

COUNCIL: 3 DECEMBER 2003

Executive Report

Councillor Paul Bettison
Leader of the Council



Major Issues (1)

Strategic Objectives 2003-2007

- Comprehensive and ambitious 3 year programme
- 15 key objectives
- 98 specific actions
- Consultation with public and partners
- Constructive (but few) responses
- Broad support for Council's policy direction



Major Issues (2)

Every Child Matters

- Far reaching Green Paper
- All Member seminar : 11 November
- Response agreed : 18 November
- Endorsed by CYPLSP : 24 November
- Council supportive of principles but
- Greater emphasis on health needed
- Structural change should be determined locally



Major Issues (3)

Key Sites/Strategic Development

- Garth Hill/Wick Hill Masterplan agreed
- Eastern Gateway planning brief agreed
- Town centre : Renewable energy partnership bid



Major Issues (4)

Comprehensive Performance Assessment

- Self assessment shows excellent progress
- All services performing better or as well as last year
- Asset Management Plan “Good”
- Social Services 2*s
- Revised rating to be published : 18 December



Major Issues (5)

Service Modernisation/Rationalisation

Difficult decisions needed on:

South Bracknell Review

- Unsustainable number of surplus primary places
- Widespread and real public consultation
- Decision expected January 2004

Major Issues (5) contd....

Service Modernisation/Rationalisation

Day opportunities

- Reviews covered Older People and People with Learning Disability
- Widespread independent consultation
- Service modernisation needed to extend opportunities in line with Joint Review
 - Closure of Johnstone Court
 - Enhanced use of Downside
- Protection for existing users

Forward Look

Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement : 18 Nov

- FSS = £104.3m
- Grant increase = £3.5m
- Education passporting £2.9m
- Very difficult decisions needed
- Draft budget to:
 - Executive : 16 Dec
 - Overview Panels : Jan 2004