Report to Executive Board - 30th November 2004

CONSULTATION STRATEGY

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Strategy and Review

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Lead Member

Responsible: Councillor Bill Baker

Overview and

Scrutiny: Finance

Key decision: No

SUMMARY The Consultation Strategy has been updated. There are no staffing or additional financial implications of this report.

RECOMMENDATION

Executive Board is RECOMMENDED to:

Recommend Council to adopt this Consultation Strategy as part of the Policy Framework.

BACKGROUND

As outlined in the CPA Improvement Plan, the Consultation Strategy needs updating from the last version produced in 2001. The attached document is the updated Consultation Strategy (2004-2007) for final sign off. Executive Board is asked to recommend Council to adopt it as part of the Policy Framework.

The Consultation Strategy draws on the Scrutiny Review of Consultation (March 2004) and builds on the 2001 Consultation Strategy. The Strategy explains what consultation is and spells out Oxford City Council's ten consultation aims. It also outlines responsibilities and sets out an action plan for the next three years, but is also a working document, which will be reviewed annually.

This draft of the Consultation Strategy has been amended in line with comments received from:

- Executive Board (4th October meeting)
- Finance Scrutiny (22nd September meeting)

- Area Committees (South East 4th October; Cowley 6th October; North 7th October; Central, South & West 12th October; North East 19th October, East 20th October)
- Strategic Management Board
- Corporate Management Group
- Consultation and Communication Officers Group
- Strategy & Review staff
- Performance Management staff
- Equalities Steering Group
- Oxford Strategic Partnership
- Countywide Consultation Officers Forum
- Talkback Steering Group
- Oxford Tenants Panel

One of Oxford City Council's Vision statements is 'improving dialogue and consultation'. This Consultation Strategy will give focus to the achievement of this goal, as well as the other six goals. The Consultation Strategy will go to full Council for approval on 24th January.

This report has been seen and approved by:

- Cllr Bill Baker, Deputy Leader of the Council
- Sharon Cosgrove, Strategic Director, Physical Environment.
- Financial & Asset Management
- Brian Johnson, Legal & Democratic Services

Background Papers: none