

Denbighshire County Council - Cabinet 20th June

Pattern of Working.

A report by the Chief Executive

1. Purpose of Report.

1.1 To outline a pattern of working to enable the Cabinet to carry out its work.

2. Proposal

2.1 **For the Cabinet to meet fortnightly and agree dates to the end of the year.**

3. Reasons for proposal

- The Cabinet will carry out strategic and delegated functions as well as the functions of the emergency powers committee, previously meeting monthly. Fortnightly meetings would seem to provide for the possible volume of its work.
- Fortnightly meetings provide for swifter feedback both from and to the monthly Policy Review and Scrutiny Committees.
- Fortnightly meetings would ensure that the Cabinet is able to provide effective leadership

4. Comment

4.1 The volume of work will come from a number of directions:

- Policy proposals arising out the work of the Cabinet's policy working groups (including budget proposals) for forwarding to Council
- The need to respond to the government and National Assembly for Wales' initiatives
- Decisions on delegated responsibilities including emergency powers functions
- Scrutiny Committee work responses.

4.2 Over time there will be a need to develop a cabinet work programme indicating the order in which the Cabinet will be considering issues. This will enable time for the Policy Review and Scrutiny Committees to feed into the process.

5. Possible Dates

Tuesday	20th June	agreed
Thursday	6th July	agreed
Tuesday	18th July	
Thursday	3rd August	
Tuesday	15th August	
Thursday	31st August	
Tuesday	12th September	
Thursday	28th September	
Monday	9th October	
Tuesday	24th October	
Tuesday	7th November	
Thursday	23rd November	
Tuesday	5th December	
Thursday	21st December	

6. Items for the next or future meetings

6th July

Recovery Plan
Cabinet Priorities Plan
Cabinet Resourcing
Strengthening Accountancy
Support for Council and the work of the Chair.

7. Recommendation

7.1 Members advise on suitability of dates as above.

Denbighshire County Council - Cabinet 20th June

Conferences and Seminars and attendance at meetings

A Report by the Head of Policy.

1. Purpose of Report

1,1 To bring to Members' attention various requests for seminars or attendance at meetings..

2. Background

Local Business Partnerships

2.1 The First Secretary of the National Assembly for Wales wrote to local authorities in March this year encouraging the setting up of local business partnerships in Wales. The specific focus of these partnerships is on enforcement issues.

2.2 The WLGA has indicated its support for this government initiative and has successfully lobbied the National Assembly to set up seminars in North and South Wales.

2.3 At this stage the WLGA are merely asking to see if there is sufficient interest. There are no dates. The seminars will take the form of evening receptions.

2.4.1 Local Forums could have a beneficial effect through securing better understanding on enforcement issues, the relevant legislation and the role of officers.

Meeting with Lead Members for Education with Rosemary Butler 14th July

2.5 A meeting has been arranged for all Lead Members for Education and Directors with Rosemary Butler on 14th July at Rhayader Leisure Centre. Formal invitations will be issued shortly by the Assembly.

2.6 There will be a pre-meeting for the local authority delegates beforehand, which will be the first of planned quarterly meetings with the Education Spokesperson and Deputy Spokespersons of the WLGA. A calendar for future meetings will be agreed on the day. It is important that each authority is represented, so substitutes are requested if necessary.

MEETING WITH LOCAL AUTHORITY PLANNING REPRESENTATIVES Thursday 29th June 2000

2.7 the Assembly Secretary for the Environment is inviting an appropriate elected representative and technical officer to discuss planning issues as part of the attempt to develop the agenda of partnership to and I recognise our mutual dependence in delivering the agenda which we have set out in "Better Wales".

2.8 The meeting will take place in Conference Room A at the National Assembly Building, Cardiff Bay from 2.00pm-4.00pm on **Thursday 29th June 2000**. A buffet lunch will be available from 1.30pm in Conference Room C.

3. Comment.

3.1 It would be useful if Cabinet would consider delegating to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader the power to authorise the sending of representatives to meetings if the request comes after a Cabinet meeting and the meeting falls before the next. All attendance would be subsequently ratified at the nearest appropriate meeting of Cabinet.

4. Recommendation

4.1 Members indicate which if any of the above they feel should be attended.

4.2 Members agree to the delegation of power to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader to authorise attendance at meetings or seminars where these fall between meetings.

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District Auditor's Report

A report of the Chief Executive

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The District Auditor will presenting a report to Members on 20th June on the financial standing of the Authority. The District Auditor's report is appended for Members' information.

2. Comment.

2.1 The report indicates the District Auditor's view that the Authority still needs to identify and approve £0.81m of reductions, to complete an action plan and to submit a recovery plan. Members will note that the recovery plan is due for discussion on the 6th July.

3. Recommendation

3.1 Members make such comments as they wish on the District Auditor's Observations.

APPENDIX TO ITEM 8 NOT AVAILABLE IN ELECTRONIC FORM