

REPORT TO EXECUTIVE

CARLISLE
CITY COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO AREA: STRATEGY AND PERFORMANCE

Date of Meeting: 28th January 2002

Public

Key Decision: No Recorded in Forward Plan: No

Inside Policy Framework

Title: COUNTY COUNCIL CORPORATE PLAN

Report of: Town Clerk & Chief Executive

Report reference: TC.21/02

Summary:

Cumbria County Council published a draft Corporate Plan on 1st November 2001 and were seeking comments on the Plan by 14th January 2002.

Recommendations:

The Executive invites the County Council to give a presentation to the City Council on the County Council's Corporate Plan.

Contact Officer: Jim White Ext: 7017

Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers: Corporate Strategy Review: 2002/03 & Beyond

Background Information

1. The County Council is consulting on the Corporate Strategy. The draft plan sets out the strategic direction for Cumbria County Council 2002/03 and beyond. It Highlights key priorities that the County Council will be working towards in partnership with local communities, key public and private sector bodies.
2. The plan sets out the geographic context of the County, explains the Councils commitments to high quality services, fair and equitable access to services efficiency and effectiveness, looking at ways of working e.g. through partnership arrangements.
 - The key corporate policies include:
 - Improve Council Services – Put the public first
 - Regenerate and diversify the economic base
 - Renew our most deprived communities
 - Increase educational standards and skills levels
 - Support elderly and vulnerable people
 - Protect and sustain the environment
 - Improve the safety and quality of people's lives
3. A statement of purpose and a series of priorities (including a top priority) underpin each of these policies. The priorities themselves are in many ways what might be expected from such a document and it is likely that the city Council could endorse and support them (there may be areas where individual services may have detailed comments). However it is not clear from the document from where these priorities have emerged i.e. as a response to consultation etc. Beyond identifying a top priority for each key policy there does not appear to be a clear prioritisation process. It is also not clear what timescales are involved and beyond stating that a wide range of resources at their disposal will be utilised there appears no clear link between the plan and the resources required to ensure implementation.
4. It may be appropriate that the County Council be asked to make a presentation on their Corporate Plan in order to explain the plan and that members have an opportunity to explore some of the issues raised above.

Consultation

5. Overview and Scrutiny have been considering the issue and the minutes of those meetings are attached.

Recommendations

The Executive invites the County Council to give a presentation to the City Council on the County Council's Corporate Plan.

Reasons for Recommendations

To provide an opportunity for the City Council members to get a better understanding of the County Councils Corporate Plan.

COMMUNITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
10 January 2002

**COS.17/02 CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL CORPORATE STRATEGY
REVIEW 2002/05**

Councillors Mallinson J and Weber, having declared a non-pecuniary interest in this matter did not speak or vote thereon.

Councillors Aldersey and Toole, having declared a non-pecuniary interest in this matter, participated in the discussion.

The Head of Corporate Policy and Strategy presented an Executive Summary of Cumbria County Council's Corporate Strategy Review for 2002/05 upon which comments were sought.

He informed Members that the Strategy set out the strategic direction for the County Council in 2002/05 and beyond and highlighted the priorities which the organisation would be working towards in partnership with local communities and key public, private and voluntary sector bodies. He added that the Strategy was positive at a strategic level and expressed the hope that it would work well in practice.

RESOLVED – That the County Council's Corporate Strategy Review 2002/05 be received.