

REPORT TO CABINET

REPORT OF: Chief Executive

REPORT NO. CEX268

DATE: 7th February 2005

TITLE:	Timetable for Review of Council Priorities in 2005
COUNCIL AIMS/PORTFOLIO HOLDER NAME AND DESIGNATION:	Leader Organisational Development and Performance Management
CORPORATE PRIORITY:	All
CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS:	Dealt with in the Report
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT IMPLICATIONS:	None
BACKGROUND PAPERS:	CEX255

Introduction

Although the priorities are intended to be implemented over several years, when approving the Council's priorities in May 2005, the Council resolved to re-consider the priorities annually. In this way it was intended to ensure that the Council's priorities were reviewed in the light of changes in local or national priorities, or indeed, the success of the Council in achieving its aims.

Although the five category A priorities were set in May, the prioritisation process was not completed until October 2004 and indeed, the first significant release of funds from non-priority areas cannot commence until April 2005. As a result of this action plans have not yet been approved for all of the current priorities.

One factor that could have prompted an early review of priorities would have been if the Local Government budget settlement had released significant new resources for investment. This has not proven to be the case, indeed the imposition of the Gershon efficiency target means that the Council will have to re-consider the efficiency and effectiveness of its current services.

Another factor to consider in determining the timetable for the review is the recommendation arising from the CPA re-fresh to reconsider the responsibility of Cabinet portfolio-holders in the light of the Council's priorities. As the responsibilities of portfolio-holders have to be detailed within the Council's constitution, it is most easy to accommodate any changes to the allocation of responsibilities at the Council's AGM which is on the 28th April 2005.

On this basis the following timescale for the review of the Council's priorities is proposed:

Date	Actions
January 2005	Residents survey ascertaining views on current priorities
February 2005	Consultation by the LSP on its vision and priorities
21 st February	Briefing to Cabinet on outcome of survey
7 th March	Report to Cabinet on proposed priorities.
March/April	Consultation with all DSPs
28 th April	Report to Annual Council

Recommendation

That the above timetable be endorsed by the Cabinet and reported to Council.

Duncan Kerr
Chief Executive