier years. Meanwhile, ongoing consideration is being given to trying to eliminate the deficit in 2007/2008 and beyond.
Remaining Directorate		4,412	0	The directorate faces a significant challenge to live within its 2006/2007 budget. Cost centre managers are facing up to this challenge with support from finance staff and, at this halfway stage of the year, the forecast is that their net spending will be in line with their budgets.	Each service head in the directorate is taking a keen interest in monitoring the budgets managed by their cost centre managers. Additionally the overall position is considered at meetings of the Resources Management Team.	0	None.
Total		4,412	506			506	

Other Services

Summary of Projected Variations 2006/07 as at Quarter 2

Description	Corporate Objective Number (Please complete)	Revised Budget	Projected Overspend (Underspend)	Reason	Management Action	Projected Overspend (Underspend) after Management Action	Service Consequences
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
		£'000	£'000			£'000	
Interest on revenue balances	6	(2,287)	(3,088)	Favourable rates achieved. External fund managers performing well and exceeding targets	Continue to monitor interest rate movements and cash flow	(3,088)	Underspend will impact on general reserves
Capital financing charges	6	26,098	(2,662)	Interest rates better than anticipated	Continue to monitor borrowing rates	(2,662)	Underspend will impact on general reserves
Elections	6	82	(63)	The cost of quadrennial elections are provided for by paying into an earmarked reserve in non-election years	None required	(63)	Any underspend will be added to the earmarked elections reserve which is currently overdrawn by £9k
Other	6	5,406	175	Continued running expenses of Northgate Street offices	Continue to monitor position with regard to on-going use of Northgate Street offices	175	Overspend will impact on general reserves
Total		29,299	(5,638)			(5,638)	

Summary of Projected Reserves Balances

Title of Reserve	In Hand/ (Overdrawn) Closing Balance 31/3/2006	Restructuring adjustments	In Hand/ (Overdrawn) Adjusted Opening Balance 1/4/2006	Approved Transfer to/(Use of) in 2006/2007	Additional Contributions/(Use) Requested	Effect of Quarter 1 forecast	In Hand (Overdrawn) 31/3/2006
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Adult, Health & Community Services	652		652	(245)		(3,355)	(2,948)
Children, Young People & Families	15,030		15,030	(2,689)		2,474	14,815
Community Protection	972	20	992	(848)		(182)	(38)
Environment & Economy	(53)		(53)	280		(159)	68
Performance & Development	1,232	54	1,286	(127)			1,159
Resources	2,869	(74)	2,795	(1,216)		(506)	1,073
Other Services	478		478			64	542
General Reserves	7,686		7,686	(2,168)		5,574	11,092
Insurance Fund	8,875		8,875				8,875
Capital Fund	1,329		1,329	(269)			1,060
Fire Radio	1,176		1,176				1,176
PIF (Previously Quality & Best Value)	16		16				16
Virtual Bank	(3,473)		(3,473)	(323)			(3,796)
LA Business Growth Incentive (LABGI)	464		464	(600)			(136)
Total	37,253	0	37,253	(8,205)	0	3,910	32,958

Note: The above General Reserves in hand balance as at 1/04/2006 excludes £505,000 for the Landfill Allowances Scheme. Although this amount is currently being treated as part General Reserves with the agreement of our external auditors, it is only a notional amount in 2005/06 accounts rather than real cash that can be used to support any spending at this stage. Therefore, it has been excluded from the General Reserves available to support spending in the above table.

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee

Cabinet

Date of Committee

2 November 2006

Report Title

Projected 2006/07 Capital Outturn

Summary

This report gives a mid-year update on the variations on projected capital outturn for 2006/07 and overall budget variances.

For further information please contact:

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Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework?

No.

Background papers

None

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-

Details to be specified

- Other Committees
- Local Member(s)
- Other Elected Members Cllr Mrs Tandy, Cllr Roodhouse
- Cabinet Member Cllr Farnell & Cllr Cockburn
- Chief Executive Jim Graham
- Legal David Carter
- Finance David Clarke – reporting officer
- Other Chief Officers The relevant Chief Officer has prepared comments which are included in the appendices
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police

Other Bodies/Individuals

FINAL DECISION NO

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

Further consideration by this Committee

To Council

To Cabinet Quarter 3 Capital monitoring will be reported to Cabinet in February 2007 and final capital spending will be reported in July 2007.

To an O & S Committee

To an Area Committee

Further Consultation

Agenda No

Cabinet - 2 November 2006

Projected 2006/07 Capital Outturn

Report of the Strategic Director, Resources

Recommendation

It is recommended that Cabinet note the revised spending forecast for capital schemes in 2006/07 and over the scheme lives.

1. Introduction

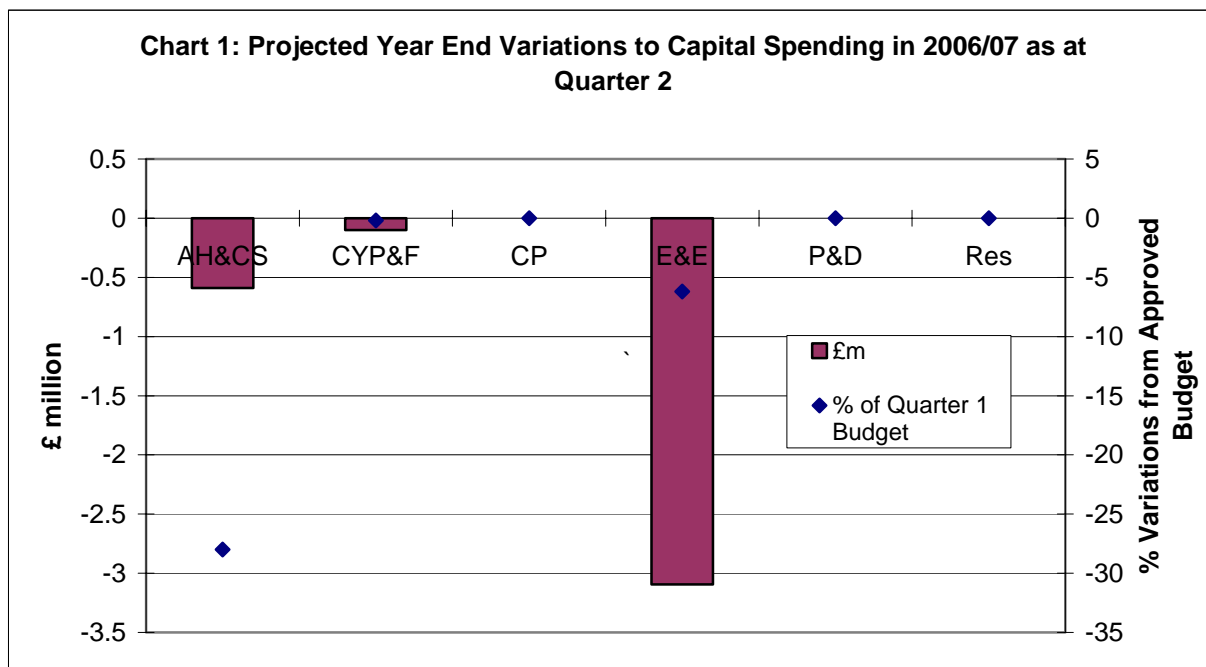
- 1.1 Directorates review capital estimates on an on-going basis during the year. The reason for this is that capital estimates can be subject to frequent changes, for example projects may require the purchase of land, are subject to planning permission, or have contracts that are tendered externally, etc. All of these factors can result in delay or variations in cost estimates. The purpose of this report is to identify progress to date on capital projects proceeding in 2006/07. Action required as a result of this monitoring exercise is summarised in Sections 3 and 4 and in the appendices.
- 1.2 Directorates undertake a full review of project budgets during the year. The first (Quarter 1) review was reported to Cabinet on 7 September 2006. This Quarter 2 monitoring report concentrates on the larger variances that have occurred since Quarter 1 monitoring.

2. Definition of Capital

- 2.1 Capital expenditure is spending on assets which have a life of more than one year. It is defined by statute and includes acquisition of land, construction and improvement of buildings and roads, and the purchase of plant, machinery and equipment. Because of the nature of capital schemes, spending often occurs over more than one financial year. Therefore when considering variations to the budget it is necessary to look at both variations in the total cost of schemes and variations that have occurred in the current financial year.

3. 2006/07 Spending Compared With Estimates

3.1 Since Quarter 1 there have been changes in the expected level of capital spending in 2006/07. Chart 1 shows that estimated capital spending in 2006/07 has decreased since Quarter 1 by £3,786,000 and analyses the variances by department.



3.2 Table 1 below shows a summary of the projected year-end position of each department compared to that reported to September's Cabinet.

Appendix No.	Service	Estimated Payment 2006/07 (September Cabinet) £000	Latest Estimate 2006/07 £000	Variance £000
A	Adult, Health and Community Services	2,110	1,519	(591)
	Children, Young People and Families	49,732	49,631	(101)
	Community Protection	669	669	0
B	Environment and Economy	49,885	46,791	(3,094)
	Performance and Development	389	389	0
	Resources	13,361	13,361	0
	Total	116,146	112,360	(3,786)

3.3 The estimated 2006/07 spending is £3,786,000 lower than the estimate reported to Cabinet in September. The reasons behind variances of more than £100,000 in the 2006/07 spending requirements are as follows:

3.4 Adult, Health and Community Services – Underspend £591,000

3.4.1 Adult Social Services – Underspend £320,000

- The Nuneaton and Bedworth Office Rationalisation Scheme has a forecast in year underspend of £107,000. Works on the project are not now likely to start this financial year due to the need to review accommodation requirements including the future of Warwick House.
- An in year underspend of £213,000 has occurred from minor variations of less than £100,000 on a number of Adults Social Services projects.

3.4.2 Libraries – Underspend £271,000

- The Library Modernisation Linked to Best Value scheme is forecasting an in year underspend of £150,000 as the scheme cannot proceed until the proceeds from the sale of land at Aylesford, Warwick are received.
- A further £121,000 of in year underspends are forecast across a number of Libraries schemes.

3.5 Children, Young People and Families – Underspend £101,000

- There are no in year over or underspends of over £100,000 within CYP&F. All variations are minor variations across a number of projects.

3.6 Environment and Economy – Underspend £3,094,000

3.6.1 Developer Funded Projects – Underspend £320,000

- An in year underspend of £320,000 is expected for Heathcote Offsite Junction Improvements. The scheme is now expected to take place in the next financial year. The delay is due to minor alterations to the scheme layout, which has resulted in an amended planning consent being required.

3.6.2 Economic Development Projects – Underspend £879,000

- Work on the Centenary Business Centre (CBC) Phase 3 is expecting an in year underspend of £605,000. The project has been delayed because the Council is awaiting external funding from Advantage West Midlands (AWM) and there is currently insufficient resources to complete. AWM have requested that our original grant application be resubmitted to a different grant source, which has resulted in increased delays. It is still expected that the Council will receive the funding required to complete the project. However, if no funding is received from AWM, it will be recommended that the project is cancelled as the debt charges would be greater than levels of income generated over the next 20 years. As there has been a delay to the start date it is expected that there will be a corresponding delay in the completion date of the project. Whilst units are not available to let, small businesses in Nuneaton are continuing to suffer from a lack of flexible, quality business premises and CBC will be unable to complete its objectives of supporting the local economy and helping to diversify the economy from the traditional manufacturing industry.
- The Town Centre Regeneration (including Kenilworth) Masterplan Delivery and Two Tier Camp Hill is forecasting an in year underspend

of £100,000. This is due to a delay in programming works with Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council who are providing match funding for this project.

- The Town Centre Paving Replacement scheme has forecast an in year underspend of £100,000 as funds have been ring-fenced to secure £100,000 AWM match funding for the Nuneaton & Bedworth Phase 1 project in 2007/08.
- A further £74,000 of underspends has occurred as a result of minor variations of less than £100,000 across a number of Economic Development schemes.

3.6.3 Integrated Transport Projects – Overspend £90,000

- An additional £275,000 is being spent in year on Village Speed Reviews 2005/06. A further £90,000 is required for the scheme at Lighthorne Heath and Gaydon. £90,000 of Section 106 funding has been secured for the project. The remainder is due to a budget virement from Village Speed Reviews 2006/07.
- New/Improved Crossings 2005/06 are forecasting an in year overspend of £138,000. £98,000 of this has been vired from New/Improved Crossings 2006/07. The remaining £40,000 additional cost is being funded by a virement from Minor Casualty Reduction Schemes 2006/07.
- A new scheme of Leamington High Street/Bath Street Improvements to Junction Signals has been introduced with an in year cost of £120,000. This junction is to be upgraded as part of the 'Enhancements to Pedestrian Crossings for the Benefit of Disabled Persons' Programme. A minor improvement scheme at the junction was originally programmed as part of the block budget for Enhancements to Existing Pedestrian Crossings. However, it is now proposed to fully upgrade the junction. To meet Disability Discrimination Act requirements tactile units and paving needs to be provided; this involves new ducting and re-cabling the entire junction. In addition, the existing signal equipment is nearing the end of its life cycle so the opportunity to upgrade it is being taken. Management intend to meet the additional cost of the scheme from slippage elsewhere in the Walking, Cycling and Crossing programmes.
- An underspend of £168,000 is forecast on the Footway/Cycleway at Birmingham Road, Stratford. The timescale of this scheme is dependent upon highway works associated with redevelopment schemes in the area. It is now anticipated that the cycleway works will not commence until 2007. There will be no change to existing service. The benefits of the proposed cycleway will not be achieved as soon as originally proposed. 2006-07 funding released will be used to fund other schemes in the Walking, Cycling and Crossing programmes.
- Amendments have been made to the Cycle Route to Lillington School scheme as a result of first round consultation resulting in an expected in year underspend of £100,000. A second round of consultation is now being carried out, causing the scheme start date to slip to late 2006/07. Management are planning to release 2006/07 funding to other schemes currently planned for funding over two financial years.

- A further £175,000 of underspends has occurred as a result of minor variations of less than £100,000 across a number of Integrated Transport schemes.

3.6.4 Major Transport Projects – Underspend £1,399,000

- An in year underspend of £1,498,000 is forecast for Rugby Western Relief Road. The Council is awaiting confirmation of orders and full approval from the Department for Transport, leading to a delay in the start date of the scheme and corresponding fall in expenditure.
- There have been a further £99,000 of overspends across the remaining Major Transport Schemes.

3.6.5 Other Non Transport Projects – Underspend £272,000

- Development of the Furniture Reuse Scheme has seen an in year underspend of £272,000. This is due to being unable to find suitable land to develop purpose built buildings and instead taking out a three year lease of other available buildings. The scheme has still been able to go ahead due to acquiring the leased buildings, though the team will continue to look for suitable land to purchase to continue the scheme.

3.6.6 Structural Bridge Maintenance Projects – Underspend £40,000

- There are no in year over or underspends of over £100,000 within Rural Projects. A number of minor over and underspends have occurred across a number of projects.

3.6.7 Structural Roads Maintenance Projects – On Budget

- The scheme for the A429 Wellesbourne Road, Ettington is forecasting an in year underspend of £100,000. The scheme is no longer going ahead as it was cancelled at the feasibility stage because other higher priority schemes were identified. However, the site will remain on the five year plan and its condition will be monitored and assessed as part of the future programme development process.
- Minor variations of in year spending of less than £100,000 across a number of projects has resulted in a combined overspend of £100,000.

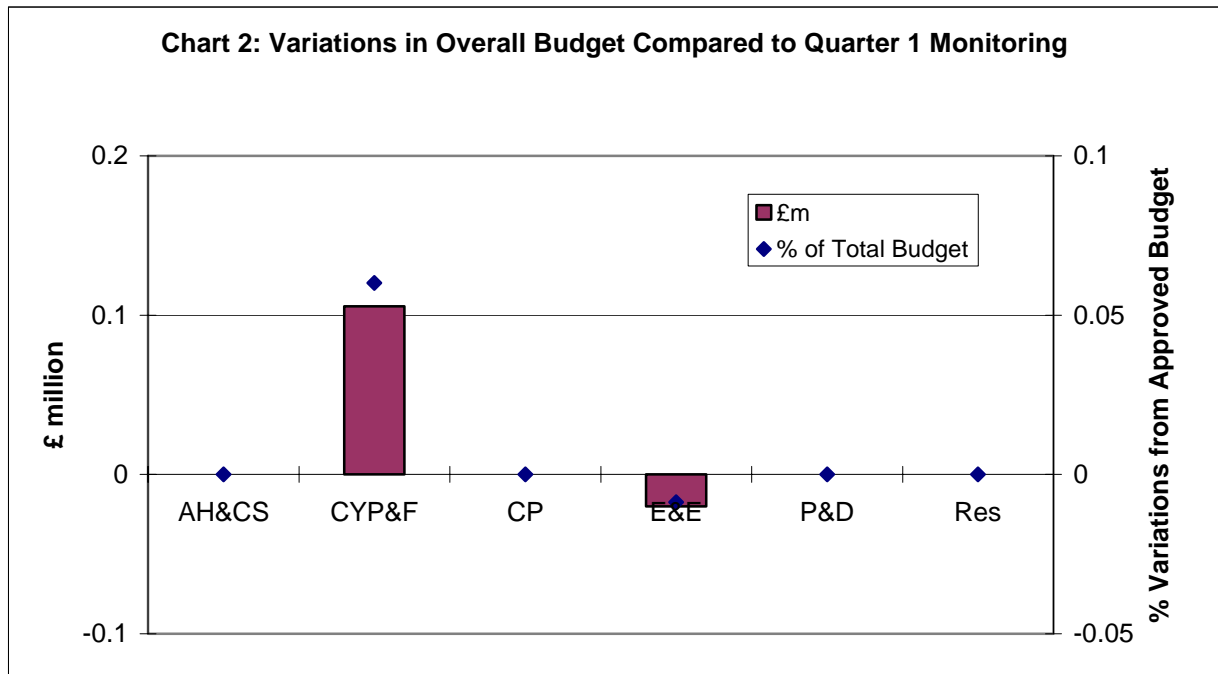
3.6.8 Waste Disposal Projects – Underspend £275,000

- Grendon Household Waste Recycling Development is forecasting an in year underspend of £388,000 due to delays in applying for planning permission for the proposed site. The planning application has been delayed as the site is a school site owned by the Children, Young People and Families Directorate. Part of the site is to be sold off for housing and the remainder used to redevelop the household waste recycling centre. It was originally intended to submit the two planning applications separately but planning policy has since changed and the two applications have been submitted together. The delay in applying for planning permission should not significantly delay the development of the household waste recycling centre, assuming planning permission is granted, as the school site is being vacated later than originally anticipated (April 2007 at the earliest). Therefore, any works would not be able to commence until after this date.

- There is an in year overspend of £100,000 on Waste Strategy Implementation – District Support due to district councils requiring support on their schemes earlier than anticipated. This will result in the district councils improving their recycling services earlier than expected which will contribute to the Council meeting targets in the waste strategy.
- Other in year variations of less than £100,000 across Waste Disposal schemes total an overspend of £13,000.

4. Variations in Overall Project Budgets

4.1 Since Quarter 1 there have been changes in the overall cost of projects compared to the approved budget. Chart 2 shows that overall project estimates have increased since September by £87,000 compared to the total budget approved and again analyses the variances by directorate.



4.2 Table 2 below shows a summary of the projected final position of each department’s capital schemes compared to their overall budgets.

Table 2: Overall Budget Variations of Schemes				
Appendix No.	Service	Overall Budget (September Cabinet) £000	Revised Overall Budget £000	Projected Variance £000
	Adult, Health and Community Services	7,945	7,945	0
C	Children, Young People and Families	175,698	175,804	106
	Community Protection	2,079	2,079	0
D	Environment and Economy	229,648	229,629	(19)
	Performance and Development	749	749	0
E	Resources	41,982	41,982	0
	Total	458,101	458,188	87

4.3 Financial Standing Orders requires all schemes that have estimated variations of £25,000 or more from the capital programme estimate be reported to Cabinet. This report therefore highlights the main reasons behind variances of £25,000 or more in the overall budgets as follows:

4.4 **Children, Young People and Families – Increased costs of £106,000**

- The overall project cost of Rugby Harris High Sports Hall has increased by £414,000 due to retendering for the project. The details of this were reported to Cabinet on 12 October 2006. £308,000 of this will be funded from unallocated resources within the CYP&F capital programme.

4.5 **Environment and Economy – Decreased costs of £19,000**

4.5.1 Developer Funded Projects – Decreased costs of £52,000

- Stratford The Ridgeway Toucan Crossing Calming has a total forecast cost reduction of £52,000 due to a change to the scope of the works. There are no anticipated service consequences.

4.5.2 Integrated Transport Projects – Increased costs of £23,000

- Village Speed Reviews 2005/06 require have forecast total increased costs of £275,000. £90,000 is due to increased costs for the Lighthorne Heath and Gaydon scheme. The remainder is due to a budget virement from Village Speed Reviews 2006/07.
- Village Speed Reviews 2006/07 has seen a total budget reduction of £312,000. This relates to a budget virement to Village Speed Reviews 2005/06.
- New/Improved Crossings 2005/06 has seen a forecast increase in total costs of £138,000. This is due to a budget virement from New/Improved Crossings 2006/07 of £98,000 and a budget virement of £40,000 from Casualty Reduction 2006/07 as a contribution to a joint scheme.
- Minor Improvements to Public and Community Transport has a total budget reduction of £164,000. The budget has been reallocated to the

Bedworth Railway Station Upgrade as approved by Cabinet on 12 October 2006.

- Leamington High Street/Bath Street Improvements to Junction Signals is a new scheme that has a total cost of £120,000. This junction is to be upgraded as part of the 'Enhancements to Pedestrian Crossings for the Benefit of Disabled Persons' Programme. A minor improvement scheme at the junction was originally contained in the block budget. However, it is now proposed to fully upgrade the junction. To meet Disability Discrimination Act requirements tactile units and paving needs to be provided; this involves new ducting and re-cabling the entire junction. In addition, the existing signal equipment is nearing the end of its life cycle so the opportunity to upgrade it is being taken. The cost of the scheme will be met from slippage elsewhere in the Walking, Cycling and Crossing capital programme.
- Enhancements to Existing Pedestrian Crossings 2006/07 requires increased funding of £56,000. This is due to additional works that have been identified as part of the asset management process. The increased cost of the scheme will be met from slippage elsewhere in the Walking, Cycling and Crossing capital programme.

4.5.3 Major Transport Projects – Decreased costs of £4,000

There is a minor total decrease in costs of £4,000 across the Major Transport Projects.

4.5.4 Structural Roads Maintenance Projects – On Budget

- The B4632 Clifford Lane has forecast total increased costs of £82,000. This is due to changes to the design at the detailed design stage. The increase in costs can be met from the overall Structural maintenance Roads Programme.
- The A426 Leicester Road has forecast reduction in total cost of £37,000. This is due to changes to the design at the detailed design stage. The budget has been incorporated into other capital maintenance schemes.
- Welsh Road West, Southam has a forecast reduction in total cost of £50,000. This is due to changes to the design at the detailed design stage. The budget has been incorporated into other capital maintenance schemes.
- The A429 Wellesbourne Road Ettington scheme has been cancelled at the feasibility stage as higher priority schemes have been identified, with a total cost reduction of £100,000. The budget has been incorporated into other capital maintenance schemes.
- Block allocations for 2005/06 and 2006/07 have seen an overall increase in costs of £89,000.
- There is a total increase of costs of £16,000 across the remaining Structural Roads Maintenance Projects.

4.5.6 Waste Disposal Projects – Increased costs of £14,000

There is a minor total increase in costs of £14,000 across the Major Transport Projects.

4.6 Resources – On Budget

4.6.1 Property – On Budget

An assessment of delivery requirements for capital schemes was carried out resulting in an increased budget for Major Building Repairs of £143,000, a reduction in budget of £60,000 for the Boiler Replacement Programme and a number of reductions totalling £83,000 across a number of Property schemes.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 Cabinet are asked to note the mid year position of the capital programme. A full capital review will form the basis of Quarter 3 Capital Monitoring, which will be reported to Cabinet in February 2007.

DAVID CLARKE
Strategic Director, Resources

Shire Hall
Warwick

17 October 2006

Project Title	Latest Project Estimate £000	Variation £000	Reason	Management Action	Service Consequences
Start in 2006/07					
Nuneaton & Bedworth Office Rationalisation	12	-107	Delays in corporate decision on future of Warwick House, now works unlikely to start tis financial year	Need to take stock following current major moves and in light of the change in management structures in the new Adult, Health and Community Services Strategic Department	Relooking at needs will ensure better use of assets and more effective for the new Department
Library Modernisation Linked to Best Value	0	-150	Awaiting receipts from sale of Aylesford Land		

Project Title	Latest Project Estimate £000	Variation £000	Reason	Management Action	Service Consequences
Developer Funded Transport					
Start before 01/04/06					
Heathcote Offsite Junction Improvements	93	-321	The delay is due to minor alterations to the scheme layout, which have resulted in an amended planning consent being required.	None	Improvement to the highway network has been delayed
Economic Development					
Start in 2006/07					
Centenary Business Centre Phase 3	108	-604.5	Awaiting external funding from AWM	Project has been delayed as there is currently insufficient resource to complete	Delay of start date on site. Consequent delay in completion.
Town Centre Regeneration (Incl Kenilworth) Masterplan delivery ans 2 tier Camp Hill	350	-100	Delay due to programming the works with NBBC who are providing match funding for this project.	None	None
Town Centre Paving Replacement	300	-100	Funds ring-fenced to secure AWM match funding in 2007/08	None	None
Integrated Transport					
Start before 01/04/06					
Village Speed Reviews 2005/06	420	275	Costs against this cost code will increase due to expenditure being vired from PB90. Additionally there is an increase of £90,000 for the scheme at Lighthorne Heath and Gaydon. This additional expenditure is to be met from S106 developer funds.	S106 funding of £90,000 to be added to the Capital Programme.	None
New/Improved Crossings 2005/2006	175	138.1	Costs against this code will increase due to expenditure being vired from other budgets. The increase of £138,000 will be met from £98,000 vire from PB95 (2006-07 crossings cost code) and £40,000 from PB97 (Casualty Reduction contribution to 'joint' scheme).	No overall effect on expenditure in Transport Capital Programme.	None
Start in 2006/07					

Project Title	Latest Project Estimate £000	Variation £000	Reason	Management Action	Service Consequences
Leamington, High St/Bath St - Imps to Signalised Jnc	120	120	New named scheme - This junction is to be upgraded as part of the 'Enhancements to Pedestrian Crossings for the Benefit of Disabled Persons' Programme. A minor improvement scheme at the junction was originally contained in the block budget. However, it is now proposed to fully upgrade the junction. To meet Disability Discrimination Act requirements tactile units and paving needs to be provided; this involves new ducting and re-cabling the entire junction. In addition, the existing signal equipment is nearing the end of its life cycle so the opportunity to upgrade it is being taken.	The cost of the scheme will be met from slippage elsewhere in the Walking/ Cycling/ Crossing programmes.	None
Footway/Cycleway - Birmingham Rd, Stratford	60	-168	The timescale of this scheme is dependent upon highway works associated with redevelopment schemes in the area. It is now anticipated that the cycleway works will not commence until 2007.	2006-07 funding released will be used to fund other schemes in the Walking/ Cycling/ Crossing programmes.	No change to existing services. The benefits of the proposed cycleway will not be achieved as soon as originally proposed.
Cycle Route to Lillington School	100	-100	Amendments have been made to the scheme as a result of the first round of consultation. A second round of consultation is now being carried out. This has caused the scheme start date to slip to late 2006/07.	2006/07 funding released will be used to fund other schemes currently planned for funding over two financial years.	No change to existing services. The benefits of the proposed cycleway will not be achieved as soon as originally proposed.
Major Transport Projects					
Start in 2006/07					
Rugby Western Relief Road	4464	-1498.3	WCC is still awaiting confirmation of orders and full approval from DfT. Therefore the start date of the scheme has slipped. Accordingly the expenditure profile has slipped.	None	None
Other Non Transport Projects					
Start in 2006/07					
Development of Furniture Reuse Scheme	293	-272.8	Capital spent on 3 year lease, not new build. Unable to find suitable land at the moment.	Scheme able to go live due to lease approved by Council. Continue to look for suitable land for purchase.	None
Structural Maintenance of Roads					
Start in 2006/07					
Structural Maintenance of Roads 2005/06	323	89	Some of this years spend has been coded to old year codes	None	None
Structural Maintenance of Roads 2006/07	4129				
A429 Wellesbourne Road Ettington	0	-100	Scheme will not now proceed	None	None
Waste Disposal Projects					
Start in 2006/07					

Project Title	Latest Project Estimate £000	Variation £000	Reason	Management Action	Service Consequences
Grendon Household Waste Recycling Centre - Redevelopment	100	-388	The overall project cost has not changed but 2006/07 allocation has changed due to delays with applying for planning permission for the proposed site	This will not result in an overall budget overspend	The delay in applying for planning permission should not delay the development significantly as the site is not becoming available until later than anticipated
Start in 2007/08					
Waste Strategy Implementation - District Support	100	100	The overall project cost has not changed but 2006/07 allocation has changed due to the district councils requiring support on their schemes earlier than anticipated	This will not result in an overall budget overspend	The variance will contribute to the district councils improving their recycling services which will contribute to WCC meeting the targets in the waste strategy therefore contributing to corporate strategic objective to Improve the Environment.

