

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Leader and Cabinet 14 June 2007
AUTHOR/S: Senior Management Team (SMT)

PERFORMANCE PLAN 2007

Purpose

1. To enable the Cabinet to approve the Performance Plan 2007 and authorise the portfolio holder for performance management to approve final drafting changes prior to publication by 30 June 2007.

Background

2. Most elements of the Performance Plan have now received the requisite approvals:-
 - The priorities for 2007/08 (customer service, affordable housing and growth areas)
 - The performance indicator targets and milestones to contribute to those priorities
 - Performance indicator targets (approved by portfolio holders through the service plan process)
 - The CGI Improvement Plan
3. The remaining elements of the Performance Plan are text and narrative.
4. At its meeting on 24th May 2007 the Council gave authority to the Cabinet to approve the Performance Plan at this meeting.

The Draft Plan

5. The draft of the Performance Plan is attached. The plan covers the year **2007/08**. There are other items on the agenda for this meeting covering the development of objectives and priorities for **2008/09** onwards. It is crucial to remain focused on delivering the priorities and performance targets for 2007/08 and not to become distracted by planning for the future.
6. The most significant new material in the attached draft is indicated below:-

Chapter 1: Introduction – which draws attention to the need to focus on this year's priorities and on performance.

Chapter 2: Corporate Objectives – our existing objectives which are currently being revised.

Chapter 3: Corporate Governance Inspection and INSPIRE Project Plan – this is all drawn from the CGI Improvement Plan approved by Council and submitted to the Audit Commission

Chapter 4: Other External Inspections – this summarises Audit Commission and External Audit reports issued in the last year and should be familiar to Members.

Chapter 5: The LSP, Community Strategy and LAA – this is a review of the current position and should be familiar. There will be changes in the coming year with the development of a new Sustainable Community Strategy; the development of a new LAA; and improvements to strengthen the Council's involvement in strategic partnership in response to the CGI and the White Paper.

Chapter 6: Consultation, Risk and Contracts - there is considerable new (and important) material in this chapter, summarising the results of the three yearly best value surveys. The results of the Planning survey have already been reported to Cabinet. Reports will be made to Cabinet in the next two meetings on the other surveys.

Chapter 7: Priorities for 2007/08 – sets out the performance targets and milestones to achieve current priorities – this was reported to the last meetings of the Cabinet and Council.

Chapter 8: Performance Trends – this chapter is new and gives historic trends in the Council's performance. This is new and important material.

Chapters 9 and 10: Performance Indicators – as reported to the last meetings of the Cabinet and Council.

Financial, Staffing, Legal and Risk Implications

7. The Performance Plan is based on the budget, workforce plan and service plans for the current year. There are no significant new implications. It includes a section on Corporate Risk Management (Chapter 6). Officers are working to minimise risks to ensure that the plan is published in accordance with statutory requirements.

Recommendations

8. Cabinet is recommended to:
 - a) approve the draft Performance Plan 2007, and
 - b) authorise the portfolio holder for Performance Management to approve drafting changes to the Plan to meet the statutory publication date of 30 June 2007.

Background Papers: the Performance Plan is based on previously reported documentation.

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