

Date: 23 February 2006

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 **GUILDHALL, ABINGDON** on **Friday, 3rd March, 2006** 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**

### **Open to the Public including the Press**

A large print version of this agenda is available. Any background papers referred to may be inspected by prior arrangement. Contact Steve Culliford, Democratic Services Officer on telephone number (01235) 540307.

### **Map and Vision**

(Page 8)

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 23 February 2006, (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 9 - 10)

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

**KEY DECISIONS**

**11. Forward Plan**

(Pages 11 - 14)

To receive the Forward Plan containing Executive decisions to be taken from March to June 2006.

*Recommendation*

*that the Forward Plan be received.*

**OTHER MATTERS**

**12. Corporate Governance 3rd Quarter 2005/06**

(Pages 15 - 66)

To receive and consider report 239/05 of the Directors' Group.

*Introduction and Report Summary*

To receive the Corporate Governance Report for the third quarter of 2005/06.

The Contact Officer for this report is Tim Sadler, Strategic Director (01235) 540360.

*Recommendation*

*The Executive is recommended to note the Directors' Group Corporate Governance Report for the third quarter 2005/06.*

**13. Proposed Strategic Internal Audit Plan**

(Pages 67 - 75)

To receive and consider report 240/05 of the Strategic Director.

*Introduction and Report Summary*

This report proposes a new five year Strategic Internal Audit Plan. Historically the Monitoring & Audit Committee had responsibility for approving and monitoring the Internal Audit Plan on behalf of the Council. Under the current arrangements, the Executive, the Scrutiny Committee and the Responsible Finance Officer have an interest in the issues to be included within the Audit Plan. The Scrutiny Committee and the Responsible Finance Officer are content with the proposed five year Strategic Internal Audit Plan.

The Contact Officer for this report is Sam Turner, Assistant Director (Audit), Tel: 01235 547615.

*Recommendation*

*That Members approve the five year Strategic Internal Audit Plan for 2005/10.*

**14. Treasury Management and Investment Strategy 2006/07**

(Pages 76 - 81)

To receive and consider report 241/05 of the Head of Asset Management.

*Introduction and Report Summary*

The Treasury Management Policy, agreed by Council December 2001 requires the approval of

an annual Treasury Management Strategy for the next financial year. This is in line with the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management.

In March 2004 the ODPM issued guidance under Section 15 of the Local Government Act 2003 on Local Government cash investments which requires approval of an Annual Investment Strategy by the Council. The guidance does acknowledge that it might be convenient to produce a single document that meets the requirements of the CIPFA code and the Secretary of State's guidance.

This report puts forward an Annual Strategy for this authority for 2006/07 which, as last year, complies with the CIPFA code and the ODPM guidance. This strategy restricts itself to non-property investments. For property investment, Members should refer to the Investment Policy last agreed by the Council on 24 March 2004

The Contact Officer for this report is Steve Lawrence, Head of Asset Management 01235 540321.

**Recommendation**

*Members are asked to recommend to Council:*

*the approval of the Annual Treasury Management & Investment Strategy for 2006/07 (set out at Appendix A), and the limits and guidelines specified in it.*

**15. Waste Strategy: Shortlisting of Disposal and Collection Options**

To receive an update at the meeting.

**16. Non Housing Revenue Account Housing Private Finance Initiative**

Members of the Executive have previously been provided with a briefing note on the potential for a Private Finance Initiative (PFI) bid to fund affordable housing in Oxfordshire. It is your officers' view that whilst recognising the risks and uncertainties of such a PFI scheme the opportunity and limited risk of this very early stage persuade us that this authority should submit an expression of interest for the next round and encourage the other local housing authorities in Oxfordshire to join with us.

**17. Apportionment of the Community Grants Budget for 2006/07**

**(Pages 82 - 83)**

To receive and consider report 242/05 of the Strategic Director.

**Introduction and Report Summary**

The purpose of this report is to provide information on two possible options for the apportionment of the 2006/07 community grants budget of £113,400 and to request that members determine which option is the most appropriate.

The contact officer for this report is Toby Warren, Head of Innovation & Enterprise (Tel: 01235 547695).