Project Title	Latest Project Estimate £	Variation £	Reason	Management Action	Service Consequences
Start in 2006/07					
Rugby - Harris High Sports Hall	2,744	414	Project was being re-tendered during last review so revised scheme cost was unknown. See Cabinet report 12th October 2006 for further details	Have accepted the lowest tender.	

Project Title	Latest Project Estimate £	Variation £	Reason	Management Action	Service Consequences
Developer Funded Schemes					
Start in 2006/07					
Stratford The Ridgeway Toucan Crossing - Calming	152	-52	Change of scope of works	None	None
Integrated Transport Projects					
Start before 01/04/06					
Village Speed Reviews 2005/06	530	275	Costs against this cost code will increase due to expenditure being vired from PB90. Additionally there is an increase of £90,000 for the scheme at Lighthorne Heath and Gaydon. This additional expenditure is to be met from S106 developer funds.	S106 funding of £90,000 to be added to the Capital Programme.	None
New/Improved Crossings 2005/2006	320	138	Costs against this code will increase due to expenditure being vired from other budgets. The increase of £138,000 will be met from £98,000 vire from PB95 (2006-07 crossings cost code) and £40,000 from PB97 (Casualty Reduction contribution to 'joint' scheme).	No overall effect on expenditure in Transport Capital Programme.	None
Start in 2006/07					
Village Speed Limit Reviews 2006/07	0	-312	Expenditure against this cost code to be vired to PB57	No overall effect on expenditure in Transport Capital Programme.	None
New/Improved Crossings 2006/2007	0	-98	Expenditure against this cost code to be vired to PB62	None	None
Minor Improvements to Public & Community Transport 2006/07	142	-164	Some Minor Improvement to Public Transport funds have been reallocated to the Bedworth Railway Station Upgrade as approved by Cabinet 12 October 2006.	No overall effect on expenditure in Transport Capital Programme.	None
Leamington, High St/Bath St - Imps to Signalised Jnc	120	120	New named scheme - This junction is to be upgraded as part of the 'Enhancements to Pedestrian Crossings for the Benefit of Disabled Persons' Programme. A minor improvement scheme at the junction was originally contained in the block budget. However, it is now proposed to fully upgrade the junction. To meet Disability Discrimination Act requirements tactile units and paving needs to be provided; this involves new ducting and re-cabling the entire junction. In addition, the existing signal equipment is nearing the end of its life cycle so the opportunity to upgrade it is being taken.	The cost of the scheme will be met from slippage elsewhere in the Walking/ Cycling/ Crossing programmes.	None

Project Title	Latest Project Estimate £	Variation £	Reason	Management Action	Service Consequences
Enhancements to Existing Pedestrian Crossings 2006/07	245	56	Expenditure to increase due to additional works that have been identified as part of the asset management process.	The increase in cost will be met from slippage elsewhere in the Walking/ Cycling/ Crossing programmes.	None
Structural Maintenance Roads					
Start before 01/04/06					
Structural Maintenance of Roads 2005/06	3,167	89		None	None
Structural Maintenance of Roads 2006/07	4,133				
Start in 2006/07					
B4632 Clifford Lane, Clifford Chambers	242	82	Changes to scheme design at detail design stage	Increase can be met from overall programme	None
A426 Leicester Road, Rugby	78	-37	Changes to scheme design at detail design stage	Budget incorporated into other capital maintenance schemes	None
Welsh Road West, Southam	140	-50	Changes to scheme design at detail design stage	Budget incorporated into other capital maintenance schemes	None
A429 Wellesbourne Road Ettington	0	-100	Scheme cancelled at feasibility stage, higher priority schemes identified	Budget incorporated into other capital maintenance schemes	None

Project Title	Latest Project Estimate £	Variation £	Reason	Management Action	Service Consequences
Property					
Start in 2006/07					
Boiler Replacement Programme 2006/07	188	-60	Budget/expenditure on all schemes in line with original allocated capital. Expenditure against this scheme reduced whilst others have been increased/decreased to suit delivery requirements.	None	None
Major Building Repairs 2006/07	491	143	Budget/expenditure on all schemes in line with original allocated capital. Expenditure against this scheme increased whilst others have been increased/decreased to suit delivery requirements.	None	None

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee Cabinet
Date of Committee 02 November 2006
Report Title 2006/07 Annual Efficiency Statement Mid-Year Update
Summary Update on progress in achieving our forecast efficiency gains for 2006/07 and the 2006/07 Annual Efficiency Statement Mid-Year Update for approval to be submitted to DCLG.

For further information please contact:

Michael Furness Principal Accountant Tel: 01926 412666 michaelfurness@warwickshire.gov.uk	Sally Bentley Acting Financial Services Manager, Community Protection Tel: 01926 466218 sallybentley@warwickshire.gov.uk
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Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? No.

Background papers 2006/07 to 2008/09 Medium Term Efficiency Plan, Cabinet Report, 6 April 2006

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- Details to be specified

- Other Committees
- Local Member(s)
- Other Elected Members Cllr Mrs Tandy, Cllr Roodhouse, Cllr Richard Chattaway, Cllr Dave Shilton, Cllr Mike Doody
- Cabinet Member Cllr Farnell, Cllr Cockburn, Cllr Richard Hobbs
- Chief Executive Jim Graham
- Legal David Carter
- Finance Dave Clarke - Reporting Officer
- Other Chief Officers William Brown - Reporting Officer
- District Councils

- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals

FINAL DECISION YES

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

Agenda No

Cabinet - 02 November 2006

2006/07 Annual Efficiency Statement Mid-Year Update

Report of the Strategic Director, Resources and Strategic Director, Community Protection

Recommendation

Cabinet are asked to:

- Note the latest forecast efficiency gains for 2006/07 for the County Council and the Fire and Rescue Service,
- Approve the draft 2006/07 Annual Efficiency Statement mid-year update for the County Council attached at Appendix A and the Fire Service, attached at Appendix B, for submission to the Government, and
- Authorise the Strategic Director, Resources, and Strategic Director, Community Protection, in conjunction with the respective portfolio holders, to make any changes necessary to the 2006/07 Annual Efficiency Statement mid-year update prior to its submission.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 As part of the Government's efficiency planning agenda the County Council is required to deliver efficiency gains of 2.5%, half of which must be cashable, each year from 2005/06 to 2007/08, covering all services except fire and rescue and schools. Over the three-year period the total level of efficiency gains the County Council is expected to deliver is £19.566million of which £9.783million must be cashable.
- 1.2 In addition the Department for Communities and Local Government set a combined target of £105million of efficiency gains over three years for all English Fire Authorities, all of which must be cashable. This equates to a target for Warwickshire's Fire and Rescue Service of £1.042million over three years, about 5% of their 2004/05 net outturn.
- 1.3 In April 2006 the County Council, and the Fire and Rescue Service submitted their 2006/07 forward-looking Annual Efficiency Statements (AES) to the Government. Authorities are now required to submit a mid-year update by 17 November 2006. This report updates Cabinet on both the County Council and Fire and Rescue Service's planned efficiency gains for 2006/07, provides explanations of the changes from our original submissions and seeks Cabinet's approval to submit the mid-year AES's to the Government.

2. County Council Efficiency Gains

2.1 County Council 2006/07 AES Mid-Year Update

2.1.1 When our 2006/07 forward-looking AES was submitted to the Government in April it was anticipating £7.009 million of efficiency gains in 2006/07, of which £5.705 million were considered to be cashable. Now the mid-year review has been completed a number of changes from the planned level of efficiency gains at the beginning of the financial year have been identified. The estimated total of efficiency gains that will be achieved in 2006/07 is now £5.808 million, of which £4.217 million is cashable. This is a reduction in efficiency gains from the planned level for 2006/07 of £1.201million (£1.488 million cashable). Table 1 below summarises the changes from the level of planned efficiency gains.

Service Area	2006/07 Forward Looking AES		2006/07 AES Mid-Year Update		Variance	
	Total £000	Cashable £000	Total £000	Cashable £000	Total £000	Cashable £000
Adult Social Services	883	710	180	175	(703)	(535)
Children's Services	880	880	880	880	0	0
Culture and Sport	100	100	0	0	(100)	(100)
Environmental Services	58	58	146	56	88	(2)
Local Transport	90	90	125	125	35	35
Non-School Education	1,509	1,410	1,405	1,405	(104)	(5)
Supporting People	200	200	150	150	(50)	(50)
Corporate Services	943	943	1,139	1,139	196	196
Procurement	140	140	228	228	88	88
Productive Time	264	0	264	0	0	0
Transactions	773	5	1,237	5	464	0
Miscellaneous	1,169	1,169	54	54	(1,115)	(1,115)
Total	7,009	5,705	5,808	4,217	(1,201)	(1,488)

2.1.2 The reasons for the changes in the levels of forecast efficiency gains have occurred for two main reasons:

- ◆ Delays and slippage in the implementation of projects to deliver the anticipated efficiency gains.
- ◆ New efficiency gains identified in 2006/07 and the full year effects of gains identified in 2005/06.

By service area the main reasons for the change in the level of planned efficiency gains are summarised below.

2.1.3 Adult Social Services – reduction of £703,000

The primary reason for the reduction in efficiencies is slippage on projects.

- The policy direction on use of residential care in order to increase helped to live at home targets and looking at housing with care alternatives has been reappraised causing delays (-£300,000).

- As the structure of Adult, Health and Community Services has still to be finalised no efficiency gains will be generated this financial year (-£200,000).
- A contract provided to a home care provider has led to a loss in service and the need to “spot purchase” home care at increased cost (-£100,000).
- Slippage has occurred in the procurement of a single Social Services Temporary Staff contract following a lead member of the project leaving the authority. It is hoped that greater efficiencies can be achieved in future years following the alignment of Children’s Social Services and Education (-£63,000).
- A contractor for Social Services Transport has pulled out meaning that the contract needs to be put out for tender again (-£40,000).

2.1.4 Culture and Sport – decrease of £100,000

- Delays in making firm proposals in the restructuring of the Directorate mean efficiency gains will not be realised this year. There is potential for efficiency gains in future years (-£100,000).

2.1.5 Environmental Services – increase of £88,000

- The increased level of recycling has led to the Authority being able to avoid the purchase of landfill tax credits (+£42,000). These benefits are being delivered at a faster rate than originally forecast.
- Better than expected reductions in cost for the disposal of TVs and fridges (+£46,000).

2.1.6 Local Transport – increase of £35,000

- Efficiencies have been identified in the collaborative roads maintenance contract with Carillion (+£125,000).
- The expected efficiency gain for reduction of travel was overestimated. Whilst it is hoped efficiencies can be generated the nature of the work dictates that travelling will be required (-£90,000).

2.1.7 Non-School Education – decrease of £104,000

- Improved management of projects has led to arising problems being solved at an earlier stage before they become budgetary issues (+£138,000).
- Additional savings have been identified at a cost centre level throughout Non School Education (+£108,000).
- Minor increase in efficiency gains in County Music (+£1,000).
- The redeployment of the HRMS Project Team has taken longer than expected meaning in year saving have been reduced (-£200,000).
- A higher spend on the Children’s Act Project than originally anticipated has meant lower efficiencies have been generated but the project should be implemented more quickly (-£91,000).
- The reduction in communications spending in 2005/06 has not recurred in 2006/07. However, the Communications Section is currently undergoing a review of its services which will lead to efficiencies being generated in the future (-£60,000).

2.1.8 Supporting People – decrease of £50,000

- The cost of contracts has reduced at the levels originally anticipated (-£50,000).

2.1.9 Corporate Services – increase of £196,000

- The increase in forecast efficiency gains is the result of actions taken by support service departments to deliver the cash-savings included as part of the 2006/07 budget resolution. A higher proportion than expected have been delivered through efficiency improvements as opposed to cuts in services or reductions in service quality (+£225,000).
- Savings from the restructure have reduced as consultancy staff were required to maintain service levels (-£15,000).
- Savings from a member of staff retiring and not being replaced have not materialised in full as the post was replaced but at a lower grade (-£14,000).

2.1.10 Procurement – increase of £88,000

- Efficiency gains from cheaper phone line contracts have increased and “blackberry” contracts have also been included in the efficiencies (+£23,000).
- The procurement of all temporary staff via a corporate contract has been delayed (-£25,000).
- A corporate contract to reduce spending on the hiring of venues has forecast reduced efficiency gains. The original estimate overestimated our total spending on hiring venues (-£13,000).
- Additional efficiencies have been identified as a result of renegotiation of prices for a cleaning contract (+£9,000).
- ICT Modernisation efficiencies have been identified through the PC Unit charge not increasing with inflation (+£95,000).
- There has been a small reduction in the level of efficiency gains generated from ESPO by prices increasing below the rate of inflation (-£1,000).

2.1.10 Transactions – increase of £464,000

- This increased gain is the result of the continued growth in the use of web-enabled services and the use of the website to answer queries, releasing increased staff time for other activities (+£464,000).

2.1.11 Miscellaneous – decrease of £1,115,000

- All miscellaneous efficiency gains relate to the disposal of surplus assets. There has been slippage in the expected disposal dates of surplus assets, particularly the sale of surplus land at Aylesford, resulting in a £0.750 million reduction of cashable gains. Once the assets are disposed of the gains will be realised in subsequent years.

2.1.12 The information summarised in paragraphs 2.1.3 to 2.1.11 above has been translated into the format of the mid-year AES submission required by the

Government. This is attached at Appendix A. Members are asked to approve the submission of the draft 2006/07 mid-year AES to the Government.

2.2 County Council In-Year Progress Towards Meeting 2006/07 AES Mid-Year Update

2.2.1 Of the £5.808 million gains now being forecast for 2006/07 in the mid-year update £2.871 million have already been realised. This leaves a further £2.937 million efficiency gains forecast to be delivered by the end of the financial year. This is summarised in Table 2 below.

	Total £000	Cashable £000
2006/07 AES Mid-Year Update forecast	5,808	4,217
Gains achieved to date	2,871	2,078
Gains still to be achieved	2,937	2,139

2.2.2 At this point in time it is fully expected that at least the level of efficiency gains forecast in this mid-year update will be achieved by 31 March 2007.

2.3 County Council Overall Progress to Date

2.3.1 Whilst the information in the report to this point indicates we are some way short of delivering the planned 2006/07 forward-looking AES, this needs to be put into the overall context of where the authority is compared to the overall target of achieving 7.5% on-going efficiency gains by the end of 2007/08.

2.3.2 In June 2006 we submitted an annual efficiency statement to the Government showing gains in 2004/05 of £6.529 million and 2005/06 of £8.780 million. This mid-year update includes a further efficiency gains in 2006/07 of £5.808 million. If these are delivered according to plan the authority would still be £8.073 million ahead of the cumulative target at the end of 2006/07 and have achieved its overall target a year ahead of schedule. The overall progress to date against the target is shown in more detail in Table 3 below.

Year	Cumulative Total Efficiency Gains			Cumulative Cash Efficiency Gains		
	Gov't Target £m	Achieved/ Forecast To Date £m	Excess Over Target £m	Gov't Target £m	Achieved/ Forecast To Date £m	Excess Over Target £m
2004/05	-	6.529	-	-	3.142	-
2005/06	6.750	15.309	8.559	3.375	8.990	5.615
2006/07	13.044	21.117	8.073	6.522	13.207	6.685
2007/08	19.566	24.077	4.511	9.783	14.913	5.130

3. Fire and Rescue Service Efficiency Gains

3.1 Fire and Rescue Service 2006/07 AES Mid-Year Update

3.1.1 When our 2006/07 forward-looking AES was submitted to the Government in April it was anticipating £174,000 of cashable efficiency gains in 2006/07. Now the mid-year review has been completed a number of changes from the planned level of efficiency gains at the beginning of the financial year have been identified. The estimated total of cashable efficiency gains that will be achieved in 2006/07 is now £75,000. This is a reduction in efficiency gains from the planned level for 2006/07 of £99,000. Table 4 below summarises the changes from the level of planned efficiency gains.

Table 4: Variations in Forecast Efficiency Gains

Category	2006/07 Forward Looking AES	2006/07 AES Mid-Year Update	Variance
Corporate Services	44,000	8,000	(36,000)
Collaboration	100,000	0	(100,000)
Other IRMP Savings	0	33,000	33,000
Procurement Savings	30,000	34,000	4,000
Total	174,000	75,000	(99,000)

3.1.2 The changes in the levels of forecast efficiency gains have occurred for the following reasons:

- Slippage in the plans to transfer the Fire Safety Help Line to WCC Contact Centre (reduction of £36,000)
- Failure to reach agreement with WMFRS on collaborative plans with regard to Control arrangements (savings unlikely to be achieved £100,000)
- Savings from the introduction of Hybrid Aerial / Pumping Appliances – agreed by Cabinet in September 2006, but not included in original 2006/07 Forward Looking AES (increase of £33,000)
- Slightly higher than expected procurement savings (increase of £4,000)

3.2 Fire and Rescue Service Mid-Year Progress in Achieving 2006/07 Forecast Gains

3.2.1 Of the £75,000 now forecast for 2006/07 in the mid-year update, £18,000 have already been realised. This leaves a further £57,000 of efficiency gains forecast to be delivered by the end of the financial year.

3.2.2 At present we fully expect to achieve at least the level of efficiency gains forecast in this mid year update by the 31 March 2007.

3.3 Fire and Rescue Service Overall Progress to Date

- 3.3.1 The target set by DCLG is for all English Fire and Rescue Authorities to achieve £105 million of cashable savings by the end of 2007/08. We have been given a guide as to what our share of this should be, and it equates to £1,042,000, but this is not an individual target. We are now forecasting to have achieved £456,000 by the end of 2006/07. This will mean we need to find an additional £586,000 of savings by the end of 2007/08 to achieve our guide of £1,042,000. We have already identified £285,000 of savings from the continued roll out of the hybrid aerial / pumping appliances efficiency scheme which will contribute towards this, which leaves a further £301,000 to be identified in 2007/08.
- 3.3.2 The Fire and Rescue Service has been set a number of challenging efficiency targets by its self and centrally by the Government. Plans to achieve these savings have been identified and reported to Cabinet on a number of occasions. However, Cabinet have not been in a position to agree the plans presented for various reasons. The most recent plan presented to the Cabinet, involving changes to appliance provision and crewing, has been called in and reviewed by Overview and Scrutiny. The outcome of this was that the plan was returned to Cabinet who agreed to implement it. However, this did not address the fundamental issue of longer term efficiency gains that will be required under the County's medium term financial and efficiency plans or the targets set nationally for English Fire and Rescue Authorities by DCLG. Cabinet did agree to look further into the issues around efficiency saving for Fire and Rescue and an additional meeting between the County Fire Officer, the Portfolio holder and the Cabinet have been arranged.
- 3.3.3 In order to achieve significant efficiency saving that will meet the challenging targets set it will be necessary for the County Council to identify and implement changes to the structure of its Fire and Rescue Service. These changes will involve difficult decisions regarding the redistribution of available resources. This will be achieved within the constraints imposed by the risk profile for Warwickshire, the resilience needs of the service and needs and expectations of the community.
- 3.3.4 Due to the timescales involved in reaching agreement with members and implementing any efficiency plans, we feel it is unlikely that any significant savings above the £285,000 already identified in 2007/08 will be achieved, and therefore we are unlikely to realise the necessary additional £301,000 of savings required by DCLG.

4 Next Steps

- 4.1 Following the submission of the 2006/07 mid-year update to the Government the next deadlines for both the County Council and the Fire and Rescue Service are:
- ◆ to submit the 2007/08 forward-looking Annual Efficiency Statements to the Government on 12 April 2007, and

- ◆ to submit the final 2006/07 backward looking Annual Efficiency Statements on 5 July 2007.

4.2 Further reports to Cabinet over the next few months will reflect the progress of the medium term efficiency strategy and plan.

DAVE CLARKE
Strategic Director, Resources

Shire Hall
Warwick

17 October 2006

WILLIAM BROWN
Strategic Director, Community
Protection

WFRS Headquarters
Leamington Spa

2006/07 Annual Efficiency Statement Mid-Year Update

Appendix A

Title	Estimated Efficiencies Achieved Apr 06 – Sept 06 (inclusive)	Forecast 2006/07 Efficiencies	... of which cashable	Ongoing efficiency gains from previous years	... of which cashable	Forecast cumulative efficiency	... of which cashable
Adult Social Services	90,000	180,000	175,000	3,585,000	3,585,000	3,765,000	3,760,000
	<p>Explanation of Major Differences: The policy direction on use of residential care in order to increase helped to live at home targets and looking at housing with care alternatives has been reappraised causing delays. As the structure of Adult, Health and Community Services has still to be finalised no efficiency gains will be generated this financial year . A contract provided to a home care provider has led to a loss in service and the need to “spot purchase” home care at increased cost. Slippage has occurred in the procurement of a single Social Services Temporary Staff contract following a lead member of the project leaving the authority. It is hoped that greater efficiencies can be achieved in future years following the alignment of Children’s Social Services and Education. A contractor for Social Services Transport has pulled out meaning that the contract needs to be put out for tender again.</p>						
Children’s Services	440,000	880,000	880,000	1,977,000	1,976,000	2,857,000	2,856,000
	<p>Explanation of Major Differences:</p>						
Culture and Sport	0	0	0	34,710	0	34,710	0
	<p>Explanation of Major Differences: Delays in making firm proposals in the restructuring of the Directorate mean efficiency gains will not be realised this year. There is potential for efficiency gains in future years</p>						
Environmental Services	59,000	146,000	56,000	763,741	244,657	909,741	300,657
	<p>Explanation of Major Differences: The increased level of recycling has lead to the Authority being able to avoid the purchase of landfill tax credits These benefits are being delivered at a faster rate than originally forecast. The deletion of a Head of Service post. Better than expected reductions in cost for the disposal of TVs and fridges.</p>						

2006/07 Annual Efficiency Statement Mid-Year Update

Appendix A

Title	Estimated Efficiencies Achieved Apr 06 – Sept 06 (inclusive)	Forecast 2006/07 Efficiencies	... of which cashable	Ongoing efficiency gains from previous years	... of which cashable	Forecast cumulative efficiency	... of which cashable
Local Transport (Highways)	75,000	125,000	125,000	263,000	263,000	388,000	388,000
	Explanation of Major Differences: Efficiencies have been identified in the collaborative roads maintenance contract with Carillion. The expected efficiency gain for reduction of travel was overestimated. Whilst it is hoped efficiencies can be generated the nature of the work dictates that travelling will be required.						
Non-school educational services	703,000	1,405,000	1,405,000	1,229,000	1,120,000	2,634,000	2,525,000
	Explanation of Major Differences: Improved management of projects has lead to arising problems being solved at an earlier stage before they become budgetary issues. Additional savings have been identified at a cost centre level throughout Non School Education. The redeployment of the HRMS Project Team has taken longer than expected meaning in year saving have been reduced. A higher spend on the Children’s Act Project than originally anticipated has meant lower efficiencies have been generated but the project should be implemented more quickly. The reduction in communications spending in 2005/06 has not recurred in 2006/07. However, the Communications Section is currently undergoing a review of its services which will lead to efficiencies being generated in the future						
Supporting People	75,000	150,000	150,000	546,000	546,000	696,000	696,000
	Explanation of Major Differences: The cost of contracts has not been able to be reduced at the levels originally anticipated.						
Other cross-cutting efficiencies not covered above							
Corporate Services	571,000	1,139,000	1,139,000	732,242	732,242	1,871,242	1,871,242
	Explanation of Major Differences: The increase in forecast efficiency gains is the result of actions taken by support service departments to deliver the cash-savings included as part of the 2006/07 budget resolution. A higher proportion than expected have been delivered through efficiency improvements as opposed to cuts in services or reductions in service quality. Savings from the restructure have reduced as consultancy staff were required to maintain service levels. Savings from a member of staff retiring and not being replaced have not materialised in full as the post was replaced but at a lower grade.						

