

Date: 24 August 2004

TO: All Members of the Executive  
FOR ATTENDANCE

TO: All Other Members of the Council  
FOR INFORMATION

Dear Sir/Madam

Your attendance is requested at a meeting of the **EXECUTIVE** to be held in the **CIVIC HALL, WANTAGE** on **Friday, 2nd September, 2005** at **2.30 pm**.

Yours faithfully

Terry Stock  
Chief Executive

Members are reminded of the provisions contained in Part 2 of the Local Code of Conduct, and Standing Order 34 regarding the declaration of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

## **A G E N D A**

### **SECTION I** (Open to the Public including the Press)

A Large print version of this agenda and any background papers referred to may be inspected by prior arrangement with Steve Culliford, Democratic Services Officer on telephone (01235) 540307.

#### **Map and Vision**

**(Page 6)**

A map showing the location of the venue for this meeting, together with a copy the Council Vision are attached.

### **STANDING ITEMS**

#### **1. Apologies for Absence**

To receive apologies for absence.

#### **2. Minutes**

To adopt and sign as a correct record the public minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 5 August 2005, (previously circulated).

**3. Declarations of Interest**

To receive any declarations of Personal or Personal and Prejudicial Interests in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting.

In accordance with Part 2 of the Local Code of Conduct and the provisions of Standing Order 34, any Member with a personal interest must disclose the existence and nature of that interest to the meeting prior to the matter being debated. Where that personal interest is also a prejudicial interest, then the Member must withdraw from the room in which the meeting is being held and not seek improperly to influence any decision about the matter unless he/she has obtained a dispensation from the Standards Committee.

**4. Urgent Business and Chair's Announcements**

To receive notification of any matters, which the Chair determines, should be considered as urgent business and the special circumstances, which have made the matters urgent, and to receive any announcements from the Chair.

**5. Statements and Petitions from the Public Under Standing Order 32**

Any statements and/or petitions from the public under Standing Order 32 will be made or presented at the meeting.

**6. Questions from the Public Under Standing Order 32**

Any questions from members of the public under Standing Order 32 will be asked at the meeting.

**7. Referral under the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules or the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules**

**8. Referrals from the Overview and Scrutiny Committees and Other Committees**

**9. Items Deferred from the Previous Meeting**

**10. Financial Monitoring**

(Pages 7 - 9)

Members are requested to consider any significant budget variances, and any requests for virement or permanent budget adjustment.

**KEY DECISIONS**

**11. Forward Plan**

(Pages 10 - 13)

To receive the Forward Plan containing Executive decisions to be taken from September to December 2005.

*Recommendation*

*that the Forward Plan be received.*

**OTHER MATTERS**

**12. Future of the Old Gaol**

**(Pages 14 - 18)**

To receive and consider report 74/05 of the Strategic Director.

**13. Corporate Governance - First Quarter (April, May, June) 2005/06**

**(Pages 19 - 65)**

(Wards Affected: All Wards)

To receive and consider report 75/05 of the Directors' Group.

**14. Abbey Meadows Pool**

(Wards Affected: Abingdon Abbey and Barton)

To receive and consider report 76/05 of the Strategic Director (**TO FOLLOW**).

**15. Tilsley Park – Health and Fitness Phase 2**

**(Pages 66 - 71)**

(Wards Affected: Abingdon Dunmore; Sunningwell and Wootton; )

To receive and consider report 77/05 of the Assistant Director (Leisure).

**16. Civic Halls Procurement of Trust Management**

**(Pages 72 - 75)**

(Wards Affected: All Wards)

To receive and consider report 78/05 of the Strategic Director.

**17. Comments and Complaints Review**

**(Pages 76 - 85)**

Each year the Council publishes an analysis of the comments, complaints, compliments and suggestions received during the last Council year. This is the eleventh year that this exercise has been completed.

The Annual Review on the comments, complaints, compliments and suggestions received during 2004/05 is set out in report 79/05. This review shows that the Council monitored 247 comments and complaints and 299 compliments. The analysis shows that in most cases an explanation or apology was sufficient to satisfy the complainant and the Chief Executive dealt with only 8 complaints at Stage 2 of the procedure. The Local Government Ombudsman determined 10 complaints made against the Council (one of which was subsequently determined to be the responsibility of a partner organisation). Once again the Vale continued its proud claim to have no findings of maladministration found against it.

The contact officer is Helen Bishop, Assistant Director (Contact Services) (Tel: 01235 540372).

**Recommendations**

- (a) that report 79/05 on the 2004/05 Comments and Complaints be noted; and
- (b) that it be agreed that the report be published.

**18. Development of Open Space, Mably Way, Grove**

(Pages 86 - 88)

(Wards Affected: Grove)

To receive and consider report 80/05 of the Assistant Director (Leisure).

**19. Exclusion of the Public, including the Press**

The Chair to move that in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public, including the press, be excluded from the remainder of the meeting to prevent the disclosure to them of exempt information, as defined in Section 100(I) and Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act when the following items are considered:-

**Item 20 Minutes**

(Category 7 - Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (other than the authority).

(Category 9 - Any terms proposed or to be proposed by or to the authority in the course of negotiations for a contract for the acquisition or disposal of property or the supply of goods or services).

**Item 21 Honorarium**

(Category 1 - Information relating to a particular employee, former employee or applicant to become an employee of, or a particular office-holder, former office-holder or applicant to become an office-holder under, the authority).

**Item 22 Haines Court, Marcham**

(Category 9)

**20. Comprehensive Performance Assessment Use of Resources Self Assessment**

The Comprehensive Performance Assessment ('CPA') regime, which is used to rate the performance of every council, has changed. One of the new requirements is for district councils to complete an annual 'Use of Resources Self-Assessment'. This scores the Council on its overall value for money and financial management arrangements, from a score of 1 (inadequate performance) to 4 (performing strongly). The first self-assessment is due to be returned to the Audit Commission by the end of September.

The self-assessment comprises a number of Key Lines of Enquiry criteria which councils are expected to demonstrate are met by providing evidence. Officers will complete the self-assessment and collate the evidence. However, the Audit Commission are expecting to see broader corporate commitment to the process, as demonstrated by the self assessment being approved by a senior Member. It is therefore recommended that this approval be delegated to the Leader.

The Audit Commission will carry out fieldwork to validate the self-assessment in January, before reporting our Use of Resources score in March 2006. The Use of Resources score is

one of several scores which will contribute to the Council's next overall CPA rating.

**Recommendation**

*That the Executive delegates authority to the Leader to approve the Use of Resources Self-Assessment on behalf of the Council.*

**STANDING ITEMS**

**21. Minutes**

To adopt and sign as a correct record the Exempt minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 5 August 2005, (previously circulated).

**KEY DECISIONS**

**OTHER MATTERS**

**22. Honorarium**

(Pages 89 - 91)

To receive and consider report 81/05 of the Strategic Director.

**23. Haines Court, Marcham**

(Pages 92 - 94)

(Wards Affected: Marcham and Shippon)

To receive and consider report 82/05 of the Strategic Director.

**24. Property Matters**

**(a) Other Property Matters**

To consider any other property matters.