



New Executive Arrangements Consultation

RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 In the light of the letter from the Minister for Housing and Local Government, to agree that low level consultation be undertaken concerning the Council's proposed model of executive arrangements comprising:
 - a press release
 - appropriate information on the Council's website including an opportunity to respond.
- 1.2 To recommend that Council consider the results of the consultation and take a final decision at the scheduled Council meeting on 17 November 2010 rather than a special meeting on 15 December.
- 1.3 To hold a further meeting of this Committee at 6pm on 3 November 2010 to make recommendations to full Council.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 At their meeting on 7 July 2010, full Council considered a report on Governance, reproduced as Appendix 2. The Council passed the following resolution, which amended the recommendations in the report:
 - "1. That Council determines, in principle, that it wishes to adopt a leader and cabinet model of executive arrangements and authorises appropriate consultation with the public and stakeholders.
 2. That Council will not move to whole Council elections from May 2011.
 3. That a special Governance Committee, comprising the Leaders and Deputy Leaders of each political group, and chaired by the Leader of the Council, be established to agree consultation arrangements and oversee the process leading to the final decision on the Council's future executive arrangements.
 4. That a special meeting of the Council be held on 15 December 2010 to take the final decision on the Council's future executive arrangements.
 5. That Council determines that, in the light of the outcomes of the review of neighbourhood management, approved by the Council Cabinet on 16 March 2010, there is no need for a Community Governance Review."

2.2 Following the Council meeting, a letter was received from Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP, Minister for Housing and Local Government, a copy of which is provided at Appendix 3. As can be seen, the Minister is urging Councils to take a low-cost approach to consultation in view of the fact that the Coalition Government intend to legislate to change the statutory requirements relating to executive arrangements and leadership models in local authorities. It is possible that these modified requirements will come into force in May 2012, just one year after the Council has adopted its 'new' arrangements under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (the 2007 Act).

2.3 It is proposed, therefore, that the consultation arrangements required under the 2007 Act comprise:

- a press release
- appropriate information on the Council's website with an opportunity to respond.

The consultation period should be from 1 September to 13 October 2010, with a further meeting of this Committee being held on 3 November 2010 to consider the results and make a recommendation to full Council.

2.4 Given the low-key nature of the consultation it is suggested that the final decision on the Council's executive arrangements, to operate from May 2011, could be taken at the scheduled meeting on 17 November 2010, rather than a special meeting on 15 December 2010 as resolved by Council.

For more information contact:	Steve Dunning 01332 255462 e-mail steve.dunning@derby.gov.uk
Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Report to Council 7 July 2010 Appendix 3 – Letter from Grant Shapps MP

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. There will be no costs involved in the proposed consultation method.

Legal

2. Under the 2007 Act, the Council must take reasonable steps to consult its electors and other interested persons in its area upon its new arrangements. In the circumstances, the steps outlined in paragraph 2.3 are considered reasonable.

Personnel

3. None directly from this report.

Equalities Impact

4. None directly from this report.

Corporate Themes and Priorities

5. None directly from this report.