2006/07 Annual Efficiency Statement Mid-Year Update

Appendix A

Title	Estimated Efficiencies Achieved Apr 06 – Sept 06 (inclusive)	Forecast 2006/07 Efficiencies	... of which cashable	Ongoing efficiency gains from previous years	... of which cashable	Forecast cumulative efficiency	... of which cashable
Procurement – goods and services	107,000	228,000	228,000	328,000	328,000	556,000	556,000
	<p>Explanation of Major Differences: Efficiency gains from cheaper phone line contracts have increased and “blackberry” contracts have also been included in the efficiencies. The procurement of all temporary staff via a corporate contract has been delayed. A corporate contract to reduce spending on the hiring of venues has forecast reduced efficiency gains. The original estimate overestimated our total spending on hiring venues. Additional efficiencies have been identified as a result of renegotiation of prices for a cleaning contract. ICT Modernisation efficiencies have been identified through the PC Unit charge not increasing with inflation.</p>						
Productive Time	132,000	264,000	0	3,507,414	0	3,771,414	0
	<p>Explanation of Major Differences:</p>						
Transactions	618,000	1,237,000	5,000	2,229,570	81,689	3,466,570	86,689
	<p>Explanation of Major Differences: This increased gain is the result of the continued growth in the use of web-enabled services and the use of the website to answer queries, releasing increased staff time for other activities.</p>						
Miscellaneous	1,000	54,000	54,000	113,292	113,292	167,292	167,292
	<p>Explanation of Major Differences: All miscellaneous efficiency gains relate to the disposal of surplus assets. There has been slippage in the expected disposal dates of surplus assets, particularly the sale of surplus land at Aylesford, resulting in a £0.750 million reduction of cashable gains. Once the assets are disposed the gains will be realised in subsequent years.</p>						
Total	2,871,000	5,808,000	4,217,000	15,308,969	8,989,880	21,116,969	13,206,880

2006/07 Fire and Rescue Service Annual Efficiency Statement Mid-Year Update

Appendix B

FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY NAME: **WARWICKSHIRE**

Efficiency gains achieved in the first six months of the financial year 2006/7

Category	Quality cross-check (QCC) met	One off or recurring?	Capital	All figures £				
				Revenue	Annual Cashable Efficiency Gain	Cumulative Cashable Efficiency Gain (including recurring gains from 2004-05 and 2005-06)	Annual Non-cashable Efficiency Gain	Cumulative Non-Cashable Efficiency Gain
Carried forward from 2004/05 and 2005/06				Revenue		381,009		1,096,490
Revised shift systems / Crewing arrangements (IRMP)		Recurring						
		One off						
Other IRMP savings		Recurring						
		One off						
Collaboration		Recurring						
		One off						
Reduced ill-health retirements		Recurring						
		One off						
Sickness reduction		Recurring						
		One off						
Other HR savings		Recurring						
		One off						
Better procurement	Procurement Policy in Place	Recurring		Revenue	13,460	394,469		
		One off						
Corporate services		Recurring		Revenue	4,667	399,136		
		One off						
Other		Recurring						
		One off						
TOTAL				-	18,127	399,136	-	1,096,490

To be signed by:

Chair of the CFA (pse sign and date)	Chief Fire & Rescue Officer (pse sign and date)	Chief Financial Officer (pse sign & date)

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee Cabinet

Date of Committee 2 November 2006

Report Title Fairer Charging - Care at Home Services

Summary This report sets out proposals for a revised charging policy.

For further information please contact: Philip Lumley-Holmes
Financial Services
Manager
Tel: 01926 41-2443
philiplumley-holmes@warwickshire.gov.uk

Would the recommendation decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? [please identify relevant plan/budget provision] No.

Background papers Report to Cabinet 23 February 2006

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- Details to be specified

- Other Committees Adult & Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee 17 October, 2006.
- Local Member(s)
- Other Elected Members Councillor F McCarney, Councillor R Dodd, Councillor M Stanley, Councillor J Compton
- Cabinet Member Councillor C Hayfield
- Chief Executive
- Legal Jane Pollard, Alison Hallworth
- Finance David Clarke, Strategic Director of Resources
- Other Chief Officers
- District Councils
- Health Authority

Police

Other Bodies/Individuals All service users, Customer First Steering Group,
Learning Disability Carers Forum.

FINAL DECISION YES

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

Further consideration by this Committee

To Council

To Cabinet

To an O & S Committee

To an Area Committee

Further Consultation

Cabinet – 2nd November 2006

Fairer Charging - Care at Home Services

**Report of the Strategic Director of Adult Health and
Community Services**

Recommendation

That Cabinet approve the following proposals for a revised charging policy.

- (1) Increase “buffer” to Income Support + 40% and increase the charge to £8.70, half way between our current charge and the group average.
- (2) Charging on planned hours is continued at the present time but a review of this decision is taken when the electronic time recording system is in place. In the meantime remove what is now seen as inconsistency with our banded charges and charge on the basis of a standard hourly rate rounded to the nearest half hour.
- (3) That we do not increase the savings figure from the current level of £21,000 but that this is increased annually in April in line with CRAG guidance.
- (4) That for the time being we do not charge a higher rate for service users who receive more than 18 hours home care.
- (5) That the rate for day care is increased from £2.22 per day or part day to £5.00 per day or part day.
- (6) That rate for transport is increased from £1.07 per journey to £1.20 per journey.
- (7) Providing all the above are approved it is proposed to implement the changes from 1 January 2007. This would need to be reviewed should any of the above recommendations be changed or not approved
- (8) That the proposed charges remain the same until April 2008.
- (9) A further report on disability related expenditure be brought back to Members in due course.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The report to Cabinet on 23 February 2006 outlined the reasons why it was appropriate to review the current charging policy for Care at Home Services. It also approved options as a basis for a statutory consultation exercise.
- 1.2. Attached at **Appendix A** is a detailed report to Adult and Community Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 17 October outlining the result of the consultation exercise and making recommendations on a revised charging policy for discussion by that Committee at this meeting prior to submission to Cabinet for final approval. Options are discussed in the context of the budget situation facing the Department.
- 1.3. The Adult and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee endorsed the recommendations and an extract from the Committee's draft minutes is attached at **Appendix B**.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. Cabinet is asked to approve the recommendations set out in the recommendations box above.

GRAEME BETTS

STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF ADULT, HEALTH AND
COMMUNITY SERVICES

Shire Hall
Warwick

October 2006

Health Authority

Police

Other Bodies/Individuals

FINAL DECISION None

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

Further consideration by this Committee

To Council

To Cabinet 2 November 2006

To an O & S Committee

To an Area Committee

Further Consultation

Agenda No

Adult Health and Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 17 October 2006.

Fairer Charging - Care at Home Services

Report of the Director of Adult Health and Community Services

Recommendation

That Members discuss and comment on the following recommendations in relation to a new charging policy to be submitted for approval to Cabinet on 2 November 2006:

- (1) Increase "buffer" to Income Support + 40% and increase the charge to £8.70, half way between our current charge and the group average.
- (2) Charging on planned hours is continued at the present time but a review of this decision is taken when the electronic time recording system is in place. In the meantime remove what is now seen as inconsistency with our banded charges and charge on the basis of a standard hourly rate rounded to the nearest half hour.
- (3) That we do not increase the savings figure from the current level of £21,000 but that this is increased annually in April in line with CRAG guidance.
- (4) That for the time being we do not charge a higher rate for service users who receive more than 18 hours home care.
- (5) That the rate for day care is increased from £2.22 per day or part day to £5.00 per day or part day.
- (6) That rate for transport is increased from £1.07 per journey to £1.20 per journey.
- (7) Providing all the above are approved it is proposed to implement the changes from 1 January 2007. This would need to be reviewed should any of the above recommendations be changed or not approved
- (8) That the proposed charges remain the same until April 2008.
- (9) A further report on disability related expenditure be brought back to Members in due course.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The report to Cabinet on 23 February 2006 outlined the reasons why it was appropriate to review the current charging policy for Care at Home Services. It also approved options as a basis for a statutory consultation exercise.
- 1.2. This report outlines the result of the consultation exercise and makes recommendations on a revised charging policy for discussion prior to submission to Cabinet for final approval on 2 November 2006. Options are discussed in the context of the budget situation facing the Department.

2. Results of the Consultation Exercise

Earlier this year a consultation questionnaire was sent out to 4,360 service users. We sought their views on the way they pay towards their care at home services. 1,587 (36%) of questionnaires were returned.

The responses to the questionnaire are detailed in Appendix A with a further view in pie chart form. The discussions with the Customer First Steering Group and the Learning Disability Carers Forum are similar to the results from the postal questionnaire. However, Learning Disability Carers Forum asked that we relook at the items within the disability related expenditure allowed against income assessable for charging. There is no reason why the proposals for charging can not be approved whilst this request is looked into when a further report will be brought back to Members.

In addition service users had the opportunity to make general comments on the questionnaire and service generally. These have been categorised under general themes and are summarised in Appendix B.

3. Comparison with Other Authorities

- 3.1. Before making proposals we need to consider what other authorities are currently charging. Attached at Appendix C is a comparison of rates of most authorities on our CSCI computer group plus a number of others in the Midlands area.
- 3.2. The comparison shows:

Warwickshire's current hourly rate for home care is £3.89 (this is the average of the current banded rates).

This is the lowest of any of the authorities listed in Appendix C. The highest charge of those listed is £16.46 per hour and the average of those listed is £12.34 per hour.

4. Budget Context

- 4.1. The Department is facing a significant overspend currently estimated in the region of £3 million. The County Council is likely to face increasing financial pressure over the next few years. As service demands and client expectations increase this Department will therefore have to make significant decisions on services provision.
- 4.2. One of the approaches originally assumed for a revised charging policy was to take more clients out of charging. The option preferred as identified in the consultation is to increase the minimum income guarantee over and above the 'Income Support plus a 25%' buffer. A rate of 40% would take approximately 245 extra clients out of charging (852 currently to an estimated 1097) reducing income by approximately £0.5 million. (Note: Only 5 of the 19 authorities contacted have increased the income buffer above the minimum level). The lost income would need to be recouped by increasing charges to about £5.15 an hour to those remaining in charging compared to the current rate of £3.89.
- 4.3. In the light of increasing pressure on the budget we need to reconsider whether we can continue with the proposition to take these extra 245 clients out of charging and indeed consider options for increasing income levels in order to reduce pressure on the potential need for service reductions.

5. Options

- 5.1. The following options are discussed:
- (a) Increase "buffer" to Income Support + 40% - takes 245 extra clients out of charging, reduces income by £0.5 million, increase charges to £5.15 per hour to recoup loss.
 - (b) Increase "buffer" to Income Support + 40% and increase the charge to £8.70, half way between our current charge and the group average – Increases income by approximately £1 million.
 - (c) Increase "buffer" to Income Support + 40% and raising the charge to the current average in those local authorities in group surveyed. The rate of £12.34 is still well below the cost of providing services – Increases income by approximately £2 million.
 - (d) Not increasing the "buffer" to Income Support + 40% would not take anybody out of charging and would increase the income options (b) and (c) by some £0.5millions.

6. Other considerations

Planned Hours/Actual Hours

- 6.1. In the Cabinet report dated 23/02/06 it was stated that 2 of the reasons for updating the Council's existing Charging Policy was the practice of charges being based on planned hours rather than the actual hours delivered and for charging to be based on bands of 2 hours with different hourly rates. It was also stated that there are plans to develop and introduce electronic time recording systems, but these are not expected to be in place in the forthcoming year.
- 6.2. As can be seen from the results of the consultation exercise 60% of service users who responded were in favour of continuing with the present practice of charging on planned hours, with a nil charge if less than half the planned hours are actually received. 30% said we should not charge on planned hours and the majority of that 30% said we should charge only for services that are delivered.
- 6.3. It is recommended, therefore, that charging on planned hours is continued at the present time but a review of this decision is taken when the electronic time recording system is in place. In the meantime it is possible to remove what is now seen as inconsistency with our banded charges and charge on the basis of a standard hourly rate or half hourly rate.

Savings

- 6.4. Currently service users with savings over £21,000 are assessed to pay our standard charges without a further assessment. This is the rate used in the national Charging for Residential Care Guide (CRAG) increased annually in April. The consultation exercise shows that 67% of the respondents were in favour of continuing with this policy. Only 46% said the figure of £21,000 should be increased.
- 6.5. All of the authorities compared on our CSCI computer group have the same threshold of £21,000. It is recommended, therefore, that we do not increase the savings figure from the current level of £21,000.

Separate hourly rate for Intensive Home Care

- 6.6. 63% of the respondents said we should not charge a higher rate for the extra care required if a Social Work assessment indicates care needs best be met in a Care Home but the person wishes to stay in their own home. Only 1 authority on our CSCI computer group charges a higher rate for their service users who receive more than 18 hours home care.
- 6.7. It is recommended, therefore, that for the time being we do not charge a higher rate for service users who receive more than 18 hours home care.

7. Day Care/ Transport Charges

7.1. If we changed the “buffer” for home care it would be necessary to do the same for day care charging. It is likely that a further number of disability users would be taken out of charging. Transport charges are not within the ‘fairer charging’ framework.

7.2. Day care and transport charges are well below the cost of providing the services. It would be reasonable to increase these charges in line with a rate change in home care. Appendix C shows a comparison of rates of most authorities on our CSCI computer group plus a number of others in the Midlands area.

Day care Charges

7.3. Warwickshire’s current daily rate for day care is £2.22. Not all of the authorities charge for day care. Of those that do the highest charge is £35.00 per day and the average is £15.08 per day. It is estimated that increasing charges to £5.00 should recoup lost income but not raise income levels generally.

Transport charges

7.4. Warwickshire’s current transport charge is £1.07 per single journey. Not all of the authorities charge for transport. Of those that do the highest charge is £1.60 per single journey and the average is £1.14 per single journey. Although these levels of charges are way below the costs of service it is suggested that we remain nearer the average at this point with a charge of £1.20 per single journey.

8 Costs of collection

8.1. There have been some concerns about costs of collection. If Members agree to take some clients out of charging there may be marginal savings on printing, postage etc but it is unlikely to save significant staff time. Indeed there are risks that increasing charges will increase bad debts and any saving in time will be offset in pursuing debt. We will continue to seek efficiency savings in administration and support to keep costs down and carry out further benchmarking.

9. Timing and Inflation

9.1. If all of the recommendations are approved then it would be possible to implement the changes from 1 January 2007. It is normal to increase charges in line with inflation from the beginning of April, but it would seem reasonable to keep the proposed charges the same until April 2008.

10. Recommendations

- 10.1. Members are asked to comment on the proposals for changes to the charging policy set out below to be submitted for approval to Cabinet on 2 November 2006.
- 10.2. (1) Increase “buffer” to Income Support + 40% and increase the charge to £8.70, half way between our current charge and the group average.
- (2) Charging on planned hours is continued at the present time but a review of this decision is taken when the electronic time recording system is in place. In the meantime remove what is now seen as inconsistency with our banded charges and charge on the basis of a standard hourly rate rounded to the nearest half hour.
- (3) That we do not increase the savings figure from the current level of £21,000 but that this is increased each April in line with the CRAG guidance.
- (4) That for the time being we do not charge a higher rate for service users who receive more than 18 hours home care.
- (5) That the rate for day care is increased from £2.22 per day or part day to £5.00 per day or part day.
- (6) That rate for transport is increased from £1.07 per journey to £1.20 per journey.
- (7) Providing all the above are approved it is proposed to implement the changes from 1 January 2007. This would need to be reviewed should any of the above recommendations be changed or not approved
- (8) That the proposed charges above remain the same until April 2008.
- (9) A further report on disability related expenditure be brought back to Members in due course.

GRAEME BETTS
Strategic Head of Adult Health and Community Services

Shire Hall
Warwick

September 2006

ADULT, HEALTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES

RESULTS OF QUESTIONNAIRE ON CONTRIBUTING TOWARDS THE COST OF YOUR CARE AT HOME SERVICES

74% of people who returned the questionnaires were aged over 65 and 76% received Home Care Services and 26% used Day Care Services.

The results of the questionnaire told us that:-

- ❖ 75% thought that it was a good idea to make care at home charges free to more people on lower incomes. 15% did not think this was a good idea. 10% did not know.
- ❖ 56% said that if we end care at home charges for more people on the lowest incomes we should make up for the loss of income by increasing the charge for those people who would pay. 12% said we should reduce services. 32% said other ways should be considered, the main theme of which was the Government should pay.
- ❖ 43% said 'low income' should be decided by continuing the current detailed financial assessment for everyone, but have a 'nil' charge for those on the lowest incomes. 36% said we should exclude people from paying if they are in receipt of Income Support/Guaranteed Credit who in addition are also receiving Attendance Allowance/Disability Living Allowance/Severe Disablement Premium as well. 8% said neither of the above should apply, and 13% did not know.
- ❖ 60% said we should continue to charge for the planned hours as agreed in your care plan, subject to if you receive less than half of the planned hours in any one week we do not charge for that week. 30% said we should not charge on this basis and 10% did not know.
- ❖ 85% of those who said we should not charge on planned hours said that in the future we should charge only for services that are received. 2% said we should not charge on this basis. 11% did not know. 2% said another way should be found.
- ❖ 67% said we should continue with our current policy of charging our normal charges for people who have savings of more than £21,000. 19% said we should not continue with this policy, 14% did not know.

- ❖ 46% said the figure of £21,000 should be increased to a higher figure. 36% said it should not be increased to a higher figure and 18% did not know.

- ❖ 32% said the higher figure should be £25,000
39% said the higher figure should be £30,000
24% said the higher figure should be £40,000 and
5% said other

- ❖ 63% said we should not charge a higher rate for the extra care required if a social work assessment indicates care needs would best be met in a care home but the person wishes to stay in their own home, 22% said we should charge a higher rate and 15% did not know.

We also consulted with the Customer First Steering Group and the Learning Disability Carers Forum. The results from these consultations were similar to those expressed from the postal questionnaire.

COMMENTS – GENERAL THEME : WHY CHANGE?

<p>Fair at Present – the system operated at present seems to work well and is accepted, therefore, why change with all the disruption and confusion change always brings – please do not change for the sake of change.</p>	<p>Unable to pay more – fair at present but if charges are increased there would be an inability to pay without a reduction in standard of living and quality of life.</p>	<p>The proposed increase is way above inflation and quite unaffordable for many, not necessarily just the ‘low paid’. Strongly object.</p>
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COMMENT THEME : EVERYBODY SHOULD PAY				
<p>An understanding that Attendance Allowance, Pension Credit and other benefits have been assessed for the purpose of paying for care – everyone should pay something towards the service they get based on the money they receive from the State.</p> <p>Totally unfair otherwise.</p>	<p>To suggest that those of us who pay towards our care should subsidise others is outrageous.</p> <p>We are already dipping into our savings to pay for care that we actually need and not want and to suggest we dip even further to pay for someone else's is ludicrous.</p>	<p>It is the people slightly over the benefit threshold that always end up losing. On paper it may look as if they can afford to pay but, in fact, any increase in charges puts a severe financial burden on them.</p> <p>Doubly hard to meet in view of recent large increases in gas and electricity.</p>	<p>Charges should be according to a person's ability to pay; whether it is Occupational Pension, Attendance Allowance, Guarantee Credit or top ups and savings.</p> <p>Mr B & Mrs C both have similar total incomes, therefore, their ability to pay is equal. (DP)</p>	<p>Re. Note B – Feels that both should be treated equally with regards to paying charges, as their incomes are very similar.</p> <p>However, do feel that Attendance Allowance, Disability Living Allowance and Severe Disablement premium should be excluded from the total income.</p>
<p>Instead of making it free for low-income clients, why not reduce charges by 25% and increase charges by 25% for those able to pay. This would still help the low-income clients.</p> <p>Your proposal indicates that if you scrap charges for low-income clients, those clients that still pay would receive a 200% increase in charges and that is too much.</p>	<p>You need to quantify 'low income' by clients' needs. Just because a person does not receive Income Support, does not mean they are better off, as things like prescriptions, eye tests, dentists, still need to be paid for.</p> <p>A percentage of Attendance Allowance or Disability Living Allowance should be used to pay for homecare. That's what it's for! (DP)</p>	<p>In note B, why should Mr B be penalised for not needing additional state benefit. This is like an increased tax.</p> <p>A person who has provided resources to ensure a secure old age should not subsidise those that have not.</p> <p>They have supported the less willing / able / fortunate / throughout their working lives.</p>	<p>We are already paying for services we do not receive entirely due to the whim of your service providers and we are unable to influence this decision.</p> <p>Everyone should pay the same flat rate, regardless of savings or income; any short fall should be met by the Government.</p> <p>The Nanny state must stop playing the 'Supplier Unlimited' role. (DP)</p>	<p>All care should be paid for so that no one can abuse the system.</p> <p>Some people receive benefits but do not spend them on the purpose intended; this is wrong and unfair to people who do not receive benefits but who may have even less total income than the benefit receivers.</p>

COMMENT THEME : EVERYBODY SHOULD PAY				
<p>Stop playing us off one against the other, fighting for scraps and feeling deprived or guilty. Treat us like human beings.</p> <p>Allowing more people to fall into the 'no pay' bracket puts an extra burden on everyone else and would bring no further income.</p>	<p>Start campaigning for more and better services for us. (DP)</p> <p>If there is a need to get lower paid people onto free care, then the extra cost should be gained from central resources; not imposed on the infirm who have managed to prepare financially for their old age.</p>	<p>If people with savings are expected to pay more to subsidise people on low incomes, fewer of them will use the service leading to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) An increase in charges to those on lower incomes (2) More housebound people with a poorer quality of life. 	<p>People who are hard up have avenues for assistance, eg. Attendance Allowance.</p> <p>You are now proposing that, in order to receive this less than minimum care we will be forced to pay for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The calculated cost of the care. (b) Additional costs to cover care for others on low income. 	<p>Start from the grass root – educate people from young on how to take care of one's own life and future. The State will benefit if people are taught how to budget and NOT to spend what they haven't got. Make up for loss of income by ensuring all people claim their Government allowances, eg. Attendance, Disability, etc.</p>

COMMENTS THEME : SAVERS PENALISED AND FORCED TO SUBSIDISE NON-SAVERS (THE LESS PRUDENT)				
<p>Charges should be based on net income after tax, which would include interest on savings and hence be fairer where general income is low.</p> <p>Charges should relate only to income from pensions benefits, etc, not to income from savings – as this penalises those who have saved in the past. (DP)</p> <p>Extra consideration should be given to the Over 80's; their savings have been reduced considerably at this time of life.</p> <p>As we are all living longer and everything goes up and up in price, one worries that one's savings are going down and down.</p>	<p>By 'Savings' inclusion, 'Savings' reduce to a 'low level' – leaving the client nothing in reserve – for house repairs, extra heating, even a holiday; very necessary if one is confined to a house and reliant on care for a good quality of life.</p> <p>No one wishes to be in this position – but finds themselves in this position because of their health, not by choice.</p> <p>It seems the generation that paid most, eg. Fought for their country, lived in harder times, and who could never afford to save or 'went without' to save a little, are now being penalised and ignored by the Government.</p>	<p>With regard to savings; because someone has savings does not automatically mean they are wealthy. They have often saved with a view to disability related items and quality of life in the future.</p> <p>Under current rules this money will pay for care needs and the client will never have the opportunity to replace it. Therefore, they no longer have the peace of mind of that extra security for the future. (DP)</p> <p>Ability to pay should be based only on income, regardless of how the income is made up; savings should not come into it.</p> <p>Occupational pensions did not exist years ago.</p>	<p>People who have earned well but chosen to spend it frivolously, should not be given preferential benefits over those who have been more prudent and forgone extravagances in order to provide for later years.</p> <p>It appears there will be a penalty for saving and reward for relying on state provision.</p> <p>How do we advise our children and grandchildren what to do for their future if this is the case?</p> <p>Basing charging on savings is misleading.</p> <p>Savers in real terms could be worse off when considering other commitments ie. Council Tax.</p>	<p>It is unfair for people who have saved to be penalised by having to pay higher fees to compensate Local Authority finances. Local Authorities need to put pressure on the Government to increase funding for social care.</p> <p>The 'savings' figure could be providing part of a pension and, therefore, should not be part of any calculations to allow more people to receive care.</p> <p>Unfairness that Savers end up no better off than Non-Savers – why should people who have been prudent all of their lives subsidise people who have not?</p> <p>It is a very difficult problem but a much fairer system should be found.</p>

COMMENTS GENERAL THEME : PROPOSED NEW CHARGES				
<p>If the charges are going to increase in the near future we'd like plenty of notice to make enquiries of other care companies and charges.</p> <p>Only receiving meals at present but when do require home care will be very reluctant to pay £9.00 an hour.</p> <p>The proposed charge of £9 an hour is ridiculous.</p> <p>Half hour visits should be returned.</p>	<p>Charges of £9.00 per hour would cause many people to reduce their home services below what they really need.</p> <p>'Nil' charges would lead to a reduction in feedback; many people would be reluctant to make complaints or requests improvement in the service.</p>	<p>In this area, we have just been subjected to a traumatic and totally unwelcome change in our carers' teams – without any discussion with us – the users of the service.</p> <p>This is an unfortunate time for you to suggest payment changes.</p> <p>Any increase will be strongly resisted.</p>	<p>Under proposed new charges it would mean there would not be enough left out of Attendance Allowance for a cleaner and occasional gardener; we were informed this was for such small necessities.</p> <p>It seems this is another stealth tax – the Government clawing back money that they pay to help out.</p>	<p>Wouldn't it be the case, if charges rose to £27.00, a lot of people wouldn't be able to afford it and you would lose out?</p> <p>Modest charges of £3 per hour are about right, for those who can afford to pay it. Those who claim they cannot, should use the benefits they receive for this intended purpose.</p>

COMMENTS GENERAL THEME : SHOULD ONLY PAY FOR ACTUAL HOURS OF HOME CARE RECEIVED				
<p>Although a certain amount of time is allocated and charged for, in reality only about half the time is spent, eg. Half an hour becomes fifteen minutes; an inadequate time to get a slow, elderly person dressed or to cook a meal.</p> <p>Home care should be based purely on care provided – anything else is open to abuse.</p>	<p>Please charge only for the services we receive.</p> <p>There are many totally missed visits – visits paid for but not received – which cause real problems to the client and to their families.</p> <p>Although, on the whole, the services are very good, I often feel short changed because times are not kept but charges are.</p>	<p>The current system of paying <u>full charge</u> for <u>51%</u> of planned visits is open to financial abuse by unscrupulous carers / Agencies.</p> <p>Make up for the loss of income by getting money back from the Home Care Agencies who are being paid to provide the service but do not keep to the package agreed with you and the client.</p>	<p>Feels the way care charges are worked out at present - dependent on the proportion of your hours you have received in a particular week - is very complicated.</p> <p>It would be simpler and fairer to charge for the actual hours of care received per day / week.</p>	<p>Any Agencies employed to cover the care indicated by an assessment should have to pay a fee to WCC for any calls they miss. This could then be offset against the fee the client is charged per week. This would mean that the same amount per week is still being received by WCC and ensure their Agencies make a greater effort to see that all calls are covered. (DP)</p>

