CAB 763 FOR DECISION WARD(S): GENERAL

CABINET

3 December, 2003

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL CONSULTATION STRATEGY

REPORT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Contact Officer: John Kelly Tel No: 01962 848383

RECENT REFERENCES:

None

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Consultation Strategy (attached Appendix 1) sets out the Council's main objectives when consulting with its residents and other stakeholders. The Strategy puts in context the role of consultation in the decision making process. It also sets out the procedures to follow and the purpose and aims of Council consultations.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Consultation Strategy be approved.

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DETAIL:

- 1. The attached Consultation Strategy outlines the main objectives and reasons for the City Council conducting consultations. The document has been presented to CMT members and been reviewed by the Public Consultation (Scrutiny) Informal Group.
- 2. The strategy paper consists of two parts. The main part of the paper details the consultation strategy whilst the appendix to the paper shows an annual consultation plan projected forward for five years.
- 3. It is intended that as consultation exercises are planned or proposed by individual departments then the Research Officer will be informed so that the forward plan can be updated on a regular basis. As part of the current discussion for departmental business plans it is proposed that there should be a section detailing consultation exercises to be conducted by the department. The business plans will also be reviewed by the Research Officer to ensure that the Consultation Forward Plan is kept up to date.
- 4. Once approved the Strategy and the forward plan of consultations will be made available on the Council's Intranet and Internet web sites.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

5. RELEVANCE TO THE CORPORATE STRATEGY:

The adoption of the Consultation Strategy will assist in meeting the various aims of the Council's Corporate Strategy.

6. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

None.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None

<u>APPENDIX</u> - Consultation Strategy