



COUNCIL CABINET 2 SEPTEMBER 2008

Report of the Chair of the Scrutiny Management Commission

New Ways of Working and Accommodation Strategy

SUMMARY

- 1.1 At its meeting on 1 September 2008 the Scrutiny Management Commission (SMC) considered the report on New Ways of Working and Accommodation Strategy that the Corporate Director of Corporate and Adult Services had prepared for the Council Cabinet meeting on 2 September 2008.
- 1.2 Having considered the report and supporting information provided by the Director and the Assistant Director – Property Services, the Commission offered the following comments:
 1. The refurbished Council House should be seen as an 'environmental flagship' for the whole City. SMC members considered that when they approved the proposals for New Ways of Working and the Accommodation Strategy, the Council Cabinet should have full regard for the Council's green agenda. SMC members were also of the opinion that Cabinet should give consideration to incorporating all practicable environmental options in the refurbishment, that the relevant standards should be identified and clearly defined, and that ultimately, decisions should not be made just on the basis of the lowest cost.
 2. All members of the City Council should be informed of the choices that were available and wherever possible the opinions of members on those choices should be sought.
 3. Consultation should be carried out with the Disabled People's Diversity Forum at all stages of the process and that wherever appropriate the views of the Forum should be taken into account.
 4. That 'best practice' methods should be employed wherever this is feasible.
 5. That emphasis should be give to resolving existing IT issues before the decant of staff is commenced.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. Scrutiny Management Commission recommends that throughout the life of the project, the Council Cabinet should provide an update report on progress with New Ways of Working and the Accommodation Strategy to each meeting of the Commission.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3. To ensure that the Scrutiny Management Commission is kept full informed of the progress of the project and to provide the Commission with an established route for feeding their views on proposals and outcomes back to Council Cabinet.

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Background papers: Background Papers - None
List of appendices: Appendix 1 – Implications

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. None arising from this report.

Legal

2. None arising from this report.

Personnel

3. None arising from this report.

Equalities impact

4. New Ways of Working and the Accommodation Strategy will have a potential impact on all Derby people.

Corporate Priorities

5. This report has the potential to link with all the Council's Corporate priorities.