COMMENTS GENERAL THEME : HOME CARE AGENCIES				
<p>If a Care Agency provides under half the weekly care then no charge is made by social services.</p> <p><u>BUT</u></p> <p>Many times the Care Agency manages to allow for just over half of the paid care each time, exploiting the system and we end up paying for a lot of care we do not get. (DP)</p> <p>We have a wonderful service from you. Our carer is very good and understands the needs of the client.</p> <p>Quite satisfied with home carers but would like to be prior informed who will be coming at weekends when regular carers do not work.</p>	<p>Any charging system needs to provide a mechanism for a regular assessment by either the client or the client's representatives, of the quality of care being provided.</p> <p>This is particularly relevant as the beneficiaries of care services cannot 'vote with their feet' as most normal consumers are able to do when dissatisfied with services provided.</p> <p>Who are these Home Care Agencies accountable to?</p> <p>Agencies are badly organised and inefficient. Lots of time is wasted going from one client to another – need to co-ordinate a carer's designated clients by home location.</p>	<p>It would help patients if they could have a regular carer and not several different ones during the week.</p> <p>Each carer then needs to be shown everything and told what is required; this is difficult for old, frail patients, particularly when the carers are always giving the impression they have no time to spare.</p> <p>We are considering private care at home where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the cost is higher but more reliable. (b) the same person visits at the same time every day. 	<p>Whatever you decide about charges, always remember that most of the people you are caring for are old and do not like changes in their routine.</p> <p>They need to see a familiar face at a regular time and be able to pass the time of day.</p> <p>Whatever their disability, be it age or invalidity, loneliness is their biggest fear. No one can put a price on his or her needs.</p> <p>Are they monitored at all?</p> <p>Would like to see the Care Agencies who overcharge every month sacked. They should be made accountable for the distress, chaos and anxiety it causes.</p>	<p>The Care Agencies should always know what is required and where.</p> <p>The client is always vulnerable and needs to know and trust the carer.</p> <p>The carer should be made aware of how to approach the client and work to this end. They need to attend at correct times, particularly when medication needs to be given.</p> <p>The carers should spend time building a rapport with the elderly person; many need to be coaxed eg. Into having a bath, eating properly; but what is happening is the carer does not bother if the person does not want to do a thing.</p>

COMMENTS GENERAL THEME : HOME CARE AGENCIES

<p>Approximately 85% of carers have left due to stupid management and the whole concept of care in the home is like a music hall joke.</p> <p>What used to be an excellent service is now a load of disorganised rubbish.</p> <p>Most complaints fall on deaf ears.</p>	<p>If paying for a service, the client should have a say in who is caring for them. Often a carer you like is changed without warning and then another carer arrives you are not so keen on. We should have a say in who is coming into our homes, even interview them, and not be expected to be grateful for who is thrown at us.</p>
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COMMENTS GENERAL THEME : CARE HOMES			
<p>It is understandable that people wish to stay at home if they do not have any dementia as the prospect of going into care where the vast majority of people they will live with will not provide suitable company and also illness / dementia can be very upsetting to see.</p> <p>It would be nice (ideal world) if there were at least some care homes around the country provided for frail people who need lots of help, but did not take in people with dementia.</p>	<p>When are care homes inspected?</p> <p>Have found in the past, when in for Respite, the home was very dirty.</p> <p>Requires Respite to give main carer a rest from 24-hour care.</p>	<p>Care homes currently do not cater for anyone needing medical care.</p> <p>Would it not be a good idea to put someone with medical experience, such as a nurse, in a care home?</p> <p>This observation refers to Respite care and would reduce considerably the cost of using nursing homes.</p>	

COMMENTS GENERAL THEME : OWN CARERS (SPOUSE / RELATIVES) AND 24-HOUR CARE			
<p>At home carers really appreciate the extra support that home care offers and in many cases would not be able to cope without it as many are elderly themselves.</p> <p>Have to pay for private care also; therefore, it would still be very difficult to meet extra costs.</p>	<p>All-night care would be a great asset (re. Your Question where care needs would be best met in a care home – Q9).</p> <p>A higher charge would be acceptable for night care.</p>	<p>Anyone looking after a person that needs 24-hour care should be compensated in the same way a nursing home is paid.</p> <p>On numerous occasions, where the social service carer does not attend, own carers have to attend; meaning we end up paying twice.</p>	<p>Relatives who care should be give ‘money off’ because this often keeps disabled clients from needing 24-hour care.</p> <p>If the new system is applied we will end up with a deficit.</p>

COMMENTS GENERAL THEME : STAY AT HOME VERSUS CARE HOME – COSTS AND CARE IN THE COMMUNITY (RE. Question 9)				
<p>Staying at home for as long as possible is of paramount importance to quality of life and feelings of independence – very grateful for the home care that has enabled us to do so for many years.</p> <p>Some people have no family and the carer is the only person they see and this is greatly appreciated</p> <p>Question 9 – You have to look at what is best both physically and mentally – taking someone out of their home for purely cost saving would be barbaric.</p> <p>Entering a care home can be a traumatic experience for both the person concerned <u>and</u> their family and carers.</p>	<p>Keeping people at home must be cheaper than if they went into a care home so how is a higher rate in these circumstances justified?</p> <p>Why not just charge for the extra hours? In many cases the Council would have far higher costs for a care home – keeping people in their homes is more cost effective.</p> <p>The elderly and infirm should be prioritised in today’s society where we have never been richer; the abuse of this group of people is inexcusable. A ‘civilised’ society should reflect that in its care of these groups of people.</p>	<p>Feelings are that it is less expensive to keep someone at home being PARTIALLY cared for by a spouse, with professional backup from the County.</p> <p>Against this a visiting professional carer would probably cost the County more than a carer in residence in a County home.</p> <p>Only WCC can balance this equation. If specialist trained carers are needed then it would be appropriate to charge at a higher rate.</p> <p>If normal carers were used, higher charges would be totally unacceptable.</p>	<p>Question 9 is very subjective – best for whom? Best for the individual or best, ie. Easiest, for Social Services? If this change were introduced there would be a huge incentive on behalf of Social Services to conclude that a person would be ‘best’ at home.</p> <p>This would be potentially unfair and could result in an expensive, difficult to administer appeals process.</p> <p>The cost of a person going into a care home will be far great than if they stay in their own home with support from family and friends.</p>	<p>Question 9 – This would depend on how the assessment arrives at the conclusion. Many who lose the independence of their own home, also lose their dignity and will to live.</p> <p>I would hope everything possible is done before forcing people into a care home where frequently the term ‘care’ is applied loosely.</p> <p>It must still be considerably cheaper to receive help in one’s own home, so why should they be charged more? They will be much happier in their own home and relatives do not need to worry about how they are being treated.</p>

COMMENTS GENERAL THEME : STAY AT HOME VERSUS CARE HOME – COSTS AND CARE IN THE COMMUNITY (RE. Question 9)

<p>If carers, who look after their parents, etc, were paid a sensible wage it would enable them to have a life.</p> <p>Also, if the Agencies were able to pay their care workers more, there would be more and better people doing the job.</p>	<p>If a person wants to stay in their own home then the person should pay based on their ability to pay.</p> <p>If a homeowner; the home should be collateral if staying in it, to pay towards costs. If Council tenant or private rental, then savings and weekly income should be assessed accordingly.</p>	<p>People naturally want to stay in their homes after struggling for years to pay a mortgage and don't want to then sell their home to pay to go into care.</p>
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COMMENTS THEME : THE QUESTIONNAIRE

<p>Opinions on this questionnaire are biased, as everyone will be looking out for their own interests.</p>	<p>The survey should identify the proportion of people who will get 'free' care.</p> <p>Their view <u>should not</u> be used to justify increased charges to those that pay.</p>
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COMMENTS GENERAL THEME : GOVERNMENT, COUNCIL BUDGET AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY				
<p>Feels home care should be free for all - everyone should be treated the same regardless of any money in the bank or property. People cannot help being elderly, disabled and living longer.</p> <p>All costs should be met by the state – this is what we paid state pension and NI for.</p> <p>If the money dictates, the care will become secondary.</p> <p>If your budget is exhausted as a result of extra care services to more people and this extra care was within</p> <p>Make Council’s more accountable to the public.</p>	<p>Raise budget concerns at central Government level. The only way forward is to work in partnership with other community and voluntary organisations and empower them to get involved in local politics so their voices are heard and more funds are released to care for our elderly.</p> <p>There shouldn’t be any charges for home care; why should a ‘sick’, ‘disabled’ or ‘elderly’ person have to pay for a service they need.</p> <p>There’s a great deal of difference between needing care and demanding it. (DP)</p> <p>Winter fuel payment should be means tested to include younger clients on low incomes and exclude wealthy elderly.</p>	<p>Believes that the NHS should control all care homes. Far too many homes are at the mercy of unscrupulous people who are only concerned with profit.</p> <p>This Government and previous ones have wasted millions of pounds, which could have been used to finance well run homes for elderly people, many of whom were part of a generation that saved this country from fascist slavery.</p> <p>Tell the Government to subsidise the poorer among us, the sick and infirm; get them used to further supporting your good work.</p> <p>The ability to pay should be secondary to the needs of the patient.</p>	<p>Get rid of the Council Tax and put something fairer in its place.</p> <p>Stop wasting monies in other areas, to enable you to put more into helping the poorest of the people who need it. (DP)</p> <p>Home care should be available to anyone who needs it. If people are not in a position to pay, they may worry and not ask for help they really need, resulting in serious medical problems and further strain on the NHS</p> <p>Government policy guidelines; would it not be right to assume that an argument for a higher budget would be acceptable.</p> <p>Personal care free in Scotland – not in England.</p> <p>Strongly objects to this.</p>	<p>We understand the Government want to return people occupying hospital beds to ‘Care in the Community’, to enable hospitals to meet their targets. We understand there is a ‘Care in the Community’ Act granting money for this purpose. Therefore, the Government should make the funds available to WCC to carry out the extra home care.</p> <p>Otherwise, WCC is compensating the NHS. If a nurse goes into a client’s home, this is paid for by the NHS isn’t it?</p> <p>Pensions increase last year was 2%; water, gas and electricity went up by 40%, plus another increase to come. The Government should take this into account with Pension increases.</p>

COMMENTS GENERAL THEME : ASSESSMENTS				
<p>There are too many assessments; unless there are major changes in income, stay with the original assessment. The assessments are difficult to follow and too many mistakes are made. They must also be costly to administer.</p>	<p>The overall cost of the management of this and other schemes could be significantly reduced if means testing were abandoned – across the public sector there seems to be a vast array of people engaged solely in calculating means testing.</p>	<p>Make charges simpler to understand by making the bands obsolete so that the individual understands the hourly charge and is only being charged for the number of hours worked.</p>	<p>We would like to know how much it costs to collect payments against how much income is received? Is it worth the heartache that I'm sure the worry gives a lot of people receiving help and having to pay for it?</p>	<p>Why do people with health problems receive free care and those with mental problems going into care have to pay?</p> <p>Charges should also take into account whether the person actually owns their home or is renting the property.</p>
<p>Assessments should include a person's housing, eg. Do they have to meet their own maintenance / repairs and other costs?</p> <p>Means testing is the only fair way of assessment. Income from whatever source should be taken into consideration.</p> <p>However consideration should be taken of '<u>ALL</u>' the care requirements, of whatever nature, a client needs and has to pay for.</p>	<p>Feels the full amount a person should pay - if they have savings over £21,000 - is the full amount of their Disability Living Allowance / Attendance Allowance.</p> <p>People's financial circumstances can vary in a very short space of time, through no fault of their own, making a fair, financial assessment almost impossible. (DP)</p> <p>Many people have had no advice on allowances and benefits available to them</p>	<p>There must be flexibility built into a Direct payments package to cover emergencies and sudden deterioration in medical conditions. (DP)</p> <p>If paying extra, they would expect a much better quality of care, on time and completing all tasks.</p> <p>More time should be spent over social work assessments bearing in mind that one day one can cope and other days they may need extra.</p>	<p>If they're renting, the amount they pay should be far less than someone who owns a property as they only have their savings, whereas a property owner has the equity in their home.</p> <p>Means tests on income should not be necessary for pensioners who receive Attendance allowance, Pension Credit or Disability premium, because they have already been assessed on income</p>	<p>Please make this advice available to people - who may not be aware what they could have done when they first became ill - so that they do not miss out. Many people need help but have not had it explained to them.</p> <p>It should be made simple to access services – waiting time for an assessment should be shortened especially if a fall or hospital discharge, etc, means help is needed where it wasn't before.</p>

COMMENTS GENERAL THEME : RESPITE CARE				
All charges should be fully explained prior to service. I recently had to go into Respite and was never advised of any charges, to be told later that I would have to pay food cost plus home care charges even though not receiving any home care service. Not notified until after returned home some six weeks later.	It would help if accounts for Respite care could be sent out quicker. At present, they overlap visits eg. Account for stay on 8-15 th May has not been received on 23 June. Client is due to return into care on 3 rd July.	There should be more Respite care for the elderly.	Respite care and nursing homes should be free to recipients as is already the case in Scotland.	

COMMENTS GENERAL THEME : DISABLED CLIENTS				
<p>Does not think that disabled people should have to pay charges.</p> <p>It is not their fault they have disabilities and they may well only get more severe with time and need increasing care.</p> <p>They should not be penalised for this by paying higher charges.</p> <p>They also have so many other living costs, eg. Specialist transport and home adjustments.</p>	<p>Home care for the severely physically disabled should be free of charge for all, other than those disabled managing to earn a good income.</p> <p>Day centre charges should be abolished apart from transport charges to and from the centres.</p>	<p>Seems unfair to charge disabled on low income as they are, in the most part, precluded from the opportunity to earn. All other bills are constantly increasing, therefore, wherewithal to pay constantly reduced. (DP)</p>	<p>A female living with her husband, (who is in receipt of income credit and housing benefit, severely disabled himself) has only her DLA and pension, therefore, she should not pay any charge.</p> <p>She should be assessed in her own right; her husband's income should not be taken into account.</p> <p>Joint savings <£6,000.(DP)</p>	

COMMENTS – GENERAL THEME : CONCERNED THAT SERVICES WILL BE REDUCED

Keeping Council contributions unchanged would suggest a reduced service to the now paying clients.

Do not reduce services – but since means testing is in place – perhaps a simple to operate sliding scale of charging could be introduced.

Appendix C

OTHER LOCAL AUTHORITIES CHARGES

IS + 25%	Authority	Home Care Charges	Day Care Charges	Transport
✓	Warwickshire	3.89	2.22	1.07 per journey
	*Worcestershire	11.00	4.20	1.00 per journey
✓	Cheshire	16.46	25.00	1.50 per journey
✓	Cambridgeshire	15.58	2.00	1.00 per journey
✓	Gloucestershire	13.00	15.00	Nil
✓	Northamptonshire	13.82	11.33 (Ave)	1.00 per day
✓	Oxfordshire	16.34	4.00 (Ave)	?
✓	Staffordshire	13.50	Nil	Nil
✓	Leicestershire	7.20	Nil	Nil
✓	Bedfordshire	14.70	33.00 (Ave)	Nil
✓	Suffolk	14.40		
	*Wiltshire	12.95		
	*Hampshire	13.32	Nil	Nil
✓	Nottinghamshire	7.00	Nil	2.00 per day
	Derbyshire	Nil	1.50	
✓	Somerset	13.00	Nil	1.60 per journey
	*Coventry	9.92	19.81	1.40 per journey
✓	Leicester City	7.00	Nil	
	*Solihull	7.95	Nil	Nil
✓	Birmingham	14.90	35.00	
	Average	12.34		

* Income buffer increased above the minimum level.

Extract from the Draft Minutes of the Adult and Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on the 17 October 2006.

4. Fairer Charging – Care at Home Services

Members considered the report of the Strategic Director Adult, Health & Community Services setting out proposals for a revised charging policy.

Philip Lumley-Holmes noted the following:

- i. The Cabinet approved a report in February 2006 prepared in response to the performance assessment report from CSCI and the 2004/05 Strategic Review of Older People resulting in a consultation being carried out on a proposal for a revised charging policy.
- ii. The proposals attempted to make the policy simpler, easier to understand and taking into account comments of users while trying to achieve a balance between the need to charge and keeping the process fair.
- iii. The recommended increase in the hourly rate to £8.70 from just under £4 an hour for home care was approximately halfway between the current rate and that of like Authorities.
- iv. The preferred increase to £8.70 would increase the buffer to Income Support + 40%, take 245 users out of charging and increase income by approximately £1m.
- v. If the proposals were approved by the Cabinet the new charges would be implemented by 1 January 2007 and run through to April 2008.

During the ensuing discussion the following points were highlighted:

1. Although the decision would be made by Members, it was felt that the additional revenue received should be kept within the service and contribute towards the strategy of the Directorate to return to a balanced budget over a period of time.
2. Following discussions with user groups and particularly the Forum for Learning Disabilities, an exercise of benchmarking disability expenditure taken into account in assessing available income for charging against other Authorities would be carried out and the results of this would be reported back to the user groups.
3. The process of Fairer Charging had been introduced by the Department of Health in 2003. The calculation was based on gross income + 25% buffer, taking into account costs for services such as disability services and was calculated to ensure users were in a position to pay charges and income was not taken away in total in charges. Every Local Authority was required to follow a formula for all users, which could not fall below income support levels.
4. The complaints procedure was available to users who were not satisfied with their charges.

5. The current charge had been set approximately 5/6 years ago and increased by inflation only on an annual basis.
6. Learning Disability Forums had been consulted, but the issue of people with learning disabilities living at home with their parents would be reviewed.
7. Members noted their concern regarding the refusal of some users to pay and it was noted that any bad debts would be reported to Members.
8. The Directorate would liaise with the Communications team to ensure that the changes were clearly explained to all users in an understandable way, demonstrating that the County Council were aware of the implications on people's lives but were trying to be as fair as possible.
9. Members thanked officers for the work they had done in consulting with users and preparing a clear report with a fair set of recommendations.

Having considered the report, the Adult and Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to recommend to the Cabinet that they approve the following:

- (1) Increase "buffer" to Income Support + 40% and increase the charge to £8.70, half way between our current charge and the group average.
- (2) Charging on planned hours is continued at the present time but a review of this decision is taken when the electronic time recording system is in place. In the meantime remove what is now seen as inconsistency with our banded charges and charge on the basis of a standard hourly rate rounded to the nearest half hour.
- (3) That we do not increase the savings figure from the current level of £21,000 but that this is increased annually in April in line with CRAG guidance.
- (4) That for the time being we do not charge a higher rate for service users who receive more than 18 hours home care.
- (5) That the rate for day care is increased from £2.22 per day or part day to £5.00 per day or part day.
- (6) That rate for transport is increased from £1.07 per journey to £1.20 per journey.
- (7) Providing all the above are approved it is proposed to implement the changes from 1 January 2007. This would need to be reviewed should any of the above recommendations be changed or not approved.
- (8) That the proposed charges remain the same until April 2008.
- (9) A further report on disability related expenditure be brought back to Members in due course.

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee

Cabinet

Date of Committee

02 November 2006

Report Title

Review of the Cultural Strategy

Summary

This is the final report for the Scrutiny Review of the Cultural Strategy. This report was considered by the Adult and Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 12 July 2006.

For further information please contact:

Ann Mawdsley
Senior Committee
Administrator

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Bill Basra
Partnerships and
Communities

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Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework?

No.

Background papers

Report to Adult and Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee 10th January 2006

Cultural Strategy (2003-06)

Agenda and Notes of the Cultural Strategy Review Panel

Papers provided on request

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-

Details to be specified

Other Committees

Adult and Community Services O&S

Local Member(s)

Other Elected Members

.....

Cabinet Member

Cllr Colin Hayfield

Chief Executive

.....

Legal

David Carter.....

Finance

.....

Other Strategic Directors

Graeme Betts (AHCS)

District Councils

Health Authority

Police

Other Bodies/Individuals Monica Fogarty, Emma Andrews, Edwina Cordwell

FINAL DECISION Yes

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

Further consideration by this Committee

To Council

To Cabinet

To an O & S Committee

To an Area Committee

Further Consultation

Agenda No

Cabinet - 02 November 2006.

Review of the Cultural Strategy

Report of the Chair, Adult and Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Recommendations of the Adult and Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

1. That the final report of the review of the Cultural Strategy be approved;
2. That the Cabinet agree the following recommendations:
 - a) That no steps be undertaken to replace the current cultural strategy 2003-06 with another strategy;
 - b) That future work in this area be referred to as Culture, Leisure and Sport;
 - c) Notwithstanding 2. a) above the current cultural strategy be assimilated in the overall promotion of culture leisure and sport within the development of the local area agreement and existing community strategies;
 - d) That amongst the options being explored to develop services in this area; consideration be given to the feasibility of a County Wide Cultural 'Champions' Forum and a website portal providing a single point of access for all cultural, leisure and sports activities within Warwickshire.

1. Views of the Adult and Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 1.1 The Adult and Community Services O&S Committee considered the report of the Cultural Strategy Review Panel, which was the final report for the Scrutiny Review of the Cultural Strategy (attached as **Appendix A**).
- 1.2 Members noted that the exercise had been useful and having considered varying responses from the District/Borough Councils, agreed that the current strategy had not had much impact and that in future a "Culture, Leisure and Sport" thread would be included in the Local Area Agreements (LAA).
- 1.3 During the ensuing discussion the following points were highlighted:
 - (1) Members thanked the Panel and Bill Basra for the excellent work they had done.

- (2) The Cultural Strategy had been a broad document with no action plan and therefore had not provided a basis for action and work done to embed this area into the LAAs would need to identify actions.
- (3) The District/Borough Councils were working independently in this area and the challenge for the Council would be to show them how the Council could help to improve what they were already doing and maximise opportunities through partnership working within the LAAs.

1.4 The Committee agreed:

- (1) That the final report of the review of the Cultural Strategy be approved;
- (2) That the report be passed onto Cabinet with the following recommendations:
 - a) That no steps be undertaken to replace the current cultural strategy 2003-06 with another strategy;
 - b) That future work in this area be referred to as Culture, Leisure and Sport;
 - c) Notwithstanding 2. a) above the current cultural strategy be assimilated in the overall promotion of culture leisure and sport within the development of the local area agreement and existing community strategies;
 - d) That amongst the options being explored to develop services in this area; consideration be given to the feasibility of a County Wide Cultural 'Champions' Forum and a website portal providing a single point of access for all cultural, leisure and sports activities within Warwickshire.
- (3) That an update on the progress of the recommendations contained in the report be submitted to the January meeting of the Scrutiny Committee.

2. Progress

- 2.1 Since consideration by Scrutiny in July, considerable work has been undertaken in progressing Culture, Leisure and Sport within the Local Area Agreement where it is regarded as a cross cutting issue.
- 2.2 Initial work was conducted through Peter Davies (and more latterly through Chris Jeens) of the County Council and Rob Wallis of the Greater Warwickshire Sports Partnership. A Sub-Group of Officers from the Boroughs and Districts was convened in July to progress and prioritise issues.
- 2.3 As a result of that meeting and subsequent work, it was agreed that the following outcomes would be pursued within the LAA:
 - Increasing access to, and participation in, cultural and sporting activities, including volunteering, to enhance the health and well being of Warwickshire residents.

- Promoting 'sense of place' and celebrating community diversity by broadening access to, and increasing participation in, cultural and sporting activities throughout Warwickshire.
- Reducing obesity and improving health of children and young people through increased participation in sport and physical activity.
- Maintaining and improving the quality of life in Warwickshire by recognising our roles as stewards of its heritage, and working with appropriate agencies to make sustainability fundamental to our actions improving the natural and built environment
- Recognising young people's cultural entitlement and perspective, to broaden their experience, and raise their aspirations by increasing their range of opportunities for cultural engagement.
- Creating better local conditions to allow creative industries to flourish, and supporting culture's contribution to the economic well being of Warwickshire

2.4 The priorities were drawn to the attention of LAA Block Leaders who are responsible for the development of outcomes within the LAA. To ensure that matters are progressed further, representatives from Culture, Leisure and Sport will be meeting with each of the Block Leaders over the ensuing month to help identify areas where culture, leisure and sport can be incorporated within the Local Area Agreement prior to submission on 8th December 2006.

3. Conclusion

3.1 Cabinet will note that considerable work has been undertaken since July to progress some of the findings of the Cultural Strategy Review. These have been principally in relation to the Local Area Agreement and Cabinet consideration is specifically asked in relation to Recommendation 2 d).

CLLR FRANK MCCARNEY
 Chair, Adult and Community
 Services Overview and
 Scrutiny Committee

Shire Hall
 Warwick

09 October 2006

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee **Adult and Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Date of Committee **12th July, 2006**

Report Title **Review of the Cultural Strategy-Final Report**

Summary This is the final report for the Scrutiny Review of the Cultural Strategy.

For further information please contact:

Bill Basra Partnerships and Communities Tel: 01926 476828 billbasra@warwickshire.gov.uk	Tricia Morrison Corporate Review Manager Organisational Development Team Tel: 01926 736319 triciamorrison@warwickshire.gov.uk
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Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? No.

Background papers Report to Adult and Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee 10th January 2006

Cultural Strategy (2003-06)

Agenda and Notes of the Cultural Strategy Review Panel

Papers provided on request

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- Details to be specified

Other Committees

Local Member(s)

Other Elected Members Cllrs McCarney, Compton 'An excellent report which has my full support.', Dodd 'Happy for this to proceed' and Stanley' fine-I don't recall talking about access to culture for ethnic minorities. Its no good having literature or web sites in English if we are excluding some of our residents because of language barriers. We need to be inclusive and I wondered had you any thoughts on how we can engage people who might normally not get involved.

Cabinet Member Cllr Colin Hayfield

- Chief Executive
- Legal Jane Pollard
- Finance
- Other Strategic Directors Graeme Betts, (AHCS), David Carter (P+D)
- District Councils This report was circulated amongst all five boroughs and districts. No comments were received.
- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals Monica Fogarty, Emma Andrews, Edwina Cordwell

FINAL DECISION No

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet Recommendations from this scrutiny review, where appropriate will be passed onto the Cabinet for consideration and action
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

Agenda No

Adult and Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 12th July 2006.

Review of the Cultural Strategy-Final report

Report of the Cultural Strategy Review Panel

Recommendations

1. That the final report of the review of the Cultural Strategy be approved;
2. That the report be passed onto Cabinet with the following recommendations:
 - a) That no steps be undertaken to replace the current cultural strategy 2003-06 with another strategy;
 - b) That future work in this area be referred to as Culture, Leisure and Sport;
 - c) Notwithstanding 2. a) above the current cultural strategy be assimilated in the overall promotion of culture leisure and sport within the development of the local area agreement and existing community strategies;
 - d) That amongst the options being explored to develop services in this area; consideration be given to the feasibility of a County Wide Cultural 'Champions' Forum and a website portal providing a single point of access for all cultural, leisure and sports activities within Warwickshire.
3. That an update on the progress of the recommendations contained in the report be submitted to the January meeting of the Scrutiny Committee.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 On 10th January 2006, a report was presented to the Committee on 'Taking the Cultural Strategy Forward'. As a result of the report, the Committee authorised that a Panel of three members be set up to investigate issues further and report back to the Committee. This report is the final review of that Panel and encapsulates the key findings and recommendations of the Panel during its two-month investigation.

