

**REPORT TO: EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE ON
13 FEBRUARY 2008**

SUBJECT: EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT MONITORING 2007/08

BY: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 This report updates members on the Council's Efficient Government Agenda as it affects Community Services and outlines how actions will be progressed and reported.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section D (23) of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to Social Work services.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Education & Social Services Committee considers the updated position outlined in this report.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At the Policy and Resources Committee on 1 March 2006, a report on Efficient Government was presented by the Chief Financial Officer and was subsequently approved (para 6 of the minute refers).
- 3.2 A requirement of this report is that service committees receive an update on progress in implementing the Efficient Government Agenda at every meeting using a standard proforma.
- 3.3 A report is attached for members' information and consideration (**APPENDIX 1**) which outlines the current situation as a direct result of decisions made as part of the budget planning process. As many of the proposed areas of savings entail the on-going review of systems and processes, firm performance measures and figures can only be provided as potential areas are explored further.
- 3.4 Staff will continue to address the potential for efficiency savings and, at future Committees, updated proformas will be presented as currently identified activities are progressed and new activities are identified and included.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

- (a) **Corporate Development Plan/Community Plan/Service Improvement Plan**

This activity is in accordance with the Council's commitment to sound financial management.

(b) Policy and Legal

There are no policy and legal implications in this report.

(c) Resources (Financial, Risks, Staffing and Property)

The financial implications are detailed in **APPENDIX 1** of the report.

(d) Consultations

The Principal Accountant and Community Service's Senior Management Team have been consulted on this report.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 Progress is continuing with regard to achieving cash savings during 2007/08 although, for reasons outlined in APPENDIX 1, the Service is currently anticipating a year-end shortfall on its overall target. Officers are continuing to address this and in addition are contributing to the development of initiatives which may secure more efficient ways of commissioning or delivery services in the medium term.

Author of Report: Sandy Riddell, Director of Community Services
Background Papers: None
Ref: Efficient Government Monitoring/Education & Social Services Committee