



meeting **COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING**

date **Thursday 6th May 2003**

agenda item number

REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES

2. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report seeks to update Members on various issues relating to the Resources portfolio since my last report to Council.

2. PERSONNEL AND EMPLOYMENT RELATED MATTERS

Work on the national job evaluation exercise continues to proceed on a joint basis. Initial evaluations have been completed and the data monitoring phase is under way, examining the outcomes against structures, both vertically and horizontally, to check for anomalies and to provide initial job scores. The moderated data required to inform work involved in developing the Phase 2 Pay Strategy should be available in June.

We have agreed with the trade unions that we will be appointing a programme manager in the near future to lead the work on developing a pay strategy as part of the programme. Given the scale of the exercise and the need to get things right, both sides have agreed the importance of devoting sufficient time for this work. Considerations in this phase will need to take account of:

- the size and scope of the task in translating moderated evaluation results into working pay scales;
- negotiating the wider pay package, potentially including allowances and additional payments;
- dealing with the business implications for a number of services; and
- agreeing an appeals process and maintenance of the job evaluation system for the future.

3. BEST VALUE AND PERFORMANCE

We will not be required to produce a separate Best Value Performance Plan this year since, for authorities categorised in CPA as excellent or good, the Government has reduced its requirements. Accordingly, the Government will accept our annual corporate plan as meeting the statutory requirement to prepare a Performance Plan - providing that it

is identified as such and includes specified performance data to allow the Government to monitor performance.

4. PROCUREMENT MATTERS

In my last report to Council I reported on a successful bid to the ODPM for the Authority to host the new Regional Centre of Procurement Excellence. Next steps include locating the Centre with its core staff within the West Bridgford campus, finalising a 3 year business plan to unlock the 2 year funding stream (worth £400k per year), and convening a regional workshop to confirm the structure model and take matters forward.

5. TRADING SERVICES

I am currently awaiting year-end figures for the various trading units within the Authority. Performance summaries and observations will be reported in due course.

In previous reports I have commented upon the problematic position of the Warsop Telecentre following roll out of the corporate E-Content Project. Three staff have been seconded to the corporate project and will be eligible to apply for permanent posts within that structure. Based around remaining Telecentre staff a scaled down, stand alone, business unit called the Warsop Electronic Business (WEB) Centre has been launched to focus on remaining business areas. An outline business plan and a partnership arrangement with EMNET suggest that the new unit should be viable (and hence avoid the redundancy costs associated with the alternative of a straightforward closure of the Telecentre).

Cllr John Stocks
Cabinet Member for Resources