2. Background

- 2.1 In 2003 the County Council formally adopted the Warwickshire Cultural Strategy 2003-06. The strategy was prompted by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport and Best Value Performance Indicators which asked all local authorities whether they had a cultural strategy or not. A strategy was duly developed in partnership with the five borough and district councils and following consultation with stakeholders.
- 2.2 The cultural strategy defined culture in its broadest term encompassing arts, heritage, libraries, leisure, sport, natural and built environment and tourism and focussed on the following four themes:
- Taking Pride in Warwickshire
 - Growing the Grassroots
 - Increasing Cultural Activities
 - Investing in Culture
- 2.3 Notwithstanding the existence of a strategy, it was felt that the strategy had not had the impact that was originally envisaged both inside the County Council and outside in Warwickshire as a whole. This limited impact together with the higher profile accorded to culture through the CPA and other key developments led to the then Libraries, Heritage and Trading Standards (LTHS) to request that the Committee review this area.
- 2.4 Proposals for the review were accepted on 10th January 2006 and Councillors Compton, Dodd and Stanley were nominated onto the three councillor Panel. Officers from the Performance and Development Directorate and LTHS developed, in consultation with Councillors, an outline of the objectives, methodology and timescales. (Attached as appendix 1)

3. Findings and Recommendations

- 3.1 The first meeting of the Panel was held on 27th February 2006. Given the tight timescales it was agreed that the Panel would focus on collecting evidence in order to achieve the following objectives:
1. Assess the purpose, relevancy and success of the Current Strategy.
 2. What level of priority should be accorded to Culture within the County Council? Is a Strategy required to ensure that strategic and service development reflect the priority assigned to Culture by the County Council?
 3. How are best practice Councils' promoting Culture within their areas?
 4. Identify the improvements that are required to ensure that culture is promoted in accordance with the priority that has been accorded to it by the County Council.

Objective 1- Assess the purpose, relevancy and success of the Current Strategy.

- 3.2 Before the Panel ascertained the purpose, relevancy and success of the current strategy it sought to define culture. After lengthy discussion the Panel found that the term 'culture' and 'cultural' were loose terms and were not particularly helpful. Thereafter at future meetings of the Panel (and for the remainder of this report) the term Culture, Leisure and Sport was used as it was felt that this best encapsulated what the cultural strategy was about and, more importantly, it was a phrase that was more understandable by the public.
- 3.3 The purpose of the Strategy is to
- Generate support for the wide range of cultural projects and initiatives on our county.
 - Focus on our vision 'to create a rich cultural life in Warwickshire which brings communities together, fulfils individual potential and contributes to a healthy environment and economy'
 - Improve the quality of life of everyone who lives, works in or visits our County.
- 3.4 These objectives of the Strategy are pursued through the four key themes (see 2.2 above).
- 3.5 In seeking to ascertain the relevancy and success of the strategy the Panel sought to establish the influence that the Strategy had had on both service planning and provision within the County Council and the extent to which the Strategy had shaped the delivery of services at a borough/district level.
- 3.6 In terms of service planning and provision within the Council it was noted by the Panel that the Strategy has been a key-driving document within LTHS. However correspondence with other departments suggested that the strategy has had a very limited impact on service planning and provision within County Council departments. The reasons for this primarily stem from the fact that the document was seen as a departmental strategy (for LTHS) rather than one, which had corporate applicability. In addition to the limited impact there also seemed to be limited awareness of the Strategy' existence or what was contained therein.
- 3.7 This lack of impact, however, does not necessarily mean that cultural, leisure or sport activities are not pursued by other departments of the Council. The Panel were aware of the good work that is being undertaken by the Children, Young People and Families directorate and also of the work that is undertaken by Environment and Economy to maintain footways and pathways. However in both of these cases the Panel felt that work was undertaken in spite of the cultural strategy rather than as a result of it.
- 3.8 An underlying flaw that the Panel established at a very early stage was the lack of 'specific measurables' attached to the cultural strategy. Whilst all those (internally and externally) who provided feedback to the Panel mentioned the usefulness of the process which led to the strategy and the laudable aims contained therein, all referred to the absence of an action plan

as a key weakness of the Strategy and one which had the greatest impact in ensuring that the strategy would have a negligible impact.

3.9 This was a view that was echoed by the Boroughs and Districts. A copy of the responses received are attached as appendix 2 but in essence the view of the Districts can be summarised as:

- The content and the process leading to the production of the strategy was good.
- However the Strategy had had a very limited impact on service planning and provision at District/Borough level.
- The Strategy had been weakened by the absence of any action plan or follow up work on implementation.
- Alternative vehicles for the promotion of culture, leisure and sport should be explored.
- All welcomed the opportunity to undertake further partnership work in this area.

Objective 2- What level of priority should be accorded to Culture within the County Council? Is a Strategy required to ensure that strategic and service development reflect the priority assigned to Culture by the County Council?

- 3.10 In discussing the level of priority that should be accorded to culture, leisure and sport within the County Council, the Panel had lengthy discussions as to what the reasons for such prioritisation should be. Was the promotion of culture, leisure and sport an objective per se or should culture, leisure and sport be used as an 'enabler' towards the achievement of other objectives.
- 3.11 The discussions above must be seen within the context of national developments. In general there has been a higher profile assigned to culture as evidenced by the creation of the Department of Culture, Media and Sport and the subsequent requirements that local authorities produce 'cultural' strategies. This has since been supplemented by developments within the CPA where future inspections will comprise a 'cultural' block.
- 3.12 There is, therefore, a need to promote culture, leisure and sport within the County. In itself, the promotion of culture, leisure and sport can help in the social, economic and environmental well being of an area and its residents. In addition as an enabler, culture, leisure and sport can also assist in the delivery of other objectives such the health agenda, establishing cohesive communities or assisting in the regeneration of specific or whole areas. It is this latter role as an enabler that has proven most useful for councils. In terms of priorities and resources, cultural services tend to be low on the list of priorities and this reflects the public mood which tends to place greater emphasis on education and the environment than it does on the promotion of cultural activities.
- 3.13 It is, however, far easier to justify the promotion of culture, leisure and sport when it is demonstrated how the promotion of such activities helps to achieve

the objectives that residents feel are important. Thus, for example, Nottingham has used the promotion of culture, leisure and sport to bring communities together and avoid some of the tensions that were experienced during 2001 in northern cities. Manchester has used the promotion of culture, leisure and sport to assist in the regeneration of the city centre and other run down areas.

- 3.14 Although the Panel recognised the importance of culture, leisure and sport per se, it was felt that the promotion of culture, leisure and sport should be towards the enablement of other objectives-and therefore the level of priority that should be accorded by the Council should be dictated to a large degree by the extent to which it contributes towards the delivery of overall objectives. This along with the fact that there is no longer a DCMS requirement for a cultural strategy has meant that the Panel are of the opinion that a new cultural strategy is not the right way forward and that alternative vehicles for the promotion of culture, leisure and sport should be used. These alternatives are explored in more depth in paragraphs 3.19 to 3.23 below.

Objective 3-How are best practice Councils' promoting Culture within their areas?

- 3.15 During discussions at meetings of the Panel, the difficulties in obtaining best practice information were highlighted. Best practice authorities in the sphere of culture, leisure and sport tended on the whole to be unitary urban authorities. It was therefore agreed that comparisons would be made with the neighbouring shire authorities.
- 3.16 Subsequent desktop research revealed the difficulty in obtaining cultural strategies which, in itself, suggested the relevancy of prior cultural strategies and the profile that was accorded to culture within those areas. Of the two that were obtained, Worcestershire and Leicestershire it was noticeable that action plans were either appended to the document or referred to within the main document.
- 3.17 Discussions were also held with the DCMS. A telephone conversation with the Department revealed that for comparative purposes, the best practice cultural strategy authorities were regarded as Dorset, Essex and Hampshire. All of these cultural strategies contained measurable targets to ensure that the strategy was transformed from a paper document into one that had a positive impact with the community.
- 3.18 However in terms of future development, it was noted that the DCMS was moving away from stand alone cultural strategies which, it was felt, did little to incorporate culture leisure and sport into mainstream council activities. Instead it was felt that a far better option, and one that was being employed increasingly by authorities was to 'marble cake ' culture leisure and sport into 'live' outcome-driven documents such as local area agreements and community strategies.

Objective 4 Identify the improvements that are required to ensure that culture is promoted in accordance with the priority that has been accorded to it by the County Council.

- 3.19 In analysing the effectiveness of the Strategy, the role and priority of culture and best practice elsewhere, the Panel were mindful of the fact that improvements would need to be identified to address deficiencies and promote culture, leisure and sport within agreed priorities.
- 3.20 During initial investigations, it became evident that the current cultural strategy had not been successful. Whilst there were a number of factors that contributed to this, the existence of a 'stand alone' strategy was not conducive to the promotion of the County Council objectives. Nor does it accord with current thinking within the DCMS and it is therefore recommended that no steps be undertaken to replace the current cultural strategy.
- 3.21 For the sake of transparency and communication, it is recommended that the term culture be replaced with culture, leisure and sport. Furthermore it is also suggested that rather than viewing the promotion of culture, leisure and sport per se, developments in this area be aligned to the achievement of other community objectives. Culture, Leisure and Sports objectives are far more likely to be implemented within the context of local area agreements than they are through stand alone cultural strategies.
- 3.22 In proposing local area agreements as a vehicle for the promotion of culture, leisure and sport, the Panel were mindful of recent thinking which stresses the importance of profile and championing such cross cutting issues to ensure that they are not lost within the four blocks. Accordingly it is proposed that the feasibility of a website portal for cultural activities in Warwickshire and a Champions Forum be investigated to ensure that the issues of culture, leisure and sport are both promoted on a general level and 'marble caked' into the development of the local area agreement.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 That the final report of the review of the Cultural Strategy be approved;
- 4.2 That the report be passed onto Cabinet with the following recommendations:
- e) That no steps be undertaken to replace the current cultural strategy 2003-06 with another strategy;
 - f) That future work in this area be referred to as Culture, Leisure and Sport;

- g) Notwithstanding 2. a) above the current cultural strategy be assimilated in the overall promotion of culture leisure and sport within the development of the local area agreement and existing community strategies;
- h) That amongst the options being explored to develop services in this area; consideration be given to the feasibility of a County Wide Cultural 'Champions' Forum and a website portal providing a single point of access for all cultural, leisure and sports activities within Warwickshire.

4.3 That an update on the progress of the recommendations contained in the report be submitted to the January meeting of the Scrutiny Committee.

Councillors:

Josie Compton
Richard Dodd
Mick Stanley

July 2006

Cultural Strategy Review

Introduction

In 2003 the County Council formally adopted the Warwickshire Cultural Strategy. The Strategy was developed in conjunction with all five Boroughs/Districts following extensive consultation with stakeholders and in accordance with guidance from the Department of Culture, Media and Sport.

To date the Strategy has had a limited impact on the County Council's strategic planning and reference to corporate priorities and the Strategy have been implicit rather than explicit. In examining the efficacy of the Strategy, the time is also opportune to review the priority with which the Authority assigns to culture particularly in the light of the new CPA framework which will give greater emphasis during assessment on cultural services than was previously the case. In examining the Strategy at this time regard will need to be given to the Modernisation agenda both at a local and national level.

Membership

Councillors Compton, Dodd and Stanley.

Objectives

- What level of priority should be accorded to Culture within the County Council? Is a Strategy required to ensure that strategic and service development reflect the priority assigned to Culture by the County Council?
- Assess the purpose, relevancy and success of the Current Strategy.
- How are best practice Councils' promoting Culture within their areas?
- Identify the improvements that are required to ensure that culture is promoted in accordance with the priority that has been accorded to it by the County Council.

Methodology

The Panel will research and collect evidence principally through three select committee sessions and will co-ordinate, assess and analyse information through further meetings where appropriate. The information gathered at the meetings will be supplemented by briefing papers and background information.

To achieve the objectives, the Panel will seek to draw upon the expertise of several departments to ensure that the findings and recommendations of the Panel are well reasoned and backed up by evidence. Accordingly the key departments that will be required are:

- LTHS
- PTES
- Education
- Performance and Development
- District Councils

Timescale/Timetable

Investigations to be completed by 28th April 2006.

Report to Adult and Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee 12th July 2006.

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Timescale</i>
Review Panel authorised by Committee	10 th January 2006
Briefing 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree objectives, methodology and timescale. Arrange format and content for future meetings • Obtain background and context to review. • Finalise dates for future meetings 	tbc (late February)
Briefing 2 Assessing the current situation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What level of priority should be accorded to Culture within the County Council? Is a Strategy required to ensure that strategic and service development reflect the priority assigned to Culture by the County Council? • Assess the purpose, relevancy and success of the Current Strategy. 	tbc (early March)
<u>Briefing 3</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are best practice Councils promoting Culture within their areas? • Identify the improvements that are required to ensure that culture is promoted in accordance with the priority that has been accorded to it by the County Council. 	tbc (mid March)
Final Meeting Analysis of findings and recommendations	April
Report to full committee	12 th July 2006

Resources

Officer Support provided:

- Technical/Expertise: LTHS
- Policy/Administrative: Corporate Review Officer

Contacts

WCC- Bill Basra, Corporate Review Officer, GC51 Shire Hall, Warwick. Tel: 01926 476828.
Email:billbasra@warwickshire.gov.uk

North Warwickshire Borough Council

Within your email of 8th March, you refer to the fact that "some of the work in promoting culture lies at district level". Whilst this is undoubtedly true, I think the County Council has to accept that, within the public sector, the majority of this activity is undertaken at district/borough council level. This is certainly the case in Warwickshire.

With regard to your specific questions, I shall take them in the order in which they were presented in your email:

1) The County Cultural Strategy has had very little impact or influence on service planning and/or provision in North Warwickshire. The process through which the Strategy was produced was of far more value than the document itself. This is particularly true in respect of the partnership between the County Council and the districts through which the Strategy evolved and in respect of the work undertaken locally by the consultants who helped to develop the Strategy.

The eventual document, however, presented more of a vision for culture, rather than a Strategy for cultural provision and development. Unfortunately, the Strategy failed to clearly identify the priorities, objectives and targets for cultural development in Warwickshire. It had no defined outcomes, no action plan, no means by which to monitor, review and evaluate (measure) its achievements (or otherwise). It contained no sense of accountability and, therefore, no sense of common ownership.

The County Cultural Strategy, however, did provide a partial context for work subsequently undertaken by external consultants in North Warwickshire, who were commissioned to produce a Strategic Review of (the Borough Council's) Leisure Services. Whilst this process has not reached a definitive conclusion, due account was taken of the county perspective. Of greater significance has been the North Warwickshire Community Plan (now the Sustainable Community Plan) and the lead it has given in respect of culture's contribution to the achievement of local objectives and priorities for community safety, health and well-being, young people and inter-generational work, the environment, social inclusion, etc.

2) I find it very difficult to comment on how culture has been promoted within the county. I am certainly unaware of any significant activity led by the County Council in North Warwickshire.

3) The level of priority that has been accorded to culture to date has been low. Its significance is beginning to be realised nationally (for it has always been valued at a local, community level - and not just in North Warwickshire) in respect of the potentially enormous and positive contribution that it has to make to community cohesion and development, capacity building and social inclusion, again most particularly in the areas of community safety, health and well-being, young people, the environment, the economy, education and lifelong learning and so on. It is no surprise, therefore, that CPA will, in future, include a cultural services block. I also expect to see "culture" feature within Warwickshire's Local Area Agreement, given its ability to impact in the Children and Young People, Healthier Communities and Older

People, Safer and Stronger Communities and Economic Development and Enterprise "blocks". It is perhaps through CPA and LAAs, as well as through Community Partnerships and county and district "cultural champions"/portfolios, that the profile of culture will be raised.

Given the foregoing, and the fact that the original Strategy was produced in partnership between the County Council and the five boroughs/districts, I would welcome the opportunity for the authorities to meet again in order to discuss these points.

Nuneaton and Bedworth

The creation of a cultural strategy for Warwickshire was a valuable exercise in that it brought those key managers in local government across Warwickshire involved in the delivery of the service together. It also helped us discuss common issues / problems and develop joint ideas.

The strategy however ran into trouble when the government rationalised the strategies required by local government and Culture was one of those axed.

The development of an action plan for both Warwickshire and each district really needed to be produced after publication but no further meetings happened.

In terms of Nuneaton and Bedworth we were reorganised at the time of the strategy publication and elements of Culture were removed from my remit. Also Recycling Targets took precedent in terms of my own and the Council's priority. Since then some areas Of Culture have again returned, although apart from a service development plan we still do not have a long term action plan.

A cultural strategy also needs to point to other strategies and is not much use on its own as it is an overarching document. We have since produced an Arts Strategy, Strategy for Play areas and working on a Strategy for Parks, the parks service is restructured to local communities, our Museum has MLA accreditation, the Civic Hall was refurbished, and the Leisure Trust has a business plan. Therefore we are in much better shape than when we last looked at creating a Cultural Strategy Document.

The tide is also turning as Culture as a non statutory service is moving forward with Children's Services, Crime and Disorder - Diversion of youth activities, The health agenda maintaining healthy activities and tackling obesity, older people services and their leisure needs, Regeneration and pleasant environment- livability. If that's not enough as you mention CPA will also have a Cultural Services block to increase the profile.

Community Plans and Local Area Agreements will also demand better leisure time activities and more joined up thinking between agencies. I am not sure that headings in current headings in the Warwickshire Cultural Strategy still apply given the above which will now influence all future Corporate Plans and Strategic thinking.

At present we do work with County Cultural Services, but I am certain that we will, and must work more closely with County and other districts in the future. This was shown when a meeting on the Children Services took place in Nuneaton in February where we shared best practice and common goals. I would therefore welcome a meeting to consider Culture again and links to tackle the new agenda.

Rugby Borough Council

Following the 2000 DCMS announcement that LA's be required to produce Cultural Strategies, I was therefore eternally grateful therefore when Chris and his WCC team co-ordinated the development of a County wide document. It was at the time the optimum solution both financially and in terms of staffing resources. The fact that the DCMS pulled the plug on the need for Cultural Strategies some 2 months before the statutory deadline, if I remember correctly, probably speaks volumes as to why conflicting messages are being given and received at all levels.

Has the Cultural Strategy influenced service planning?

I have to confess that within Rugby it would be marginal. RBC produced its 2003 - 2008 Leisure Strategy, and 2003 Tourism Action Plan, both comprehensive documents with Action Plans on 10 cultural sections, early on in the Cultural Strategy process.

To cover the needs and differences in each of the Boroughs and the County, it is probably inevitable that the document will end up being written in broad principles, with each authority developing individual Action Plans. The RBC's Action Plans are in accordance with the Cultural Strategy priorities, and this has been re-affirmed through the review of the Leisure Strategy undertaken at the end of 2005. My view is that the key driver will always be what is required at a local level, and therefore LSP's and LAA's will be of more relevance, where the county and the respective Borough should be working together to influence outcomes at the local level. The County Council may have a requirement to have a strategy to confirm how it intends to inter react with its individual partners at a local level.

How has culture been promoted within the county?

I believe in general terms that all partners do a fair job, I have a good overview in the south of the County, as I am Head of Leisure in Rugby Borough, live in Warwick District, and my wife works in Stratford District! Invariably level of financial resources committed is a strong influencing factor. My perception of WCC, is that it is very strong on the promotion of the arts, heritage, and life long learning elements, but less so on sports development. For example the WCC reluctance to engage financially with the Greater Warks Sports Partnership is difficult to understand, when all the Districts are signed up and it is the key Warks sports partnership

Level of Priority?

I think it is increasingly critical, to achieving a healthy, safe and balanced community, and the inclusion of a CPA Culture Block indicates that the government is also coming to appreciate the long term benefits

Stratford District Council

The telephone response from Stratford was short and stressed the limited impact that the strategy had had on service planning and provision within that District

Warwick District Council

a) We feel that the strategy has had very little influence on service planning in Warwick District in respect of Leisure. the Community Plan for Warwick District has received a higher profile and therefore a higher priority in this area.

b) We do not feel we can comment on how well culture has been promoted in the County we can only comment on Warwick District.

c) Culture is in a difficult position as a non statutory service which means that it often misses out to other statutory service in budget planning and priority setting by elected members. There is a need for an increased awareness of what "culture" includes and the benefits it can bring to a community. As an example the culture group of the Warwick Partnership found that the projects it was proposing for inclusion in the Community Plan could address all 5 of the themes i.e. Fair, Healthy, Cohesive, Prosperous and Safe - the contribution of culture to the areas we live in need to be made more strongly to local people and elected members.

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee

The Cabinet

Date of Committee

2nd November 2006

Report Title

Catholic provision in Rugby

Summary

This report includes a draft response to the Catholic authority's consultation on Catholic provision in Rugby.

For further information please contact:

Mark Gore
Head of Service (Education Partnerships and School Development)
Tel: 01926 742588
markgore@warwickshire.gov.uk

Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? [please identify relevant plan/budget provision]

No

Background papers

- School Organisation Framework document 2005/10
- Cabinet reports 12.1.06, 9.3.06, 13.7.06 and 12.10.06
- Rugby Area Committee report 21.9.06

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-

Details to be specified

Other Committees

.....

Local Member(s)

- Cllr John Vereker – Caldecott
Cllr Ian Smith – Caldecott
Cllr Richard Dodd – Eastlands & Hillmorton
Cllr Jerry Roodhouse – Eastlands & Hillmorton
Cllr Bryan Levy – Lawford & New Bilton
Cllr Gordon Collett – Dunchurch

Other Elected Members

- Cllr John Whitehouse
Cllr Katherine King – *“I wholeheartedly support the hard work that is being undertaken; this is an*

excellent opportunity to secure 3-16 Catholic education in Rugby for generations to come”

CYP&F O&S Spokespersons for information:

Cllr Helen McCarthy

Cllr Richard Grant – *“supports the proposed response by the Children, Young People & Families Directorate”*

Cllr Jill Dill-Russell – *“noted the report”*

- Cabinet Member Cllr John Burton
- Other Cabinet Members consulted Cllr Izzi Seccombe
- Chief Executive
- Legal Richard Freeth – *“fine”*
- Finance David Clarke, Strategic Director of Resources – *“fine”*
- Other Strategic Directors
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals

FINAL DECISION **NO**

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet 23rd November 2006
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee Rugby Area Committee
- Further Consultation

The Cabinet – 2nd November 2006

Catholic provision in Rugby

Report of the Strategic Director for Children, Young People and Families

Recommendations:

- (1) That the Cabinet comment on and agree the draft response to the Diocesan School Commission's consultation document at Appendix A.
- (2) That the Area Committee consider this matter further and the Cabinet receive a further report on the outcome of the consultation process at its meeting on 23rd November

1. Background

- 1.1 At their meeting on 12th October the Cabinet received a report on the future of Catholic provision in Rugby which included a draft consultation document prepared by the Diocesan Schools Commission (DSC) of the Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham, the governors of Bishop Wulstan School and of four Catholic primary schools. A final version of the consultation document has been sent to all elected Members.
- 1.2 The proposals contained in the consultation document were, in brief:
 - the creation of a federation of the four Catholic primary schools in Rugby including Our Lady's at Princethorpe
 - the closure of Bishop Wulstan School and the opening of a new 'fresh start' secondary school with effect from 1st September 2007 which would join the federation to create a federation of schools for children and young people aged from 3 to 16.

2. The response of the Local Authority

- 2.1 Key to the success of the proposed new arrangements is the viability of the secondary school and the level of support for it and the new federation from the local community and, in particular, from the local Catholic community. One of

the purposes of the consultation is to gauge that support. It is suggested therefore that the Cabinet consider the outcome of the consultation at their meeting on 23rd November and at this stage submit an interim response to the consultation document setting out the Authority's position.

2.2 A draft response to the consultation is given at **Appendix A**.

3. Suggested recommendations

It is suggested:

- That the Cabinet comment on and agree the draft response to the DSC's consultation document at Appendix A.
- That the Area Committee consider this matter further and the Cabinet receive a further report on the outcome of the consultation process at its meeting on 23rd November.

MARION DAVIS
Strategic Director for Children,
Young People and Families

Saltisford Office Park
Ansell Way
Warwick

18th October 2006

My ref: EPSD/MG/ADG

Children, Young People and Families

Father Marcus Stock,
Director of Schools,
Diocesan Schools Commission,
61 Coventry Road,
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BIRMINGHAM. B46 3EA

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November 2006

Dear Father Marcus,

Proposals for Catholic Provision in Rugby

I am writing on behalf of the County Council in response to the Consultation Document published on 9th October on Catholic provision in Rugby.

1. The Council wish to place on record its appreciation of the hard work and determination of the officers of the Diocesan Schools Commission and the Governors of the Catholic schools in bringing forward these proposals.
2. Key to the success of the proposed arrangements is the support of the Catholic community. The Council welcomes the consultation as a means of gauging the support of the local community and in particular the local Catholic community for these proposals.
3. The Council is supportive in principle of greater collaboration between schools, and the proposed federation could provide significant benefits including:
 - unified governance for Catholic schools in Rugby
 - greater curricular continuity and progression
 - a larger staff group sharing expertise and experience and able to offer a wider range of opportunities to children in the federated schools
 - professional opportunities for staff
 - possible economies of scale.
4. The 'fresh start' proposed for the secondary school could also have significant benefits:
 - a new school in new or refurbished accommodation
 - new leadership and staffing
 - new arrangements for governance
 - the opportunity to develop secure strategies to promote good attendance and behaviour, high quality teaching and learning, recruitment of staff and staff development, recruitment of pupils and strong links with the community, and above all to promote higher standards of achievement and attainment.

5. The Council is also committed to the use of school facilities by the local community and would seek reassurance that the Governors of the new school would ensure community access to facilities in the Sports Hall.
6. The Council is supportive of the efforts of the Catholic authorities in seeking alternative ways forward to preserve Catholic secondary provision in Rugby. The Council recognises that a Catholic school contributes to the diversity of provision and has attracted pupils both Catholic and of other faiths and from the families of migrant workers now living in Rugby.

However, it is recognised that levels of subscription to the school remain low. Moreover, while there has been improvement in the percentage of pupils achieving five A*-C in 2006, at 23.2% this remains below the DfES floor target and the Council remain of the view that the levels of attainment at Bishop Wulstan School are unacceptable. Any alternative proposals have to be judged against the criterion of whether the new arrangements would make a very significant positive impact on outcomes for children and young people in Rugby, and in particular levels of attainment.

7. We need, therefore, to be assured so far as possible that the new school proposed within the 3-16 federation can deliver the improvement in standards necessary. Part of that judgement will depend on the new school's ability to attract the support of the Catholic community to ensure higher levels of subscription and therefore the capacity to secure and sustain improvement. The consultation process set out in the DSC's document and the information the DSC are seeking through a parental survey will be very important in helping to make that judgement about viability and capacity.
8. We look forward, therefore, to receiving the outcome of the consultation exercise to assist the Council in making the judgement about the school's future viability and the capacity to secure the necessary improvement.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Gore
Head of Service (Education Partnerships and School Development)

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee

Cabinet

Date of Committee

2 November 2006

Report Title

**Chedham's Yard, Wellesbourne:
Investment and Regeneration**

Summary

Chedham's Yard, a historic forge and wheelwright's yard in Wellesbourne, won the national final of the BBC programme 'Restoration Village' in September. As a result, the project will secure £1 million investment from the Heritage Lottery Fund, subject to satisfying the necessary requirements.

The project is promoted by the local community, with support from (among others) staff from the Warwickshire Museum Service. This is a further example of the Museum Service's role in supporting and enabling engagement by local communities with their local heritage.

The report outlines the potential benefits for Wellesbourne, and more widely for Warwickshire, and sets out the approach officers propose to take to supporting the local community with their project.

**For further information
please contact:**

Helen Maclagan
Head of Museum Service
Tel: 01926 418127
helenmaclagan@warwickshire.gov.uk

**Would the recommended
decision be contrary to the
Budget and Policy
Framework?**

No.

