
REPORT TO:	COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM: 19
DATE OF MEETING:	3RD JULY 2008	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES	OPEN PARAGRAPH NO: N/A
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	JAYNE JONES (5800)	DOC:
SUBJECT:	ANNUAL REPORT 2007/8	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	

1.0 Recommendations

1.1 Members approve the draft Annual Report 2007/8 (copy to follow in due course).

2.0 Purpose of Report

2.1 To inform Members of the Council's first Annual Report that summarises 'what we do' and 'who we are', together with actions for the current year and the operational and financial performance of the Council in 2007/8.

2.2 The report has been specifically designed to be both appealing and understandable to members of the public.

3.0 Detail

3.1 This Annual Report draws upon the approved Corporate Plans for 2007/8 and 2008/9, end of year performance reports for 2007/8 recently reported to Policy Committees, and financial outturn figures as reported to Finance and Management Committee on 26th June 2008.

3.2 In an effort to improve presentation of our financial information for members of the public, a Summary of Accounts was produced and published in 2005/6 and 2006/7 alongside the much larger Statement of Accounts, to provide an overview of the detailed statements in a way that is easier to understand. This helped us achieve level 3 Use of Resources.

3.3 This summary was produced following consultation with local residents who advised on the content and layout, however, following the last consultation, attendees at the consultation event felt that the Council should produce a much wider Annual Report that incorporated the summary financial information with other information about the Council.

3.4 In addition, the Audit Commission's Use of Resources assessment (level 4 - well above minimum requirements) requires us to *"publish in accessible formats an annual report or similar document which includes summary accounts and an*

explanation of key financial information/technical terms designed to be understandable by members of the public.”

3.5 As a result of the above the Communication Strategy 2007/8 reported to this committee in November 2007 had a specific action to produce an Annual Report.

3.6 The report has been managed and designed in-house and all photographs used in the document have been taken in South Derbyshire. It presents a positive picture of actions undertaken by the Council in 2007/8 together with our ambitions for 2008/9.

3.7 Following approval by the Council the Annual Report will be launched on our website and a printed version will be made available to Members, our key partners, parish councils, the media, neighbouring authorities, libraries and copies will be available at public meetings/events.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 Printing costs can be accommodated within the current budget.

5.0 Corporate Implications

5.1 This Annual Report specifically links to action 2.1 in the Corporate Plan - *‘effective communication with residents, businesses and partners.’*

6.0 Community Implications

6.1 This report is a direct result of consultation with our residents and will enable a better understanding of what we do as a Council, enhancing our reputation.

7.0 Conclusions

7.1 This Annual Report responds to a number of sources of good practice and will be used to champion the work of this Council throughout the coming financial year.