

# FINANCE PORTFOLIO DECISION RECORD

10 November 2006

**Present:**

Councillor Robbie Payne (Finance Portfolio Holder)

Officers: Chris Little, Assistant Chief Financial Officer (Corporate Finance)  
John Morton, Assistant Chief Financial Officer (Financial Services)  
Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

## **6. Treasury Management Strategy Review** (*Chief Financial Officer*)

**Type of decision**

Non-key.

**Purpose of report**

To provide a review of Treasury Management Strategy for 2006/2007.

**Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder**

The detailed report outlined borrowing and lending to date, the latest forecast for interest rates, Prudential Code Monitoring and recommended changes to the Council's investment strategy. The Chief Financial Officer requested that investment periods for institutions with the highest credit rating be increased from 2 years to 3 years. Details of the proposed institutions were appended to the report.

In addition a request was made that the Chief Financial Officer be given delegated authority to undertake further strategic borrowing if it would secure lower rates. In response to concerns raised by the Portfolio Holder the Assistant Chief Financial Officer advised that there would be parameters in place. Often in these situations officers needed to be able to act on a minute by minute basis. The Portfolio Holder also queried monitoring processes and was told that this was done on a daily basis by the finance department and advisers to the Secretary to the Treasury. All borrowing was done at a long term fixed rate and investments were spread out among a number of banks.

**Decisions**

1. That the report be noted.

2. That the borrowing and investment strategies outlined in the report be approved.
3. That the extension of investment periods as set out in the appendix to the report be approved.

**7. Chief Executive's Departmental Plan 2006/07 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Monitoring Report** (*Chief Financial Officer and Chief Solicitor*)

**Type of decision**

Non-key.

**Purpose of report**

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the progress made against the Chief Executive's Departmental Plan 2006/07 in the six months to 30 September 2006

**Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder**

The Departmental Plan Update set out the department's aims and objectives and included performance to the end of September for the Finance and Legal Divisions in relation to key issues and tasks. Of 79 actions within the Finance Division 69 had been, or were on target to be, completed. The Assistant Chief Financial Officer (Financial Services) gave detailed information on the 10 actions which had not been completed including insurance strategy, risk management, procurement arrangements and corporate IT projects.

With reference to future procurement from suppliers the Portfolio Holder asked about the position of local traders and what was being done to protect their interests. The Assistant Chief Financial Officer (Financial Services) reported that this issue would require careful consideration as part of future arrangements. The Portfolio Holder requested that the Head of Procurement and Property Services be made aware of his concerns.

An update was given by the Assistant Chief Financial Officer (Financial Services) covering the successes of the Revenues and Benefits sections in being shortlisted for national awards by the IRRV. The Portfolio Holder asked that the revenues and benefits staff be congratulated on their excellent presentations and achievements and stated how delighted he was with the professional attitude and conduct of staff at the IRRV National conference.

The Assistant Chief Financial Officer (Financial Services) provided an update on the proposed revenues and benefits restructure. The Portfolio Holder praised officers for looking forward to future issues and challenges. The Portfolio Holder asked that a comprehensive report on the restructure be brought to a future meeting.

**Decisions**

That the achievement on key issues and tasks be noted

**J A BROWN**

**CHIEF SOLICITOR**

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