Background papers

None

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-

Details to be specified

Other Committees

.....

Local Member(s)

Not applicable

Other Elected Members

Councillor F McCarney – “I am happy to support the proposals.”

Councillor R Dodd

Councillor Mrs J Compton – “I approve the report and consider WCC should offer all assistance to the project.”

Cabinet Member

Councillor C Hayfield

Chief Executive

.....

Legal

Alison Hallworth - approved

Finance

Paul Walsh - approved

Other Chief Officers

.....

District Councils

.....

Health Authority

.....

Police

.....

Other Bodies/Individuals

.....

FINAL DECISION YES

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

Further consideration by this Committee

.....

To Council

.....

To Cabinet

.....

To an O & S Committee

.....

To an Area Committee

.....

Further Consultation

.....

Agenda No

Cabinet - 2 November 2006

Chedham's Yard, Wellesbourne: Investment and Regeneration

Report of the Strategic Director, Adult, Health & Community Services

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to endorse the approach proposed.

1 Chedham's Yard

Chedham's Yard is the workshop of a professional wheelwright and blacksmith, Bill Chedham, who laid down his tools in the 1960s, since when the site has remained largely untouched, leaving behind a perfectly preserved portrait of his working life and conditions. The yard was in the hands of the same family for over 100 years; in 1992 it was bought by Wellesbourne Parish Council to preserve it.

While the site is not currently listed, English Heritage says: 'Although the building is conventional and unassuming in its construction and form, it is this quality that makes it archetypal of workshop provision in rural industries in the 19th century.'

Wellesbourne Parish Council's vision for the sustainable future of the site contains the following deliverables:

- To preserve as far as practicable, the existing atmosphere of the Yard.
- To maintain the Yard within the context of Wellesbourne and its environs.
- To create a living, working environment.
- To enable members of the wider community access to understand and enjoy the work of an historical craft.
- To include the Yard in the broader tourist aspect of Wellesbourne, which would require development of walking routes and significant promotion of the existing areas of interest within the village and its surrounds in addition to work on the Yard itself.

The current proposals are to develop the site into an Active Heritage centre 'telling the story of how the forge and the wheelwright played a central part in the village, bringing to life the skills and stories of the generations that worked in the buildings and the yard in a way that will engage and educate the visitor. The site will also provide the home for a number of small businesses with a strong heritage, educational and interpretive element. The future visitors to Chedham's Yard will be a combination of locals learning about their own history, school visits, guided tours by groups and general tourists from outside of the area attracted to this unique venue. The renovated Chedham's Yard provides public access to the site, to the collections, to the history of the site and enable visitors to enjoy the work of an historical craft.'

2 What Winning Means

Winning 'Restoration' is a tremendous triumph and a big boost to local morale and enthusiasm, but in many ways it is the beginning rather than the end of the process. One million pounds has been pledged, but there is a lot of work needed to unlock it – detailed plans and proposals to satisfy the stringent requirements of the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) will be needed. Provided that the project can satisfy these requirements, with which HLF will provide some support, the sum of £1 million will be forthcoming to implement their proposals - effectively this is a fast track application to the lottery, with success ensured if all criteria are properly met (ie bypassing the competitive bidding element). The process is nonetheless likely to take 12-24 months, and maybe longer to implement fully. It is likely that the lead will be taken by a (to be formed) Building Preservation Trust, supported by the Friends organisation.

3 The Role of WCC So Far

The Parish Council first approached the Warwickshire Museum Service in 2003 for advice on how to secure the future of Chedham's Yard. We have provided advice and guidance on various issues including conservation plan and feasibility studies, recording and safeguarding of the artefacts and historic buildings, funding opportunities, formation of Friends Group, educational possibilities, and developing productive media contacts etc. This work forms part of our wider role in supporting and enabling communities to engage with their own heritage.

The Tourism team in Economy & Environment Directorate have secured the interest of Advantage West Midlands as a potential additional funder for the project. They have also been active in promoting the site and the open days to visitors on the EnjoyWarwickshire.com website.

4 Supporting Community Heritage across Warwickshire

The approach taken to Chedham's Yard is a good example of the broader way in which the Warwickshire Museum Service has been working since the Best Value Review of the Museum Strategy was undertaken in 2002. One outcome was the development of a service more county-wide in coverage, through a network of partnerships with locally based bodies. As a result, a number of initiatives have been launched to encourage and assist communities to engage with, and celebrate, their own heritage.

With funding through a regional programme financed by the Department of Culture Media and Sport under the banner 'Renaissance in the Regions', we have been able to appoint a part-time Community Museums Officer (Glynis Powell) who works with smaller independent and voluntary museums and heritage groups across the county. This post actively reaches a range of both professional and voluntary museums and heritage groups across the county with a circulation network of over 40 groups. Glynis offers both direct long-term support to groups, as in the case of Wellesbourne, and provides broader signposting and brokering in organisational, training, marketing and museum aspects; the programme also provides a small grants programme.

The range of activities and visitors involved in projects of the network means that this post is well placed to promote and broker relationships with other County services including, for example libraries, through social service support to community transport and special education.

While the level of support naturally varies and attempts to respond to the professional and social need of the client, Glynis intends Chedhams Yard to remain a priority in her part-time workload in order to ensure the continuing success of the project.

A parallel initiative is 'Extracting Warwickshire's Past: Neighbourhood Outreach Strategy', a project funded by the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund, via English Heritage. The funding began in January 2006 and will continue until the end of February 2007. It has been designed to promote public understanding and appreciation of the archaeology and heritage within areas affected by aggregate extraction. A series of outreach pilot projects have been delivered and received favourably by their target audience. By the end of the project a strategy document will be prepared which will outline the results of our work. This will subsequently be used to help inform our Neighbourhood priorities over the next three years. The project aims to encourage local groups and individuals, and to help them develop the skills, to investigate and learn about their local heritage – and then to become active guardians of it.

In partnership with the Warwickshire Geological Conservation Group, Warwickshire Museum's Keeper of Geology is currently contributing to a forthcoming book celebrating Warwickshire's landscapes and rich geological heritage. Working with the same group, the Keeper of Geology is providing expertise for an ALSF-funded scheme in the east of the county, raising public awareness of Ice Age history, environments and ancient climate change.

On the Natural History side, the Local Biodiversity Action Plan process, the RINGs newsletter and the Big Tree Hunt of Warwickshire, Coventry & Solihull all help to promote the natural heritage to local groups and communities and encourage direct participation.

5 Further Opportunities and Links with Education and Craft Skills

Success on 'Restoration' is a good springboard. Advantage West Midlands have already expressed a provisional interest in becoming involved as this project should have economic benefits for both developing the area's tourism product and developing a skills base in traditional crafts.

Part of the vision for Chedhams is for the promotion of heritage craft skills. The tools and paraphernalia left behind, together with the memories of Bill Chedham himself, provide an opportunity to record and preserve working techniques of rural crafts which might otherwise be lost forever. The original leather bellows and the early horizontal sawing bench are potentially of national significance as examples of 19th century technology.

These skills were vital to the community – this was the craftsman who kept the horses and wagons of the local farmers and gentry in working order. It is hoped that, when restored, the site will feature a working blacksmith, and provide facilities for school visits as well as links with the nearby agricultural college at Moreton Morrell, part of Warwickshire College. Blacksmiths from Moreton Morrell are already involved in the project.

6 Wider Tourism, Heritage and Economic Opportunities

The investment in Chedham's will bring benefits not just to this project. Although the site is not suitable for a major tourist attraction, Chedham's will be an important asset to the locality. Wellesbourne Watermill is on the outskirts of the village and is a complementary attraction. Consideration should be given to joint ticketing arrangements. Although the county has a number of craft centres Chedham's will be unique in having a combination of rural skills being demonstrated. The publicity from "Restoration" is of huge benefit as it has been free and national. Other such attractions would be unlikely to be able to afford similar coverage. This should boost visitor numbers at the outset. It will however, be important to maintain that interest over the longer term.

It is planned that the site will also provide the home for a number of small businesses linked to heritage and education, which will be interwoven into the interpretation of the historical base of the centre. The businesses will focus on the retail of products made on site by the traditional methods of the wheelwright and blacksmith and by other local producers of crafts and trades.

Further benefits should flow from the success of Chedham's – for local businesses, in attracting tourists, and through the expertise which will be shared through the Warwickshire Museums and Heritage Network. Staff will be facilitating links with other WCC and non-WCC contacts.

7 Conclusion

It is proposed that staff of Warwickshire Museum Service, together with colleagues from Tourism and Economic Development (EED) and elsewhere in the County Council as appropriate, will

- continue to provide support and advice to the Friends of Chedham's Yard, whilst ensuring that the project remains community-led.
- assist and facilitate forging of links with other potential partners such as Advantage West Midlands.
- actively encourage sharing of experience gained with other community-based heritage groups through the Museums and Heritage Network and other means.
- seek to maximise the tourism benefit for the County by linking this with the wider visitor offer whilst considering the impacts on the community of Wellesbourne.

GRAEME BETTS
Strategic Director, Adult, Health & Community Services

Shire Hall
Warwick

10 October 2006

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee

The Cabinet

Date of Committee

2nd November 2006

Report Title

Council Housing Disposal Policy

Summary

This report seeks approval to a policy for the disposal of Council housing not required for operational purposes.

For further information please contact:

Geoff Taylor
Deputy Estates Manager
Tel: 01926 412521
geofftaylor@warwickshire.gov.uk

Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework?

No.

Background papers

Minute 16 (sale of Day-Manned Fire-Fighters Houses) of the Policy and Resources Committee on 30 April 1996

Part V of the Housing Act 1985 and Housing Act 2004 regarding Right to Buy.

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-

Details to be specified

Other Committees

.....

Local Member(s)

Other Elected Members

For reference to Spokespersons of the Corporate Services O&S Committee (Councillors D. Booth, G. Atkinson and F. McCarney)

Cabinet Member

Councillor A. J. L. Cockburn:
Approved for consideration

Chief Executive

.....

Legal

Via Barry Jukes: Observations incorporated

Finance

Via Charles Holden: Observations incorporated

District Councils

.....

- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals

FINAL DECISION YES

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

Agenda No

The Cabinet – 2nd November 2006.

Council Housing Properties Policy for Disposal of non-operational housing

Report of the Strategic Director of Resources

Recommendations

That:

- 1) Approval be granted to the Council adopting a policy to offer for sale its 'non operational' housing to tenants at a discount reflecting the discount provisions under the 'Right to Buy' legislation.
- 2) No new service tenancies to be granted of 'non-operational' Council housing.
- 3) Approval be granted to the sale of individual 'non-operational' Council housing in accordance with the above policy on terms and conditions acceptable to the Strategic Directors of Resources and of Performance and Development.

Introduction

1. At the Cabinet meeting on 4th May 2006 officers were asked to propose a housing strategy for County Council owned property and a summary of housing owned by the Council.
2. The Council is a "local authority" for the purposes of Housing Act legislation in particular the Housing Acts 1985 and 2004 concerning the 'Right to Buy'. There are limited grounds upon which the Council can let residential accommodation and avoid the creation of a secure tenancy which would enable the tenant to exercise a right to buy the property.[which are detailed in Appendix A].
3. This report concentrates on 'non-operational' housing, which expression describes properties held by the Council but not in accordance with service needs. Appendix B lists Council owned housing split between operational and 'non-operational' housing.

4. The Council's housing stock is varied, being purpose built or acquired over time. The housing is generally basic in nature and has received little investment or maintenance work over time. Some improvement work such as replacement windows and new boilers has been carried out.
5. The housing stock is divided into 3 categories
 - Operational supporting Service
 - Operational for proposed development (highway improvements)
 - Non-operational

Operational Housing supporting Service

6. These properties include secondary school caretakers housing, Group Homes leased to Care Providers under a service contract or voluntary organisations providing accommodation and care to residents predominantly with learning difficulties or mental illness.

Operational Housing for proposed development

7. A number of houses and other sites have been acquired over time by agreement or in response to a blight notice served by the owner of a property unable to sell property due to a proposed scheme affecting the property at a future date. The majority of these properties relate to the Rugby schemes affecting Newbold Road and Lawford Lane. Formal abandonment of these schemes is required before these properties can be sold. A determination on these matters will be made by the Environment and Economy Directorate when the outcome is known of the Public inquiry held last year relating to the Rugby Western Relief Road scheme.

Non-operational housing

8. The former Education Department determined that there was no operational need for resident caretakers at non-secondary schools. A number of former caretakers houses/bungalows have been re-used by the school for alternative education purposes including nursery provision for example. Before disposing of a caretaker's house the operation of the school must be considered and also the effect of any sale on the retained school in the event of future expansion or closure with sale or redevelopment.
9. Fire fighters housing is no longer required for operational purposes. The majority of fire fighters housing was sold in 1996/7 under the Sale of Day-Manned Fire-Fighters Houses Scheme.
10. The Council also owns 2 'housing pool' properties occupied by former Council employees / spouses. Occupation of these houses is by way of a protected residential tenancy. When these properties are vacated they should be sold on the open market, as their location does not suit service need.

11. Similar to fire fighters housing, property occupied by the Shire Hall caretakers is no longer required for operational needs

Occupation of Housing by Service Tenancy

12. Council housing occupied by school and Shire Hall caretakers and fire fighters housing is let on a service tenancy basis. [In accordance with Appendix A] a service tenant occupying property for the better performance of their duties does not become a 'secure tenant' under the Housing Act and does not acquire a Right to Buy.
13. Accommodation charges for property occupied under a service tenancy vary. Shire hall caretakers pay 1.5% of gross salary. School caretakers pay an accommodation charge ranging from £750 to £1100 per annum indexed to salary increases. Fire fighters housing charges are on a similar low level to school caretakers adjusted for the size of property.

Previous Discount Schemes.

14. The Day-Manned Fire-Fighters Houses Scheme in 1996/7 was based on the relevant Right to Buy discounts, resulting in a maximum discount of 60% from market value.
15. Subsequent to this, individual sales of Shire Hall caretakers accommodation have been approved at a discount of 15%
16. Current Right to Buy legislation provides a discount starting (after a two-year qualifying period) at 32 per cent for houses and rises by 1 per cent per year to a maximum of 60%. However, this is subject to an overriding cap on discount of £26,000 for the West Midlands region. A clause for repayment of the discount is included in the sale agreement on a sliding scale over a 5 year period (previously 3 year period) i.e. repay 100% of the discount in the first year reducing to 80%, 60%, 40%, 20% and then nil in subsequent years in the event of resale of the property.

Current Situation

17. The accommodation charges received for service tenanted housing fall well below market rent. Furthermore the Council is responsible for maintenance of the exterior, structure, heating, water and electricity systems. The Service tenant is only responsible for internal decoration of the property. Annual maintenance costs incurred by the Council often exceed the accommodation charge payable. The Council is not well geared to provide housing for non-operational needs and does not benefit from economies of scale for the maintenance and operation of the housing stock. Housing is not a mainstream property function of the Council; legislation and Landlord obligations in respect of housing differs significantly from other types of property.
18. There is no policy for the disposal or retention of the Council's housing stock. Adoption of a policy would provide members, officers and occupiers

with a framework to consider individual disposals or retention for alternative uses.

Proposed Policy

19. The Council should differentiate between operational and non-operational housing. Where operational property is vacated or is no longer required for operational purposes it should be deemed as non-operational property.
20. Any vacant non-operational property should be considered surplus to requirements and sold unless an alternative Council use is identified and Cabinet gives approval to the changed use.
21. The Council should approach occupiers of non operational Council owned housing to consider purchase at a discount based on the current 'Right to Buy' provisions of the Housing Act as described in paragraph 16 above, subject to a condition requiring repayment of the discount on a disposal within 5 years of purchase ie 100% repayment of discount in year one reducing by 20% for each subsequent year.
22. Any disposal of housing in accordance with this policy to be on terms and conditions acceptable to the Strategic Directors of Resources and of Performance and Development.

Recommendations

23. The Cabinet is recommended to adopt the above policy for the disposal of non-operational housing.

DAVID CLARKE

Strategic Director of
Resources

Shire Hall
Warwick

26 September 2006

APPENDIX A

NATURE OF OCCUPATION OF COUNCIL HOUSING THAT PREVENTS A RIGHT TO BUY BEING CREATED

1. To an employee of the County Council for the better performance of his duties e.g. a caretaker or resident teacher.
2. To a member of the public for a term equivalent to the aggregate period(s) of the occupancy of the property by service tenants over the preceding three years.
3. If a property has not been occupied by a service tenant during the previous three year period, it can still be let to a member of the public for a term not exceeding 12 months provided that, before the grant of the tenancy, he resided out of the district in which the property is situated and that he has obtained employment or an offer of employment in the area. In this event, notice would have to be served on him that the tenancy was for the purpose of meeting his needs for temporary accommodation in the locality, in order to work there and of enabling him to find permanent accommodation.
4. It may be possible to let a property to a student to enable him to attend a designated course at an educational establishment. "Designated course" does have a specific statutory meaning and any proposal would be subject to further advice.
5. Subject to planning permission a property can be let on a business tenancy e.g. as a group home or to a Housing Association, provided that a Court Order has been obtained to exclude the security provisions of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954.
6. Property located within an education establishment.

OPERATIONAL HOUSING

GROUP HOMES

LEAMINGTON SPA	1 East Dene 27 Grove Street 33 Grove Street 34 Southway 36 Southway 38 Southway 49 Rugby Road 8 Dale Street 94 Cubbington Road
NUNEATON	252 Weddington Road 36 Leicester Road
POLESWORTH	32 Station Road
STUDLEY	8 Lansdowne Road
WARWICK	14 Cherry Street 23 Guy Street 23 Hampton Street 24 Coventry Road 4 Broad Street 6 Broad Street 8 Broad Street

SHORT TERM EMERGENCY PLACEMENT ACCOMMODATION

LEAMINGTON SPA	43 Rugby Road
RUGBY	Children & Family Service, The Bridge, 55 Clifton Road

SCHOOL CARETAKERS HOUSING – SECONDARY SCHOOLS

ALCESTER	High School Technology College, Gerard Road St. Benedict's Catholic High School, Kinwarton Road
BEDWORTH	Exhall Grange School & Science College, Wheelwright Lane Nicholas Chamberlaine Technology College, Bulkington Road

COLESHILL	The Coleshill School – a Maths & Computing College
DORDON	Polesworth High School, Dordon Road
HENLEY-IN-ARDEN	High School, Stratford Road
KENILWORTH	School and Sports College, Castle Hall (Sixth Form) School and Sports College, Lower School (Abbey) School and Sports College, Upper School (Priory)
KINETON	High School – Specialised Sports College, Banbury Road
KINGSBURY	School, a Specialist Science & Maths College, Tamworth Road
LEAMINGTON SPA	Campion School and Community College, Sydenham Drive Manor Hall Educational Development Centre, Sandy Lane North Leamington Community School & Arts College, Lower North Leamington Community School & Arts College, Upper Trinity Catholic School, a Specialist Arts & Technology College
NUNEATON	Alderman Smith School, Radnor Drive Etone Community School & Technology College, Leicester Road George Eliot Community School, Raveloe Drive Higham Lane School, a Business & Enterprise College, Shanklin St. Thomas More Catholic School, Greenmoor Road

RUGBY	11 Harris Drive Ashlawn School, Ashlawn Road Bilton School, a Maths & Computing College, Lawford Lane Lawrence Sheriff School, Clifton Road
SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR	Shipston High School, Darlingscote Road
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON	Grammar School for Girls, A Specialist Language College High School, A Maths & Computing Specialist College King Edward VI School, Church Street
WARWICK	Aylesford School and Language College, Shelley Avenue

OPERATIONAL HOUSING ACQUIRED FOR HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES

RUGBY	101 Newbold Road 103 Newbold Road 105 Newbold Road 107 Newbold Road 109 Newbold Road 111 Newbold Road 113 Newbold Road 113a Newbold Road 18 Lawford Lane 20 Lawford Lane 27 Lawford Lane 302 Bilton Road 41 Newbold Road 47 Newbold Road 49 Newbold Road 29 Lawford Lane, Bilton
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NON-OPERATIONAL HOUSING

SCHOOLS CARETAKERS HOUSING – PRIMARY SCHOOLS

COLESHILL	St. Edwards Catholic Primary School, Packington Lane
HATTON	The Ferncumbe CE Primary School, The Green
NUNEATON	Wembrook Primary School, Avenue Road
STOCKTON	School House, Napton Road

HOUSING POOL – OCCUPIED BY RETIRED STAFF,
PROTECTED TENANCY

ALCESTER	Polkerris, Oversley Green
ASTON CANTLOW	3 The Gables, Burbage Road

SHIRE HALL CARETAKERS HOUSING

WARWICK	131 Hanworth Road 28 Cape Road 31 Shakespeare Avenue
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FIREFIGHTERS' HOUSING

COLESHILL	22 Lawnsdale Close 41 Wingfield Road 57 Parkfield Road
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AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee Cabinet

Date of Committee 2 November 2006

Report Title Delivering the Customer Service & Access Strategy – Funding options for a joint One Stop Shop in North Warwickshire

Summary This reports sets out the proposed funding options for Warwickshire County Council’s participation with North Warwickshire Borough Council in a joint One Stop Shop in Atherstone

For further information please contact:

David Carter Strategic Director Performance & Development Tel 01926 412564 davidcarter@warwickshire.gov.uk	Kushal Birla Head of Customer Service & Access Tel: 01926 412013 kushalbirla@warwickshire.gov.uk
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Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? No

Background papers

Customer Service Access Strategy - Cabinet, 27 June 2006

Delivering the Customer Service & Access Strategy – Progress report and Direction of Travel Cabinet, 7 September 2006

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- Details to be specified

- Other Committees
- Local Member(s)
- Other Elected Members Cllr David Booth
- Cabinet Member Cllr Peter Fowler
- Chief Executive
- Legal David Carter
- Finance David Clarke, Chris Jukes, Charles Holden

- Other Chief Officers
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals Sarah Duxbury, Jane Pollard

FINAL DECISION YES

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

Cabinet - 2 November 2006

Delivering the Customer Service & Access Strategy – Funding options for a joint One Stop Shop in North Warwickshire

Report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

- Approve the utilisation of £35,000 capital underspend from the Stratford Register Office to support the capital contribution to the joint one stop shop in Atherstone.
- Notes that the Strategic Director for Performance and Development will fund from within existing resources the additional £25,000 towards the capital contribution.
- Notes that the revenue funding will be the subject of a future bid to the Modernisation Fund.

1.0 Background

On 27th June Cabinet considered and approved the Customer Service & Access Strategy.

The Strategy outlines Warwickshire County Council's vision for customer service over the next three years. It aims to put the customer at the heart of everything the Council does. It recognises the importance of customers' needs and attempts to ensure that our services are driven and shaped by all those who live, work and visit Warwickshire by embedding a passion for customer focus across the organisation.

To support the achievement of the Vision, five themes have been identified which set out the key areas which we will address with respect to the redesigning of the customer experience. It is through these themes that the detailed action plans, objectives and targets for the Customer Service & Access Strategy will sit.

- **Efficient, effective and customer-focused processes**
- **Customer driven technology**
- **Localised services and solutions**
- **Empowered, committed and customer-focused staff**
- **Working in partnership with all public service providers in Warwickshire**

This approach capitalises on the opportunity to deliver existing and new services cost effectively, by understanding and re-engineering our back and front office processes from end to end. The Strategy recognises that the structure and organisation of the Council is not as important to our customers as their experience when accessing Council services. It is the ease of accessibility, quality and speed of response that counts and the associated projects and initiatives aim to improve significantly the quality of customer experience in Warwickshire.

2.0 Progress update

Following agreement of the Customer Service & Access Strategy, the Cabinet considered a progress report on the projects within the strategy at their meeting on 7th September. 2006. The Strategy is committed to delivering five Neighbourhood pilots by March 2007, but the momentum behind this programme activity is building and the County Council is beginning to benefit from additional opportunities for localised delivery of services through offers made by our partners.

To reflect the 'fast-changing' nature of this area of work, the table below provides an outline of the current position statement for all the agreed and potential projects associated with the Customer Service And Access Strategy. It provides the context in which the proposed development of a joint, One Stop Shop facility in Atherstone would be made:

Ref.	One Stop Shop/ Neighbourhood pilot	Partners (In addition to WCC)	Funding status	Status
1	Kenilworth	Warwick DC	N/A	Operational
2	Kings House, Bedworth	N/a	Approved – 26/06/06	Expected operational by Feb 2007
3	Interactive kiosk pilot	Rugby BC	Approved – 26/06/06	Expected operational by Feb 2007
4	Shire Hall, Warwick	Warwick DC	TBC	Expected operational by March 2007
5	Whitnash	Warwick District Council, Police	Approved – 07/09/06	Expected operational by March 2007
6	Leamington	Warwick DC	Business case to be presented to Cabinet on 01/02/07	Business case under development
7	Stockingford Extended Services in Schools	TBC	Business case to be presented to Cabinet on 07/12/06	Initial Stakeholder meeting held
8	North Warwickshire Borough Council House, Atherstone	North Warwickshire BC	Participation in project agreed by Cabinet on 07/09/06	Funding options presented to Cabinet 02/11/06
9	Nuneaton Town Hall	Nuneaton & Bedworth BC	TBC – Business case to be developed	Early discussions being held with Borough Council representatives
10	Southam Town Centre	Stratford DC	TBC – Business case to be developed	Early discussions being held with District representatives

3.0 Objectives of this report

On 7th September, 2006 the Cabinet made the following recommendation:

'The Cabinet approves Warwickshire County Council's participation with North Warwickshire Borough Council in a joint One Stop Shop and a further report being submitted to Cabinet on the 2nd November 2006 to consider options for funding.'

The remainder of this report therefore provides an outline of the proposed project and outlines the associated funding options.

4.0 Project outline

North Warwickshire Borough Council (NWBC) are currently considering a scheme to remodel the Council House reception area to provide a One Stop Shop. Paragon Interior Groups plc (the same Company that worked on the Kenilworth One Stop Shop) have been awarded the design and build contract.

It is envisaged that the NWBC One Stop Shop will provide a fast track meet and greet area, advisors to deal with specific queries or requests for service, interview rooms for the public and for use by, for example, the Citizens Advice Bureau, computers for use by visitors to access the website and encourage self service, space for the Planning divisions microfiche reader that provides information on planning and building regulation applications.

The benefits of working jointly with the Borough on this scheme would include:-

- Pooling resources to improve services to customers
- Joined up service delivery for both authorities through a common front door, seamless and transparent.
- Opportunity to review our joint Customer Relationship Management approaches with a view to reducing transaction costs.
- Removal of customer confusion on 'which Council does what'
- Sharing of skills and knowledge in the development of One Stop Shop processes, removing service, geographical and professional barriers.

The Borough has asked the County Council to consider providing a joint One Stop Shop to the public. The Borough is asking for a capital contribution of £60,000 and £25,000 ongoing revenue to fund one member of staff. The total cost of the building work is £180,000 and the Borough will fund 3 members of staff. The capital and revenue costs to the authority represent a sound investment in securing a presence in the North of the county compared, for example, to the costs of establishing a presence on our own.

