

APPENDIX B

WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE – 8 JULY 2008

Title:

FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2008/09 TO 2010/11 - UPDATE

[Wards Affected: N/A]

Summary and purpose:

The Council's Financial Strategy was updated as part of the 2008/09 budget process. The 2007/08 draft Final Accounts have now been reported to Council and allow for initial consideration of the Financial Strategy for 2008/09 – 2010/11.

Environmental Implications

There are no direct environmental implications arising from this report.

Social/community implications

There are no direct social/community implications arising from this report although the Financial Strategy aims to ensure that sufficient resources are available to provide Waverley's key services to the community in the longer-term.

E-Government implications:

The Financial Strategy covers all areas of expenditure including the costs of delivering Waverley's IT capital programme and the resources available to fund this.

Resource and legal implications:

The Financial Strategy is a corporate document that identifies the financial issues and policies of the Council. The Strategy is a key element in Waverley's policy framework relating to prudent financial management.

The Financial Strategy

1. The Financial Strategy is well established in Waverley and the key policies and issues are presented to Members each year in the Finance Seminar in October. The primary purpose of the Strategy is to demonstrate that Waverley's funds are managed in an effective and sustainable way and to ensure that sufficient funds exist to deliver Waverley's current and future Corporate Plan objectives and priorities.
2. The document at Annexe 1 considers the period of Waverley's current Corporate Plan to 2010/11 and builds on the budget decisions agreed by the Council in February 2008. The impact of the outturn position in 2007-08 is also included in the Strategy. The Strategy includes the main headline figures

that show Waverley's overall financial position in the Medium Term and it highlights the key pressures and opportunities currently facing the Council.

Risks

3. The Financial Strategy is a living document and, over the coming year, it will be updated in the light of the following significant areas for which there is currently a degree of uncertainty:
- The impact of rising inflation and energy costs
 - Fluctuations in interest rates
 - The financial impact of the leisure capital improvement programme
 - The extent of service pressures arising from service plans
 - Opportunities for efficiency gains and further cost savings
 - The outcome of the value for money review programme
 - The outcome of the Government's review of the housing subsidy system
 - The extent of planning development tariff income

The latest position will be presented to Members at the 2008 Finance Seminar in late October.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Executive note the Financial Strategy update and the financial issues facing the Council.

Background Papers (CX)

There are no background papers (as defined by Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) relating to this report.

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