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REPORT TO:	FINANCE & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 6 (b)
DATE OF MEETING:	13 OCTOBER 2005	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	OPEN:
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	COUNCILLOR K HARRINGTON (CHAIR OF COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE)	DOC:
SUBJECT:	CONSULTATION FOR THE CORPORATE PLAN	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE: FM14

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## 1.0 Recommendation

1.1 It is recommended that:

- The Finance and Management Committee (F & M) consider the Community Scrutiny committee's (Scrutiny) review findings and recommended next steps regarding consulting the community, as part of developing the Corporate Plan.

## 2.0 Purpose of Report

2.1 To support F & M's considerations and decisions in respect of the preparations for the Corporate Plan, in the area of community consultation.

## 3.0 Detail

### Introduction

- 3.1 At the F & M meeting 1 September 2005 (minute FM/43 refers), arrangements for the preparation of the Council's next Corporate Plan (including consultation) were agreed.
- 3.2 As part of the process for preparing the Corporate Plan, the Council will need to demonstrate that an inclusive community-wide consultation has been undertaken as effectively as possible.

### Considerations by Scrutiny

- 3.3 Scrutiny met on 1 September 2005 (minute CYS/13 refers) and discussed a possible framework around the consultation process for the Corporate Plan.
- 3.4 Scrutiny has looked carefully at the various forms of consultation widely used. However it is mindful of the restricted timescales associated with this project. Following these discussions it is recommending a series of consultation exercises that it believes will realistically cover the sectors of the community in the time available. This is appended for F & M's consideration.

### Next steps

- 3.5 Scrutiny requests that F & M endorse the proposed consultation process as outlined in the attached appendix.
- 3.6 Obviously at this stage Scrutiny has not been in a position to analyse prospective content or the detail of questions and scenarios that could be asked or set with the individual consultation elements. This will obviously be a core element of each part of the consultative process.
- 3.7 The consultation process should be instigated immediately in order to adhere to the time frame agreed. If it is the wish of F & M, Scrutiny would be prepared to develop the programme further and would liaise closely with representatives of this committee.

### 4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 There will be costs associated with this programme. However at this stage it is anticipated that they can be contained within existing budgets.