On the 25th September 2006, North Warwickshire Borough Council's Executive Board considered and agreed a business case outlining the funding of this project. The options for WCC funding of the project, (as request by Cabinet on 7th September, 2006) are set out in the following section.

NB. The report to the Executive Board of North Warwickshire Borough Council report is available on request

5.0 Funding options

In response to the request from Cabinet alternative funding options have been considered for the capital contribution of £60,000 and the on-going revenue costs of £25,000 to fund one member of staff.

5.1 Revenue funding

This will be the subject of a future bid to the Modernisation Fund.

5.2 Capital contribution

On 7th February 2006 Council approved an allocation of £154,000 capital to support the relocation of the Register Office in Stratford upon Avon as requested in a capital development bid brought forward as part of the 2006/07 budget process. In May 2006 the Register Office was successfully relocated to Winton House, Church Street in Stratford upon Avon. The total cost of relocating the Register Office was £64,830, including fees, leaving a residue of £89,170 unspent.

Cabinet approved on the 7th September 2006 the virement of £27,000 to support the extension of the one stop shop in Whitnash. Furthermore, Cabinet approved on 12th October 2006 the virement of £26,992 towards improvements at Rugby and Nuneaton Register Offices, leaving a revised unspent residue of £35,178.

It is proposed that the remaining £35,000 of capital underspend is used to partly fund the £60,000 capital contribution for the joint one stop shop in Atherstone, with the remaining £25,000 being funded from within existing resources of the Performance and Development Directorate.

6.0 Recommendations

That Cabinet:

- Approve the utilisation of £35,000 capital underspend from the Stratford Register Office to support the capital contribution to the joint one stop shop in Atherstone.
- Notes that the Strategic Director for Performance and Development will fund from within existing resources the additional £25,000 towards the capital contribution.
- Notes that the revenue funding will be the subject of a future bid to the Modernisation Fund.

DAVID CARTER
Strategic Director,
Performance & Development

Shire Hall
Warwick
9th October 2006

- Cabinet Member Cllr John Burton
- Other Cabinet Members consulted
- Chief Executive
- Legal Richard Freeth – *“fine”*
- Finance David Clarke, Strategic Director of Resources – *“fine”*
- Other Strategic Directors
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals

FINAL DECISION **NO**

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee Stratford Area Committee 24.1.07 (subject to Cabinet’s decision)
- Further Consultation All stakeholders (subject to Cabinet’s decision)

The Cabinet – 2nd November 2006

Changes to Indicated Admission Numbers – Southern Warwickshire

Report of the Strategic Director for Children, Young People and Families

Recommendation:

That Cabinet authorises the Strategic Director for Children, Young People and Families to consult stakeholders on proposals to:

- (1) increase the Admission Number of Wellesbourne C of E Primary School, from 40 to 60 pupils per year
- (2) increase the Admission Number of Ettington C of E Primary School, from 20 to 25 pupils per year.

1. Background

- 1.1 Since September 2004 school capacities have been calculated according to the Department for Education and Skills', 'Net Capacity methodology'. The physical capacity assessments indicate the number of children each school could be expected to admit, the "Indicated Admission Number" (IAN).
- 1.2 Although the DfES originally stated that it would expect Admission Authorities to re-assess the capacity of schools on a regular basis, any significant changes in school capacities and therefore IANs should be updated as part of the annual admission cycle. Changes of no more than 26 pupils per year group can be approved by Cabinet. In order that stakeholders, including parents, local schools, Diocesan Authorities, neighbouring authorities and Area Committees, are aware of proposed changes all proposals are the subject of formal consultation before reporting to Cabinet for a final decision.
- 1.3 The following changes to school capacities and IANs are proposed for consultation.

2. Wellesbourne C of E Primary School

- 2.1 Wellesbourne C of E Primary School serves mainly the village and immediate area of Wellesbourne in Stratford District. The school currently has an admission limit of 40 pupils per year, a capacity of 280 when last measured in 2003, and 324 pupils on roll at September 2006. The village of Wellesbourne has grown significantly in recent years, with the increased population resulting from this new housing, combined with an increase in the school's popularity with Wellesbourne parents, resulting in a higher demand for places at the school.
- 2.2 The demand for places at Wellesbourne Primary School has meant that the school has had to admit pupils above its published admission number in each of the last three years just to make provision for pupils living within its priority area and siblings. Although neighbouring schools are, on the whole, admitting fewer pupils from the Wellesbourne area, the evidence indicates that Wellesbourne Primary School is not admitting pupils from the priority areas of other local schools. It is forecast that the current levels of pupil intakes into reception will continue for the foreseeable future.
- 2.3 Table 1 below shows current numbers on roll at this school and the forecast pupil numbers up to the year 2010 and illustrates both the high demand for places at the school in the period 2001/05 as well as an increase in pupils on roll in the year 2005/06 as the additional space from the new buildings at the school becomes available:

Table 1
Number of pupils on roll at Wellesbourne C of E Primary School

	School Year								
	Number on roll						Forecast		
	2001/ 02	2002/ 03	2003/ 04	2004/ 05	2005/ 06	2006/ 07	2007/ 08	2008/ 09	2009/ 10
Pupils on roll	209	225	234	271	289	324	348	376	389

- 2.4 Wellesbourne Primary School operates on two sites, approximately 200 yards apart, with the junior phase in the main campus and the infant and pre-school occupying the annexe site nearby. To date, the school has been able to admit additional pupils into reception years by bringing other rooms into use as class bases. In order to meet the September 2006 intake it has been necessary to provide two temporary classrooms for one year. It is proposed that an additional three class bases are provided from September 2007. The addition of these rooms would enable the school to meet demand for infant places and continue to accommodate the existing pre-school provision now managed by the school under its extended services provision. The Cabinet at its meeting on 25th May made available £830,000 within the capital programme for extending the accommodation at the school. A further classroom will be required on the

junior site as the higher infant numbers move through the school and, if approved, provision will be made within the capital programme for this.

- 2.5 The provision would enable the school to set an admission number of 60 pupils and the school has signalled its wish to do so.

3. Ettington C of E Primary School

- 3.1 Ettington C of E Primary School serves mainly the village and immediate area of Ettington in Stratford District. The school currently has an admission limit of 20, a capacity of 140 pupils when last measured in 2003, and has 146 pupils on roll at September 2006.

- 3.2 The school has four classrooms and no library or ICT suite; a temporary classroom on site is in poor condition and is considered not suitable for the delivery of the primary curriculum.

- 3.3 There has been some new housing development in the village and this has meant that the school has had to admit pupils above its published admission number in recent years. The school was able to demonstrate that it could not organise in four classes from September 2006 and a temporary fifth classroom was therefore provided. From September 2007 a sixth classroom is required and it is intended that both of the additional classrooms should be provided as permanent rooms. Although it is not forecast that pupil numbers will continue to grow, the school will continue to need more than four classrooms and the sixth room would provide both essential classroom accommodation in the short to medium term and at the very least, a necessary room in this small school. It is also proposed that a library be added to the building.

- 3.4 Table 2 below shows current numbers on roll at this school and the forecast pupil numbers up to the year 2010 and illustrates both the high demand for places at the school in the period 2001/05 as well as an increase in pupils on roll in the year 2005/06 as the additional space from the new buildings at the school becomes available:

Table 2
Number of pupils on roll at Ettington C of E Primary School

	School Year								
	Number on roll						Forecast		
	2001/ 02	2002/ 03	2003/ 04	2004/ 05	2005/ 06	2006/ 07	2007/ 08	2008/ 09	2009/ 10
Pupils on roll	106	101	117	125	138	146	151	144	145

- 3.5 It is anticipated that the provision will increase the school's admission number slightly from 20 to 25 pupils per year and the school has signalled its wish to do this.

3.6 The Cabinet at its meeting on 25th May made available £365,000 within the capital programme for extending the accommodation at the school.

5. Recommendation

Members are asked to authorise formal consultation with stakeholders concerning the proposed changes in admission numbers and school capacities of Wellesbourne C of E Primary School and Ettington C of E Primary School.

MARION DAVIS
Strategic Director for Children,
Young People and Families

Saltisford Office Park
Ansell Way
Warwick

18th October 2006

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee

Cabinet

Date of Committee

2 November 2006

Report Title

Children's Centres – Phase 2

Summary

This report outlines the details on proposed sites and estimated costs for Phase 2 of the strategy for Children's Centres across Warwickshire. The report was considered by the Sure Start Policy Panel.

For further information please contact:

Ann Mawdsley
Senior Committee
Administrator

Tel: 01926 418079
annmawdsley@warwickshire.gov.uk

Norma Smeaton

Head of Early Years and
Childcare

Tel: 01926 742259
normasmeaton@warwickshire.gov.uk

Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework?

No

Background papers

- Children's Centres consultation 1.7.03 – 15.9.03
- Children's Centres Start Up Guidance, February 2003
- Strategic Plan for Children's Centres, Cabinet report 9.10.03
- Individual Plans for Children's Centres, April 2004
- Warwickshire Sure Start Early Years and Childcare Strategic Plan 2004/06
- Developing a strategy for Children's Centres across Warwickshire, Cabinet report 13.1.05
- Sure Start Policy Panel reports 16.12.04, 23.11.05 and 25.1.06

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-

Details to be specified

Other Committees

Sure Start Policy Panel

Local Member(s)

All Local Members
Cllr David Booth – re Lighthorne Heath – *"I welcome this initiative"*

Other Elected Members

Cllr Richard Grant – *"noted"*
Cllr Katherine King
Cllr Jill Dill-Russell – *"noted the report"*

Cllr Helen McCarthy
Cllr John Whitehouse

- Cabinet Member Cllr Izzi Seccombe – *“pleased to note the report of the Chairman of the Sure Start Policy Panel”*
- Other Cabinet Members consulted Cllr John Burton
- Chief Executive
- Legal Victoria Gould
- Finance David Clarke, Strategic Director of Resources – *“fine”*
- Other Strategic Directors
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals

FINAL DECISION

None

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

Cabinet – 2 November 2006

Children's Centres – Phase 2

Report of the Chair – Sure Start Policy Panel

Recommendation of the Sure Start Policy Panel:

- (1) That the Cabinet agree the proposals for Phase 2 of Children's Centres and note the financial implications arising from the feasibility study and that the cost of the programme will be met from Government grant.
- (2) That the Cabinet approve the proposal to manage the programme within the overall grant allocation as set out in paragraph 2.4 of this report.

1. Views of the Sure Start Policy Panel

- 1.1 The Panel considered the report containing an update on progress for Phase 1 Children's Centres and details of proposed sites and estimated costs for Phase 2.
- 1.2 Norma Smeaton noted that the site for the Lillington Children's Centre visited earlier was the last centre in Phase 1 and was expected to be complete in three weeks.
- 1.3 During the ensuing discussion on Phase 2, the following comments were made:
 - (1) Following the agreement by Cabinet on site proposals at the end of 2005, feasibility studies were now complete and the estimated costings were attached to the report as Appendix A.
 - (2) While the sites were in the most disadvantaged areas, many would also serve surrounding areas, particularly in rural areas.
 - (3) Following the completion of the feasibility studies it had emerged that Boughton Leigh Infant School had more spare capacity than originally expected. The admission numbers were expected to rise and a decision had been made to continue with the project.
 - (4) The estimated costs covered the capital investment required and differed due to the different needs – some properties only required limited refurbishment while other required a new build.
 - (5) These costs had been determined taking into account the following issues:

- practicality
 - good sense
 - access – particularly in rural areas
 - where possible developing on nursery school sites and sites offering nursery classes, as part of the plan agreed by Cabinet
 - linked to Extended School services
 - following liaison with stakeholders.
- (6) The costs were estimates and where problems such as planning objections or unforeseen circumstances arose, the plan would require reviewing.
- (7) The Council needed to have committed as much of the Government grant as possible by March 2007 and be in a position to demonstrate progress and that the spending process had begun on as many projects as possible.
- (8) Local Members would be consulted.
- 1.4 The Chair of the Sure Start Policy Panel noted the report and agreed that agreement by e-mail be obtained from the Panel to recommend to the Cabinet that they agree the proposals for Phase 2 of Children’s Centres which will be funded through a Government Grant (General Sure Start Grant – Main Capital Block) and the financial implications from the feasibility study.

2. Phase 2 Centres

- 2.1 The projects in Phase 2 have been subject to a comprehensive feasibility study in which all the options for building, within the constraints of finance and available space, were explored. All stakeholders, including headteachers and governors, were involved in the process and were able to contribute their views on the building designs. However, development on some sites has been limited by the availability of space, e.g. Kenilworth Nursery, which is a high priority within Warwickshire’s strategic plan for Children’s Centre development but is restricted for capital development because of the size of the site it occupies.
- 2.2 All Phase 2 projects must be complete by 31st March 2008. The budget for the two years allows for 33% expenditure in year one and 67% in year two. No carry forward between the two years will be allowed unless it can be demonstrated that the projects profiled in the first year’s expenditure projects are well underway by March 2007. For this reason the capital programme for Phase 2 will be monitored closely to ensure that we have a realistic grasp of the progress on each project and the capital expenditure that has taken place.
- 2.3 Consultation and information meetings on the services to be provided at each site will take place between October and February 2007 and all stakeholders, including elected members, parents and members of the local communities, will

be invited to participate. Governance of the Centres will be decided through a fair tendering process, in accordance with County Council regulations.

- 2.4 Unlike the first phase, where Centres had to be developed within the 20% most disadvantaged wards, the second phase focuses on the 30% most disadvantaged Super Output Areas (SOAs). Feasibility studies have been completed and the proposed sites and estimated costs are attached at **Appendix A**. This is provided to demonstrate an indicative value for each project. It is proposed that the Children, Young People and Families Directorate will manage the programme within the overall grant allocation rather than on a scheme-by-scheme basis.

CLLR HELEN MCCARTHY
Chair - Sure Start Policy Panel

Shire Hall
Warwick

18 October 2006

Proposed Children's Centres Sites Phase 2, 2006/08

Breakdown of Children's Centres into Areas

<u>Proposed location of Centre</u>	<u>SOAs* covered</u>	<u>Reach</u>	<u>Type of build</u>	<u>Estimated cost</u>
Birchwood Primary School with outreach to Polesworth Nethersoles	Dordon	214	New build	£512,400
	Newton Regis + Warton	204		
	Polesworth East	185		
	Polesworth West	213		
Contribution to Nethersoles refurbishment			Refurbishment	£25,000
Total reach		816		£537,400
Kingsbury Primary School	Kingsbury	212	Refurbishment	
	Wood End + Hurley	14		
Total reach		426		£294,000
Park Lane Primary School	Galley Common	553	New Modular	
	Fillongley	160		
Total reach		713		£354,200
Exhall Grange School and Science College		384	Contribution to large project	
Total reach		384		£142,200
Rugby Parents' Centre	Benn	445	External works	
	Caldecott	250		
	Eastlands	309		
	Newbold Town Centre	200		
Total reach		1,204		£125,800
Hillmorton Primary School	Hillmorton	246	Refurbishment	
	Paddox	237		
	Overslade	347		
Total reach		830		£78,000
Boughton Leigh Infant School	Brownsover North	322	New build	
	Avon & Swift	111		
	Brownsover South	355		
Total reach		788		£712,800

<u>Proposed location of Centre</u>	<u>SOAs* covered</u>	<u>Reach</u>	<u>Type of build</u>	<u>Estimated cost</u>
Oakfield Primary School	Overslade	347	Refurbishment / new build	
	New Bilton	383		
Total reach		730		£290,000
Kenilworth Nursery School	Abbey	378	TBC	
	Parkhill	495		
Total reach		873		£440,000
Warwick Nursery School	Warwick West	529	New build	
	Warwick North	487		
Total reach		1,016		£440,100
Westgate Primary School (split site with Newburgh)		816	New modular	
Total reach	Mapping exercise is still in progress	TBC		£225,500 or £446,200
Newburgh Primary School (split site with Westgate)			Refurbishment / new build	
Total reach	Mapping exercise is still in progress	TBC		£491,900
St. John's Primary School	St John's	365	Modular	
	Leek Wootton	122		
	Lapworth	151		
Total reach		638		£257,400
Sydenham Primary School / Leamington Parents' Centre	Willes	430	Refurbishment	
	Clarendon	234		
Total reach		664		£463,200
Lighthorne Heath Primary School	Burton Dassett	135	Refurbishment / new build	
	Kineton	272		
	Harbury	286		
Total reach		693		£506,400
St. Nicholas Primary School, Alcester	Alcester	364	Refurbishment / new build	
	Sambourne	102		
Total reach		466		£420,000
Studley Infant School	Studley	338	TBC	
Total reach		338		£381,400

<u>Proposed location of Centre</u>	<u>SOAs* covered</u>	<u>Reach</u>	<u>Type of build</u>	<u>Estimated cost</u>
Southam - Graeme Adams Centre	Southam	457	Refurbishment	
	Stockton & Napton	174		
	Long Itchington	150		
Total reach		781		£25,000
Bulkington Village Centre	Bulkington	240	Refurbishment	
	Wolvey	141		
	Shilton/Ansty			
	Bramcote			
Bulkington Village	Barnacle			
	Burton Hastings			
Total reach		381		£25,000
Bishopton (designated as Phase 1 Centre but capital project carried into Phase 2)			Refurbishment / modular	
TOTAL				£403,000
TOTAL		13,259		£6,573,300 or £6,794,000
GOWM require us to reach:				
	Phase 1 =	2,282		
	Phase 2 =	15,917		
	TOTAL =	18,199		
Phase 1 (with additions) - total reach	8,033			
Phase 2 – total reach	13,259			
TOTAL reach over both phases	21,292			

* **SOA = Super Output Areas.** This is the measure used by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister to define areas of disadvantage. They are used instead of wards because they allow finer definition and they are not subject to boundary changes as wards have been, thus creating difficulties with consistency of information. All of the SOAs in the 30% most disadvantaged areas are covered in the Children's Centre development plan – as required by DfES. More SOA information can be obtained from the National Statistics website.

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee	Cabinet
Date of Committee	2nd November 2006
Report Title	The Consumer Advice Policy for Trading Standards
Summary	To consider a revised policy for the delivery of consumer advice by Warwickshire Trading Standards Service in light of the introduction of Consumer Direct West Midlands.
For further information please contact:	Anthea J Davies Assistant Head of Trading Standards 01926 414063 antheadavies@warwickshire.gov.uk
Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework?	No
Background papers	Trading Standards Services National Performance Framework LACORS Guide to Good Practice in Trading Standards for Consumer Advice Equalities Impact Assessment
CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-	Details to be specified
Other Committees	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Protection Overview and Scrutiny Committee 5 th September 2006 (comments incorporated)
Local Member(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not applicable
Other Elected Members	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Councillor M Doody Councillor D Shilton Councillor R Chattaway – “The O&S Committee debated this issue in detail and are happy for the Cabinet to consider the report. The Cabinet should note that there are changes in the new policy and confirm they are happy to adopt them.”
Cabinet Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Councillor R Hobbs – “I approve the report.”

Chief Executive	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ian Marriott (comments incorporated) Ann Belcher - approved
Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul Walsh - approved
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"/>
<i>FINAL DECISION</i>	YES

Agenda No

Cabinet - 2 November 2006

The Consumer Advice Policy for Trading Standards

Report of the Strategic Director of Adult , Health & Community Services

Recommendation

That Members endorse the revised approach and formally adopt the policy.

1. Background

The provision of consumer advice to the public forms a very significant part of the work of Trading Standards. Not only do we provide assistance to thousands of consumers by advising them about their consumer problems incurred in a whole variety of transactions including consumer credit agreements, contracts for service, holidays booked, as well as regular and occasional purchases of expensive and everyday items, we also provide pre-shopping advice and help people to avoid problems in their future transactions. To our knowledge, we assist consumers to recover tens of thousands of pounds in redress every year.

In addition to this important civil advice service, we identify any consumer issues that have a criminal element and investigate the circumstances so that we can deal with them appropriately, instituting proceedings in some cases. The public therefore act as our 'eyes and ears' helping to identify where unfair trading is taking place in the county.

In order to manage the delivery of the consumer advice service it is provided in two stages. Firstly, there is initial advice (First Stage), which is usually given by telephone. However, we do offer the same service to personal callers and those who contact us by letter or email. This First Stage involves attempting to identify whether the caller has grounds for a complaint, explaining to them what their legal position is and then suggesting practical steps that they can take to resolve the matter themselves, ie, a 'self help service', giving the consumer sufficient information to help themselves. Secondly, there is a more "in depth" service (Second Stage), which involves negotiation and intervention on behalf of consumers. This level of service may be provided if the initial telephone advice has failed to resolve the problem.

Warwickshire Trading Standards service has delivered the First Stage of the process, for telephone callers only, with the assistance of Warwickshire County Council's Customer Service Centre from its inception. Prior to that, advice was offered as a direct service provided by the Trading Standards service.

Documented procedures are in place to ensure that we meet targets for responding to consumers within pre-determined timeframes. We do not currently have a written policy document that defines the parameters of the consumer advice service.

However, due to limited resources, in practice, the policy to date has been to prioritise First Stage advice. Only where resources permitted has further assistance been made available, ie Second Stage advice, with very occasional support for small claims court action.

2. Consumer Direct

In January 2006 Warwickshire County Council Trading Standards service transferred the First Stage telephone calls to the Government funded initiative Consumer Direct West Midlands (CDWM) based in Coventry. For the residents of Warwickshire this has resulted in better access to First Stage advice, with more consumers being able to 'get through' on the telephone.

CDWM will deal with the majority of First Stage calls. Referrals are made to Trading Standards for a number of reasons:

- to ensure that intelligence is available to inform enforcement work.
- to bring specific criminal infringements to our attention so that we can decide whether or not an investigation is warranted or another course of action is appropriate.
- for further assistance where a civil advice query is complex and remains unresolved.

The majority of referrals from CDWM are complex civil advice issues where the consumer is in need of further assistance ie Second Stage advice and assistance. Already the volume of these calls exceeds our capacity to deal with them so decisions must be made as to which of the referrals get priority. Furthermore, CDWM has not yet been publicly launched, so it is inevitable that the volume of total calls, and hence the volume of referrals, will rise when that launch takes place.

Warwickshire Trading Standards service is working towards intelligence-led enforcement and identifying and targeting rogue traders whilst providing advice and assistance to legitimate businesses. In addition to other criminal statutes, the Enterprise Act is in regular use to curb the activities of persistent offenders. Now that CDWM is dealing with most of the First Stage advice, the Trading Standards service in Warwickshire can direct more resources to identifying those persistent offenders and target enforcement activities

according to areas of greatest need. In addition, officers are now in a position to take up civil issues with traders on a general and specific basis, in order to raise their awareness of their obligations in civil law. This approach should assist in preventing consumer problems; clearly the most effective approach in the longer term.

There is also an obvious demand for Second Stage advice and assistance. We welcome the opportunity to enhance our service for Warwickshire residents by providing this service but, unfortunately, resources do not permit the service to assist everyone who may have a civil case to pursue, so we need to be clear as to how we prioritise cases for assistance. An agreed policy would provide guidance to officers to help them in their work and a clear stance for the consumers of Warwickshire. Most importantly the policy would ensure we achieve the balance between pro-active enforcement and providing assistance for individuals in the face of an unmanageable volume of referrals from CDWM. The policy would also ensure that we maintain an equitable and consistent approach in prioritising the service delivery dependent on available resources.

Furthermore, the National Performance Framework for Trading Standards services, the Best Value Performance Indicator for Trading Standards (BVPI 166) and the LACORS (Local Authorities Coordinators of Regulatory Services) Guide to Good Practice in Trading Standards for Consumer Advice, Information and Education, all recommend that Members should approve the consumer advice policy within the service for which they are responsible.

3. Consumer Advice Policy

The proposed policy is attached as Appendix 1. The intention would be, subject to Member agreement, for the policy to be made public by means of the County Council website and other means and reviewed at least once every two years. Any significant changes to the policy would be subject to Member agreement.

The policy attempts to:

- define a consumer complaint and identify 'First Stage' and 'Second Stage' advice service
- recognise that there are other, more specialised organisations and ombudsmen that are better equipped to deal with very specific complaints about particular goods or services.
- prescribe the limitations of the consumer advice service by prioritising the service to those in greatest need.

There is no legal definition of a consumer complaint. However it is broadly regarded as being an issue concerning a contract between a consumer (a customer who is purchasing goods and/or services for their own private consumption), and a business or trader. This definition automatically

excludes contracts made between two businesses or between two consumers.

There are advice and arbitration organisations who are specialists in their particular fields. We would not attempt to duplicate their work and would refer consumers to such organisations in appropriate circumstances. Signposting in this manner releases resources within Trading Standards that can be better utilised to deal with cases for which there are no recognised ombudsmen or complaint handling bodies and ensures that consumers reach the specialists where appropriate.

Examples of such bodies include:

- Energywatch, the independent watchdog for gas and electricity customers.
- OTELO (Office of the Telecommunications Ombudsman) and CISAS (The Communications and Internet Services Adjudication Scheme), both of which have been approved by the telecommunications regulator OFCOM to resolve complaints about telephony and internet services.
- FOS (Financial Ombudsman Service) that deals with complaints about banks, insurance companies, pensions and investments.

Other key factors are that for Trading Standards to assist the consumer, the case should be based on a contract and the maximum claim for damages must not exceed the financial limit of the Small Claims Court (which is currently £5,000).

The policy also excludes dealing with complaints against the County Council. In exceptional circumstances, officers will assist consumers to prepare court paperwork and attend court.

Paragraph 6 of the policy is of specific significance in developing and agreeing this policy. This paragraph seeks to set out the parameters which may be of relevance in determining the vulnerability of a consumer and hence their priority for the Second Stage advice service. An Equalities Impact Assessment has been carried out and documented for reference.

Graeme Betts
Director
Adult, Health and Community Services

Shire Hall
Warwick
2 October 2006

The Consumer Advice Policy for Trading Standards

1. Warwickshire County Council Trading Standards Service provides a consumer civil advice service to consumers (private individuals) who have purchased goods and/or services for their own private consumption from a business or trader.
2. In order to manage the delivery of the consumer advice service it is provided in two stages. Firstly, there is initial advice (First Stage), which is usually given by telephone. However, we do offer the same service to personal callers and those who contact us by letter or email. This First Stage involves attempting to identify whether the caller has grounds for a complaint, explaining to them what their legal position is and then suggesting practical steps that they can take to resolve the matter themselves, ie, a 'self help service', giving the consumer sufficient information to help themselves. Secondly, there is a more "in depth" service (Second Stage), which involves negotiation and intervention on behalf of consumers. This level of service may be provided if the initial telephone advice has failed to resolve the problem.
3. The First Stage advice service is available to all residents of the county of Warwickshire. The provision of the Second Stage service will be prioritised to ensure that assistance is provided to those in greatest need (see paragraph 6 of this policy). People living outside the county will be signposted to Consumer Direct West Midlands for advice or to their local Trading Standards Service for assistance.
4. The Service seeks to provide advice and assistance to help consumers assert their contractual rights where the maximum claim for damages is no greater than the financial limit of the Small Claims Court (currently set at £5,000). This may include claims for consequential loss arising directly from the breach of contract.
5. The Service will signpost consumers to recognised complaint handling bodies or ombudsmen that exist to deal with specific complaints about particular goods or services where it is recognised that such organisations have expertise in their field.
6. In offering a service beyond initial (First Stage) advice, priority will be given to vulnerable consumers ie those in greatest need of assistance. In making an assessment of "vulnerability and greatest need" some of the following factors might need to be taken into account: language difficulties, age, disability, ethnicity, low-income households, lack of basic skills, mobility and other issues that lead to social exclusion or vulnerability. The availability of other sources of assistance and support will also be of relevance. In general, transactions under £20 will not justify Second Stage advice unless it is appears that a number of consumers were affected.