**Recommendations**

*Members are requested to determine which of the two options (detailed in paragraphs 5.1 and 6.1) should be used for the apportionment of the 2006/07 community grants budget of £ 113,400.*

*Members are requested to approve that the Executive and area committees are able to carry forward any community grants budget from 2005/06, which remains unallocated at the end of 2005/06.*

**18. Draft Vale Youth Development Strategy for 2006-2009**

**(Pages 84 - 115)**

To receive and consider report 243/05 of the Strategic Director.

Introduction and Report Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide information about the proposed draft Vale Youth Development Strategy and seek approval to delegate the authority to finalise the consultation draft.

The contact officer for this report is Toby Warren, Head of Innovation & Enterprise (Tel: 01235 547695).

Recommendation

*Members are requested to delegate the authority to finalise the consultation draft of Vale Youth Development Strategy 2006-2009 to the Chair, Portfolio-holder for Youth Strategy and the Strategic Director.*

**19. Best Value Performance Indicators**

**(Pages 116 - 120)**

To receive and consider report 244/05 of the Strategic Director.

Introduction and Report Summary

This report compares the Council's performance against that of the national top and bottom quartile data for 2004-05 which was published by the Audit Commission in mid- January 2006.

The Contact Officer for this report is Robert Woodside, Principal Performance Management Officer (01235 520202 ext 499).

Recommendation

That Members note the Council's performance against the national top and bottom quartile results for 2004-05 and that active management of Best Value Performance Indicators is undertaken through the Corporate Governance Reporting process.

**20. Best Value Review Programme 2006 - 07**

**(Pages 121 - 122)**

To receive and consider report 245/05 of the Strategic Director.

**21. Decriminalised Parking**

**(Pages 123 - 129)**

To receive and consider report 246/05 of the Strategic Director.

Introduction and Report Summary

Oxfordshire County Council have resolved to introduce Decriminalised Parking Enforcement

(DPE) in all Oxfordshire Districts, including the Vale. It is the stated objective of the Department for Transport (DfT) that DPE should bring together the control and enforcement of both on-street and off-street parking in the interest of public understanding. This Council is responsible for the provision and enforcement of public off-street parking, and derives a revenue income from this service; therefore, the introduction of DPE in the Vale will clearly have an impact on the Vale's parking activity.

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an introduction to DPE, set out the County Councils initial proposals on how they see DPE being implemented, and consider the effect that this may have on the Vale's parking service. It is not intended at this stage that Members should take a formal decision on detailed matters, but that the Executive should give an initial reaction to some principal issues, to enable Officers to commence detailed discussions with the County Council.

The Contact Officer for this report is Gordon Willcox, Section Head (Transportation) telephone 01235 540390.

### **Recommendations**

*That the Executive:*

*Advise Oxfordshire County Council that:*

- a) this Council supports, in principle, the implementation of Decriminalised Parking Enforcement throughout the Vale, subject to agreement on all financial, operational and administrative details;*
- b) this Council is willing, in principle, to assume responsibility for the management of both on-street and off-street parking enforcement, subject to reaching agreement with the County Council on the way that these operations will be funded, and how surpluses will be apportioned;*
- c) this Council has an objection, in principle, to the centralisation of the administration of DPE by the County Council, subject to further discussions and clarification of the relevant issues;*
- d) this Council is willing, in principle, to provide the facilities for the payment of parking fines, subject to agreement on the way that this operation will be funded;*

*Request that the Assistant Director (Planning) advise the County Council of its decisions in relation to recommendations 2.1a), b), c), and d); and authorise Officers to commence detailed discussions with the County Council on the future management of DPE, including investigating opportunities for partnership working with both the County and the other Oxfordshire District Councils, and report subsequent progress to the Executive as soon as practicable.*

## **22. 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 23     **Minutes**  
(Category 7 - Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (other than the authority).

- Item 24    Property Matters  
(Category 8 - The amount of any expenditure proposed to be incurred by the authority under any particular contract for the acquisition of property or the supply of goods or services).

**EXEMPT INFORMATION UNDER SECTION 100A(4) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**STANDING ITEMS**

**23.    Minutes**

To adopt and sign as a correct record the Exempt minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 23 February 2006, (previously circulated).

**OTHER MATTERS**

**24.    Property Matters**

**(Pages 130 - 132)**

To consider any property matters.

- (a)    To receive and consider report 247/05 of the Strategic Director.