

SCRUTINY COMMISSION – 1ST SEPTEMBER 2009

MEDIUM TERM DELIVERY PLAN (MTDP)

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Purpose of Report

1. This report updates members on the current position on the Medium Term Delivery Plan.

Background

2. Following the elections of a new Council it has been the practice for the incoming Administration to set out in its Medium Term Delivery Plan how it proposes to make a difference to the lives of the people and communities it serves.
3. Under normal circumstances, the MDTP would be published for consultation with stakeholders in September. The Plan would set out in some detail the improvements and priorities the County Council proposed to focus on, often in partnership with other agencies under the umbrella of Leicestershire Together.

Financial Outlook

4. It is almost universally recognised that the requirement to reduce the very high levels of government debt will require significant reductions in public spending and probably increases in taxation as well. The magnitude of the cuts in public sector expenditure likely to be required over the coming years as the means to reduce the level of public sector debt needs to be acknowledged. This will have a significant impact on all local authorities including Leicestershire.

Proposed Timetable for the MTDP and links with the Medium Term Financial Strategy

5. The Cabinet has recognised that it is important that an effective and realistic plan is in place as early as possible to deal with the delivery priorities within the context of a likely reduction in government grant to support local services. To that end the publication (for consultation) of the MDTP has been delayed so that it ties in with the most recent projections of the impact of likely reductions in public sector expenditure. The potential impact of reductions in Government Grant are currently being assessed and will be reported to the Cabinet shortly.

6. The intention is to undertake a consultation exercise with all stakeholders (including scrutiny) of the potential priorities and non priorities and the delivery of these in the new financial climate. It is hoped to commence formal consultation in the Autumn.

Recommendations


7. The Commission is asked to note the current position on developing the Medium Term Delivery Plan and proposed consultation arrangements.

Impact Analysis

8. The Medium Term Delivery Plan will include proposals relating to equalities, how the Council will tackle crime and disorder climate change and a range of other issues. Delivery of the priorities in the Plan will be dependent on partnership working and as such will be risk assessed.

Officer to contact

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