7. In exceptional circumstances, and subject to available resources, officers may accompany consumers to the Small Claims court.
8. The Trading Standards Service is not able to advise or assist consumers:
 - in claims for un-liquidated damages (damages that are not quantifiable at the time of making the claim by direct reference to monetary loss, eg, claims for mental distress or inconvenience)
 - with claims for personal injury.
 - with claims for negligence.
 - where a solicitor or other agency is already advising the consumer about the same matter.
 - if the complaint is about goods or services provided by Warwickshire County Council except where the supply is discretionary and for a charge. Where advice and assistance is provided, the consumer will be directed to another agency if we have been unable to resolve the problem informally and the consumer wishes to pursue a legal remedy.

- Legal T Maine – comments incorporated.
- Finance C Juckes – comments noted.
- Other Chief Officers
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals Waste Strategy Implementation Project Board.

FINAL DECISION **YES/NO** (*If 'No' complete Suggested Next Steps*)

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS :

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

Cabinet - 2nd November 2006

Waste Strategy Implementation - Approval of Method for Allocating Capital Support to the District/Borough Councils

Report of the Strategic Director for Environment and Economy

Recommendation

That:-

1. £1 million is allocated to support district schemes that will contribute to the implementation of Warwickshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy.
2. The Waste Strategy Implementation Project Board makes the decision on the allocation of funding to the districts in accordance with the objectives of Warwickshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy and following the procedures proposed in this report.
3. In making allocation decisions the Waste Strategy Implementation Project Board shall follow a fully transparent and objective process with the primary aim of maximising the total amount of recycling and composting carried out in Warwickshire.

1. Waste Strategy Implementation

- 1.1 In Warwickshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy, we have set ourselves the countywide target of recycling and composting 40-45% of our waste by 2009/10, however, this should be seen as a minimum target and we should strive to exceed this wherever possible.
- 1.2 Achieving the countywide target and our landfill diversion targets will require significant financial investment by the County Council and our district partners.
- 1.3 As part of the 2006/07 budget process, Council allocated £6,800,000 to contribute to the implementation of the Waste Strategy. Of this, £1 million has been provisionally allocated to support the district councils to develop schemes to contribute to the targets set in the Waste Strategy.

2. Method for Allocating Capital Support to the Districts

- 2.1 It is proposed that the districts complete a form to apply for capital support. The proposed application form is based on a Department for Food and Rural Affairs


(Defra) form used to apply for direct consultancy support through their Waste Implementation Programme see (**Appendix A** for a copy of the proposed form). The use of the Defra template was proposed by the Waste Strategy Implementation Project Board as the district councils are familiar with this format. With minimal modification it was considered suitable for this purpose of submitting bids for capital support.

- 2.2 The districts will be asked to provide details of their capital requirements and how the capital investment will contribute to meeting the targets in the Waste Strategy.
- 2.3 To ensure that the application process is as equitable as possible two rounds of applications are proposed. (£500,000 available per round).
Round 1 Deadline for applications 28/2/07 (for 2006/07).
Round 2 Deadline for applications 30/6/07 (for 2007/08).
- 2.4 It is proposed that the Project Board assess and make decisions on the bids. The multidisciplinary Board has been established specifically to implement aspects of the Waste Strategy and will be able to apply a multi-faceted approach to evaluating the bids (there are representatives from finance, legal, waste and a district officer on the project board). It is therefore considered that the Board is the appropriate body to evaluate the bids. Membership of the project board is as follows:-
Martin Stott – Environment and Economy – Project Executive.
Roy Burton – Environment and Economy.
Chris Jukes – Resources.
Tony Maione – Performance and Development.
Richard Dobbs – North Warwickshire Borough Council.
- 2.5 To ensure that the allocation of funding is transparent, Richard Dobbs (North Warwickshire Borough Council) will be excluded from the bid evaluation process.
- 2.6 Successful bids will need to demonstrate how the capital investment will contribute to reaching the targets in the Waste Strategy by increasing recycling/composting and diverting waste away from landfill. To ensure that the assessment remains objective a bid evaluation form will be used to ensure that all bids are equally assessed (see **Appendix B** for copy of evaluation form).
- 2.7 An evaluation period to determine the effect/success of the bid will be agreed as part of the bid approval process (essentially feedback at the end of an agreed period).
- 2.8 It is proposed that there are no limits on the number of applications that can be submitted by any one district but that bidding is phased to allow all districts the opportunity to bid and avoid a first-come-first served situation.

- 2.9 It is not proposed to allocate a proportion of funding to each district. Each application will be judged on its own merit and how it will contribute to reaching our targets.

JOHN DEEGAN
Strategic Director for Environment and Economy
Shire Hall
Warwick

18th October 2006

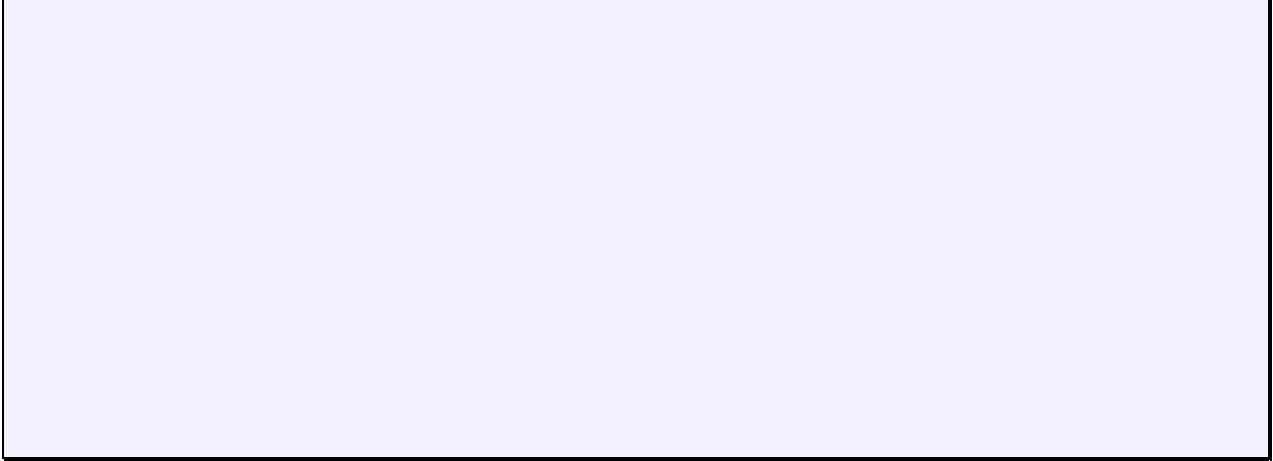
Waste Strategy Implementation Application for Capital Support			
Project/Scheme name:			
Project Officer:			Date:
Contact details:			
Total capital requested:			

The following application format has been derived from the Defra form for applying for Direct Consultancy Support. It has been developed to allow the Waste Strategy Implementation Project Board to evaluate requests for capital support to contribute to achieving the targets in Warwickshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy.

Outline Project Proposal

Overview of the proposed scheme – a brief summary of the scheme outlining the key objectives (include details of proposed capital purchases).

Impacts – This should identify, the key positive impacts that will result from the scheme. e.g. Contribution to reaching the targets agreed in Warwickshire’s Municipal Waste Management Strategy, impact on Landfill Directive, BVPIs, etc.



Risks – This should identify, the main risks to the scheme and the measures put in place to mitigate them.



Timescales

Please provide indicative timescales for the proposed scheme. Please indicate whether your scheme is time critical, or if it can be carried out at any time during the next two years . If it is time critical please state why, and in what time frame it needs to be completed.

Costs/Budget


Please provide details of the capital funding required including details of what the capital support will be spent on.

Please return you completed form to:

Kalen Wood

Email: kalenwood@warwickshire.gov.uk

If you have any queries please contact Kalen Wood on 01926 – 418064 or email at the address above.

Waste Strategy Implementation Application for Capital Support Bid Evaluation Form			
Scheme name:			
District/Borough:			Date:
District Contact:			
Evaluating Officers:			
Total capital requested:			
Year capital required			

1. Does the bid clearly demonstrate how the investment will result in an increase in recycling/composting or both? How is this quantified?

Yes No

Recycling % increase in recycling _____

Composting % increase in composting _____

Both % increase in recycling & composting _____

Reduction in tonnage of residual waste collected _____

2. Will the bid result in a reduction in the amount of BMW sent to landfill?

Yes No quantify _____

3. Will other authorities benefit as a result of the bid?

Yes No quantify _____

4. What are the timescales involved? Is it considered feasible that the benefits of the investment will be delivered within the proposed timescales?

5. Have any key risks been identified?

Yes No

Details

6. Are suitable mitigation measures proposed?

Yes No

7. Do the Board consider that the overall cost benefits of the scheme justify the investment?

Yes No

BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

Request further information	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approval of the total sum requested	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approval of a reduced sum	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>

Reason for allocation of reduced funding

Sum allocated = £

Refusal Yes No

Reason for Refusal

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee Cabinet

Date of Committee 2nd November 2006

Report Title Land at Corner of Park Road and Mill Street, Bedworth

Summary This report seeks authorisation for a land exchange between Warwickshire County Council (WCC) and Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council (NBBC) on the site at the corner of Park Road and Mill Street, Bedworth. The exchange of land will facilitate the redevelopment of the site (as proposed in the Masterplan for Nuneaton and Bedworth Town Centres) and protect the alignment of any future highway improvements by the County Council to support the Masterplan proposals and regeneration of the Town Centre.

For further information please contact Margaret Smith
Transport Planning Unit
Tel. 01926 735682
margaretsmith1@warwickshire.gov.uk

Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? Yes/No

Background Papers Masterplan for Nuneaton and Bedworth Town Centres, November 2004

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- *Details to be specified*

- Other Committees
- Local Member(s) Councillor R Chattaway – has some concerns.
(With brief comments, if appropriate) Councillor J Haynes – happy with the proposals.
Councillor F McCarney
Councillor K Singh
- Other Elected Members Councillor K Browne }
Councillor Mrs E Goode } for information.
Councillor Mrs J Lea }
Councillor B Longden (as Chair of Area Committee)

Cabinet Member
(Reports to The Cabinet, to be cleared with appropriate Cabinet Member)

Councillor M Heatley – agreed, this does appear to be the best option.
Councillor C Saint – I am happy that the matter goes forward to Cabinet.

Chief Executive

Legal I Marriott - agreed

Finance C Holden – comments incorporated

Other Chief Officers M Herbert, Resources Directorate – agreed.

District Councils Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council - Individual Cabinet Member Decision 20th October 2004 (Ref: IC136).
Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council – Cabinet 26th June 2006.
Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council – Cabinet 14th June 2006.

Health Authority

Police

Other Bodies/Individuals

FINAL DECISION **YES/NO** (If 'No' complete Suggested Next Steps)

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS :

Details to be specified

Further consideration by this Committee

To Council

To Cabinet

To an O & S Committee

To an Area Committee

Further Consultation

Cabinet – 2nd November 2006

Land at Corner of Park Road and Mill Street, Bedworth

Report of the Strategic Director for Environment and Economy

Recommendation

That authorisation be given to transfer ownership of the land shown as plot 2 in **Appendix A** from Warwickshire County Council to Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council in exchange for the land shown as plots 1 and 3, currently owned by Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 An exchange of land between Warwickshire County Council (WCC) and Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council (NBBC) is proposed on the site at the corner of Park Road and Mill Street, Bedworth. The land to be transferred to NBBC is shown in **Appendix A** as plot 2; the land to be transferred to WCC is shown as plots 1 and 3.
- 1.2 The exchange of land has two benefits:-
 - (i) Facilitating the redevelopment of the site as one of the priority sites identified in the Masterplan for Nuneaton and Bedworth Town Centres.
 - (ii) Protecting the alignment of any future highway improvements by the County Council to support the Masterplan proposals and regeneration of the Town Centre.

2. Background

- 2.1 Approval was given on 25th January 2000 for the purchase of the Anchor Inn public house site in Bedworth to allow improvements to the George Street Ringway in the context of other proposals for the upgrading of Bedworth Town Centre (Executive Committee, 25th January 2000). The improvements to George Street Ringway were subsequently abandoned following consultation with a short life Town Centre Focus Group who showed little support for the proposals (Cabinet, 9th July 2002). The cleared Anchor Inn site has therefore remained neglected for a number of years. Options for future use of the land are set out below.

3. Preferred Option for Future Use of the Site

- 3.1 The Masterplan for Nuneaton and Bedworth Town Centres includes the Anchor Inn site as part of a wider area designated for redevelopment as one of the priority

project sites. The wider area incorporates the Kwiksave supermarket (which has now ceased trading) and the Borough owned and operated 40 space surface level car park.

- 3.2 The development site is bounded by Mill Street to the north, Church Way to the east and Park Road to the west. To protect the alignment of any future highway improvements at the Park Road Mill Street junction in support of future Masterplan proposals, a land exchange is proposed between the County Council and Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council at the corner of Park Road and Mill Street of roughly equal plot sizes.
- 3.3 The initial scheme submitted by the developers for redeveloping the site excluded the Anchor Inn site and showed development on Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council's land which would be required for the realignment of the highway. Following discussions with Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council, the developers amended the scheme design to incorporate the proposed land exchange, thereby protecting the road realignment. This now forms the Borough Council's preferred scheme for redeveloping the site, as approved at Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council's Cabinet meeting on 26th June 2006). The preferred scheme is for a small Aldi supermarket, retail units and associated parking.
- 3.4 The WCC owned land which is proposed to be transferred to NBBC falls within the area designated for parking in the preferred redevelopment. The scheme could proceed without the exchange of land, albeit with a reconfigured parking layout. The exchange of land will be marginally beneficial to the scheme layout, allowing a continuous alignment along the frontage of Mill Street and Park Road and helping to improve the street scene.
- 3.5 The NBBC owned land which is proposed to be transferred to WCC is adjacent to the existing highway. A transfer of ownership to WCC would serve to protect the alignment of any future highway improvements by the County Council without compromising the redevelopment of the site. Should the NBBC land not be transferred to WCC it will be necessary to use CPO powers in the future to acquire the land to enable highway improvements to be completed.
- 3.6 An assessment of the land values has been carried out by property teams from both the County Council and Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council. Both parties agree that the parcels of land have similar values and each parcel is capable of development, albeit that they will both form part of the landscaping/car parking of the proposed scheme. A straight exchange is therefore proposed with no money payable to either parties.
- 3.7 In respect of any proceeds generated by the Borough Council on the subsequent sale of the land to the preferred developer, the Borough Council have resolved that all funds raised by the sale of Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council land within the town centre priority sites will be earmarked to assist delivery of the Masterplan as a whole (Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Cabinet meeting, 14th June 2006). As this site forms part of one of the priority sites identified in the Masterplan, this resolution will apply, bringing benefits to both the County Council and Borough Council as joint promoters of the Masterplan.

- 3.8 Authorisation for Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council to proceed with the proposed land exchange was agreed by an Individual Cabinet Member Decision on 20th October 2004 (Ref: IC136).

4. Alternative Options for Future Use of the Site

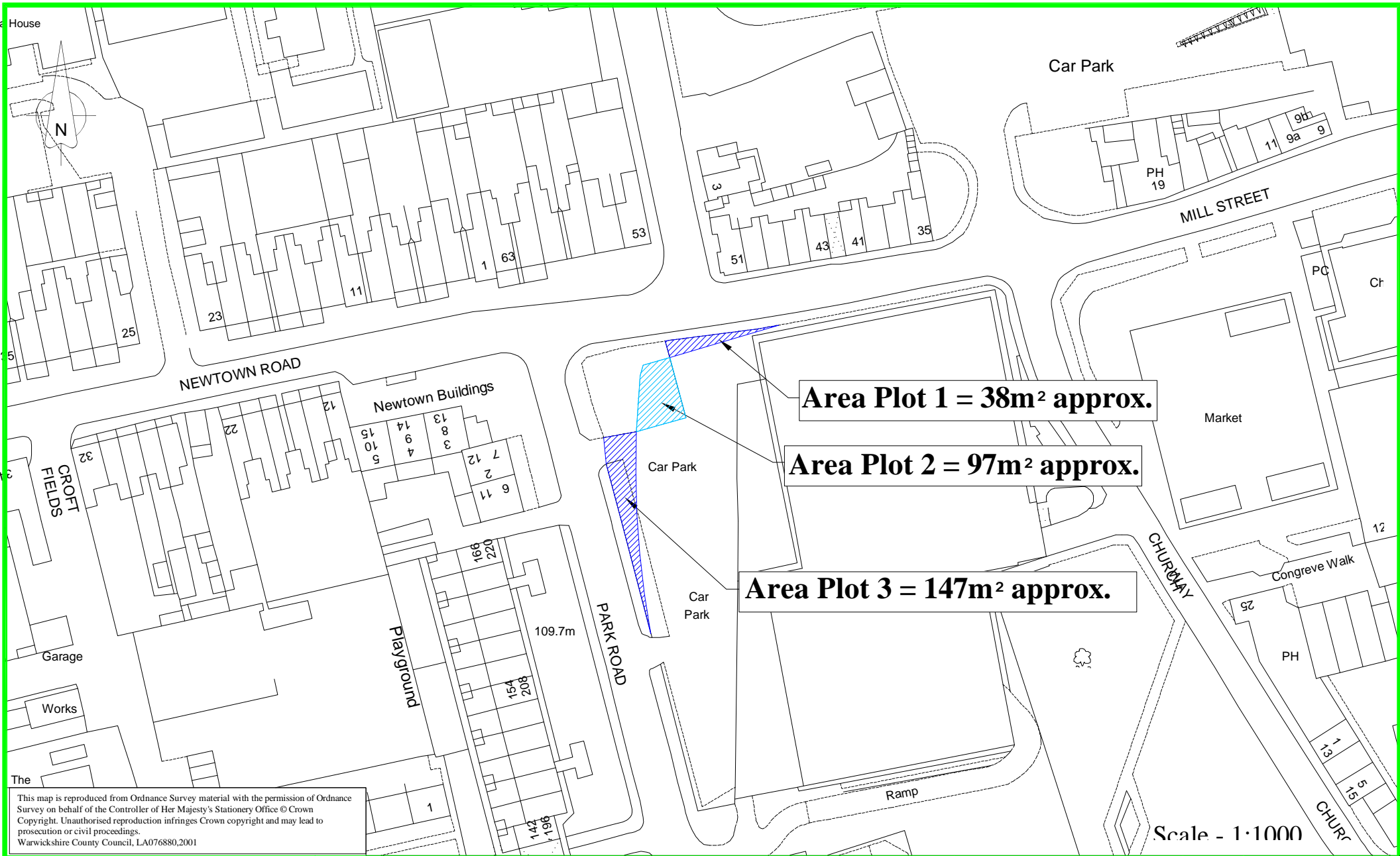
- 4.1 An alternative proposal for the former Anchor Inn site, assuming the highways improvement scheme is abandoned, could be to approach the preferred developer and offer the land for sale as part of the redevelopment, but as the developer has already demonstrated an ability to develop the site without incorporating the WCC property, this option is uncertain and carries substantial risk. If this option were achievable, the Resources Directorate indicates that this could generate a capital receipt, albeit lower than the market value for commercial development due to the area forming part of the landscaping/car parking in the preferred development. The Resources Directorate indicates that market value of the site assuming retail development values, on a straightforward pro-rata rate per acre, on a total site area of approx 0.07 acres, would be a maximum of approx £70,000, but having demonstrated that this site is not needed to complete the scheme or would simply become additional landscaping/parking, the developer is only likely to offer a minimal sum (substantially less). The Resources Directorate therefore advised that this is not an advisable option.
- 4.2 A disadvantage of this option is that it precludes any future highway improvements at the Park Road/Mill Street junction which may be required for future Masterplan proposals e.g. the redevelopment of the Tesco site.
- 4.3 If an agreement on the sale of the site to the preferred developer could not be reached, a second option could be to develop the site in isolation. The Resources Directorate has advised that this option is unlikely to be economically viable due to the very small site. The potential to generate a capital receipt would therefore be substantially reduced or nil. This option would also be inconsistent with the Town Centre Masterplan and, as with the alternative option described in paragraph 4.1, precludes any future highway improvements at the Park Road/Mill Street junction which may be required for future Masterplan proposals.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 Taking into account the issues outlined above for each of the options, it is considered that the possible short term financial gain from the sale of the land to the preferred developer is outweighed by the medium to long term gain of furthering the Masterplan proposals by facilitating the land exchange and enabling the fulfilment of the original purpose for purchasing the property.
- 4.2 It is therefore recommended that Cabinet authorises the exchange of land as described in paragraph 1.1 above.

JOHN DEEGAN
Strategic Director for Environment and Economy
Shire Hall
Warwick

17th October 2006




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Warwickshire County Council, LA076880,2001

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Cabinet Meeting : 2 November 2006

Subject:
Land at corner of Park Road and Mill Street, Bedworth Appendix A

Plan No.:	 John Deegan B.A., M.Sc., Dip.T.P. M.C.I.T., M.R.T.P.I. Environment and Economy Directorate Shire Hall, Warwick, CV34 4SX
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This plot was produced from a digital source so may not be at true scale. It is the recipient's responsibility to confirm its accuracy.

APPENDIX A

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee

Cabinet

Date of Committee

2nd November 2006

Report Title

Delivery of HR services

Summary

This report seeks endorsement of changes in the way that HR services are delivered throughout the County Council, allowing more effective exploitation of the new HRMS system, greater economies of scale and a clearer focus on the delivery of HR advice and policy development.

For further information please contact:

Bob Perks
Head of Human Resources
Tel: (01926 41)2027
bobperks@warwickshire.gov.uk

David Carter
Strategic Director,
Performance and
Development
Tel: (01926 41)2564
davidcarter@warwickshire.gov.uk

Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework?

No.

Background papers

None

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-

Details to be specified

Other Committees

Local Member(s)

Other Elected Members

David Booth "would like clearer details on the resource / savings implications when these become available"

Cabinet Member

Cllr Peter Fowler

Chief Executive

Legal

David Carter

Finance

Other Chief Officers

District Councils

Health Authority

Police

Other Bodies/Individuals

FINAL DECISION

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

Further consideration by
this Committee

To Council

To Cabinet

To an O & S Committee

To an Area Committee

Further Consultation

Agenda No

Cabinet - 2nd November 2006.

Delivery of HR services

Report of the Strategic Director – Performance & Development

Recommendation

That the changes to the way that Human Resources (HR) services are delivered throughout the County Council, as set out in this report, including the creation of a single unit for transactional purposes, are endorsed

Background

1. The way in which HR services have been delivered across the County Council has remained largely unchanged for many years. Prior to the restructuring of departments earlier this year, each of the nine Council departments had their own HR team. These varied in size according to the numbers employed in departments, and were responsible for both issuing advice and undertaking the administration associated with recruitment, pay, record keeping, etc.
2. In addition, a small corporate team has existed, responsible for policy development and for tackling those individual or collective issues that could not sensibly be addressed at departmental level.
3. The Best Value review of HR undertaken in 2002/3, benchmarking with other similar organisations and, to a certain extent, our CPA assessment have drawn three broad conclusions about our HR services,
 - that , in overall terms, HR is under-resourced compared with other similar organisations
 - that the HR function needs to be more focussed on strategic issues that contribute to cultural change and an improved customer focus and, by implication, less embroiled in 'transactional' processes (ie. those administrative or clerical tasks that do not require a professional level of input)
 - inconsistent HR practices and processes across departments have been both inefficient and unhelpful to a 'one Council' approach.
4. It has not proved possible to meet all the identified shortfall in HR resources, although some progress has been made. However, what is clear is that the HR

function needs to use those resources that are available more effectively and efficiently. Specifically, the following issues need to be addressed,

- **we do not achieve economies of scale** – by having the same transactional processes undertaken by different staff around the Council, often as a small part of each individual's job, the imperative to undertake these processes more efficiently is weakened. In particular, the business case for exploiting the capacity of HRMS is undermined.
 - **time and effort is spent on seeking to achieve consistency** – where similar processes are carried out by staff in different directorates, a constant effort has to be made to achieve consistency of practice and shared learning. The result is more time spent in meetings!
 - **professional HR staff become embroiled in transactional processes** – since many transactional tasks have peaks of workflow, such as the distribution of application forms when there is a recruitment drive, professional HR staff find themselves caught up in routine administrative work. This is both expensive and wasteful of their expertise.
5. These issues are not peculiar to Warwickshire and indeed most large local authorities and similar organisations have found themselves addressing the same concerns. There is now extensive research evidence and experience to suggest that for HR to make an effective contribution, transactional processes need to be re-engineered so that they are delivered separately from professional policy and advice work.
 6. This has led to the widespread growth of 'shared service' centres – in many cases, a misnomer in that the services are not shared outside the organisation but instead reflects a single unit in which all of those services that can most efficiently be undertaken within one place are co-located.
 7. A more detailed study of HR being organised on this basis in Staffordshire County Council and Coventry City Council has suggested that there is considerable scope for making both efficiency gains and service improvements.

The future delivery of HR services

8. Accordingly, Strategic Directors Management Team have supported the establishment, from April 2007, of a single corporate unit to deliver those HR transactional processes that need not be delivered at directorate level. This will initially be a cost neutral exercise in that it will involve bringing together existing staff from separate teams into a single unit. However, in the long-term it should produce efficiency savings as economies of scale are achieved and the capacity of HRMS is exploited. Examples of the latter should include moving towards recruitment processes that are wholly or mainly 'on line' and personal records that are maintained electronically rather than in paper form.
9. Initially, the focus will be on bringing together those recruitment processes that precede the actual selection process, ie. advertising, marketing the Council as

an employer, sending out recruitment material and processing applications. At present, these tasks are undertaken at directorate level, or in some cases at section or team level. This has made it difficult to market the Council as a single employer, encouraged the retention of local, paper-based processes and caused directorate-based HR professionals to become involved in the management and supervision of these processes.

10. Other tasks that would sensibly lend themselves to being undertaken in a single unit might included the issuing of standard contracts of employment, maintenance of HRMS data and processing pre-employment checks.
11. Consultation with staff at all levels in HR has shown an understanding of the need to change the way in which we deliver HR services and a wish to be involved in the way in which future arrangements are shaped.
12. The Cabinet is recommended to endorse the changes to the way that Human Resources (HR) services are delivered throughout the County Council, as set out in this report, including the creation of a single unit for transactional purposes, are endorsed

David Carter
Strategic Director of
Performance & Development

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