

Minutes of the Executive

15th October 2004

-: Present :-

Councillor Jennings (Vice-chairman) (In the Chair)

Councillors Charwood, James, Lomas, McHugh and Stringer

(Also in attendance: Councillors Cope, Faulkner (Mr A), Stocks and Turnbull)

291. Apology. An apology for absence was received from the Chairman (Councillor Harris)

292. Matter for Consideration. The Executive considered the following matter, full details of which (including the decisions of the Executive) are set out in the Record of Decisions in Appendix 1 to these Minutes.

292.1 Self Assessment.

Leader of the Council



APPENDIX 1

**to the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive
held on 15th October 2004**

RECORD OF DECISION

SELF ASSESSMENT

Decision Taker

The Executive at its meeting held on 15th October 2004.

Decision

That the Self-Assessment prepared in advance of the Corporate Assessment, as presented at the meeting, be adopted for submission to the Audit Commission.

That the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, be authorised to make any further necessary amendments to the document prior to its submission.

Reason for Decision

The submission of a Self-Assessment is a requirement of the Audit Commission prior to it undertaking the Corporate Assessment of the Council.

The deadline for submission of the Self-Assessment is Monday 18th October and further amendments may need to be made to the document before that deadline.

Information

The Executive had before it the draft Self-Assessment that had been prepared in advance of the Corporate Assessment of the Council that would take place during November 2004. The document was structured around the four key lines of enquiry and gave the Council's views on how it assessed its current position in relation to nine judgements.

The Self-Assessment had been prepared in consultation with Members of the Executive, Directors' Management Team, Assistant Directors and the Change Management Board. The document had also been discussed during workshop sessions with the Council's partners and at informal meetings with Members.

The Monitoring Board had endorsed the broad contents of the document and the score that had been assigned to each judgement. However, it had been recommended that the length of the document should be reduced.

The Overview and Scrutiny Board had considered the document earlier in the day. The Board had noted that a number of supporting documents had also been collated and that these would be available to the Inspectors prior to, and during, the forthcoming Inspection. These documents included a range of Examples of Good Practice from around the Authority and Progress Reports on all elements of the Change Management Plan.

The Board had recommended that consideration should be given to including:

- (i) reference within the Self-Assessment to the role of Executive Support Members in driving forward the Council's priorities; and
- (ii) within the Examples of Good Practice, a briefing on the work undertaken by the Council in respect of licensing.

APPENDIX 1 (continued)

Members of the Executive felt that the role of other Councillor Champions, not just the Executive Support Members, should be referred to within the document. Other suggested amendments were also made at the meeting.

Alternative options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

To not adopt the Self-Assessment.

Is this a Key Decision? (Give reference number if applicable)

No but the issue was included within the Forward Plan under Reference Number X44/2004.

Does the call-in procedure apply? (If no, please give reason)

No as the Self-Assessment needs to be submitted to the Audit Commission on 18th October 2004. The Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinator was consulted before the meeting and agreed that the decision was urgent.

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None

Published

Friday 22nd October 2004

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 15th October 2004.