

APPENDIX A

PROPOSED AMENDMENT BY MR P.G. ALLNATT – CORPORATE PLAN

Council resolves to amend the Corporate Plan appearing in the agenda papers (and as may be altered at the meeting) to read as follows:

North Wilts District Council Corporate Plan 2007/2008.

Purpose.

1. The purpose of the Corporate Plan is to describe a clear overview of the Council's functions, aims, policies and priorities to the general public, employees, elected members, external organisations and audit agencies.

Functions.

2. North Wiltshire District Council (NWDC) is a statutory body created by the Local Government Act 1972 and commenced operation 1st April 1974.
3. Ultimately Parliamentary law (legislation) prescribes or proscribes what it may or may not do, but mostly NWDC is instructed or guided by secondary legislation and other agencies appointed by Government.
4. The Council will exercise all its powers and duties in accordance with the law and its Constitution. Some references to key legislation and functions of NWDC are at *Appendix A*¹. The purpose of the Constitution and choices between different course of action are reproduced at *Appendix B*.

Aims.

5. The overall aims of NWDC are to "Improve North Wiltshire". By this is meant that NWDC will play its part to help "improve the quality of life and opportunities for the citizens of North Wiltshire" and this is also the "Vision" for North Wiltshire.

Policies.

6. The policies (sometimes called "plans" "strategies" "framework documents" and other labels) are listed at *Appendix C* with their start and review dates. The policies and their execution will seek to:-
 - a. Provide those public services required by Parliament in an efficient, effective and economic manner.
 - b. Provide those public services permitted by Parliament and desired by local communities, as resources permit, also in an efficient, effective and economic manner.
 - c. Carry out both required and permitted services, where appropriate and affording best value, in partnership with other public agencies, charitable and commercial organisations.

¹ *Appendices in italics are to be added by officers and submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.*

Priorities

7. All of the following priorities are linked to one or more policies, the Best Value Performance Plan and Service Plans, as appropriate, tabulated at *Appendix D*.
8. The external Performance Management Audit (PMA) (August 2006) recommended that the Council “establish relevant outcome based measures and SMART targets, tailored to what the Council wants to achieve in all priorities”. These will be developed in the Service Plans.
9. The PMA also recommended that “as appropriate, rank priorities to establish their order of importance”. It is not considered “appropriate” to rank the priorities set out below.
10. The PMA also recommended “define what are not priorities”. Anything, which is not listed below is not a priority.

11. The Priorities for 2007/2008.

- a. **Leisure Centres.** Secure six leisure centres in North Wiltshire. Manage the orderly transfer of the four named centres to the agreed company under contract for an interim period of approximately 18 to 24 months from the 1st April 2007. Seek interim arrangements for the other two centres as resources and opportunity permits.
- b. **Leisure Centres.** Secure the long term future of the six leisure centres beyond the interim period.
- c. **Carbon Reduction.** Defer the carbon reduction programme pending the outcome of “a” and “b” above.
- d. **Rudloe Community Centre.** Commence work as agreed by the Executive Committee but with greater emphasis on energy saving.
- e. **Public Toilets.** Secure the orderly transfer of all public toilets to town and parish councils by 1st April 2008 as recommended by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- f. **Corsham Railway station.** Determine whether or not this is achievable by January 2008, and if not whether the £252,000 covenanted by the Consortium at Pockeredge Farm under s106 agreement may be utilised for “other community and public transport needs arising from the housing development” from 31st January 2008.
- g. **Investment Reserves.** Review the status of the £20million plus investments and assess how quickly the revenue income earned from these can be utilised for the capital programme, rather than routine revenue service expenditure. Also assess the impact and desirability of converting part of these reserves to tangible assets (for example leisure centres) or other aspects of the capital programme, in particular for housing.
- h. **Car Parking charges and devolution to Town Councils.** Generally consult the town and parish councils on the reserving the revenue from the “first hour of parking charges” as a block grant to the respective council, from 1st April 2008 or 1st April 2009, to support the costs of running public toilets and a basket of other town centre services. In the case of towns which currently do not have charges

for the first hour consider a community area wide public consultation or ballot on the proposal. In the case of Castle Coombe consult on part of the revenue from Dunns Lane being reserved for “additional” on-street enforcement.

- i. **Area Committees.** Irrespective of the outcome of the “unitary council” application: give notice to all partner organisations that, with effect from 1st April 2007 NWDC, will only use the area committees as the public forum for consultation. This will include Crime and Disorder Partnership, Local Transport Plan, Community Planning/LSP, service delivery, local (plans) development framework, conservation, youth but **not** statutory consultation regarding planning applications and licensing. District councillors exercising statutory authority will vote separately. The County Council will be invited to permit County councillor to vote on any delegated areas of their authority at the same forum, given due notice and so on. Where County and/or NWDC officers are consulting on areas of local choice within their ambit of delegated authority they will be asked to accept and act upon the views of the whole area forum.
- j. **Unitary Council for Wiltshire.** Prepare for and react to the decision of Government, from July 2007. If the decision is against a unitary authority then give notice and prepare to transfer back to the County Council those services which NWDC currently carries out on behalf of the County Council, by 1st April 2009 at the latest.
- k. **Senior Staff Restructuring.** Postpone advertising for two deputy chief executives until after the Government announcement on a Unitary Council for Wiltshire. If it is “yes” reconsider the second tier. If it is “no” advertise for the posts to commence from 1st April 2008. Proceed with the restructuring of the third tier as planned. Commence restructuring and reduction in staff numbers at fourth tier and below with the **aim** of achieving at least a ten post saving at these levels by January 2008
- l. **Routine Services savings etc.** Continue with the drive to improve general performance and efficiency savings including Gershon savings across all departments.