
COALITION GOVERNMENT POLICY PROPOSALS AND EARLY DECISIONS

To: **Cabinet – 17 June 2010**

Main Portfolio Area: **Leader**

By: **Chief Executive**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: **All**

Summary: This report provides commentary on the financial and operational impacts of the new Government's programme as set out in the Coalition Agreement published shortly after the General Election, in as much as they apply to local government and this Council.

For Decision

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 Following the general Election and the forming of a new Government by a Conservative/Liberal Democrat coalition, new policies have been announced.

The Coalition published a document setting out headline policies on 20th May 2010. I have extracted the announcements relevant to local government and in particular this Council and these appear as an annex to the report. The Corporate Management team have undertaken a quick assessment of the impact of the proposals which appears in the narrative at Annex 1.

2.0 The Current Situation

- 2.1 Members of the Cabinet are requested to review and note the impact of the policies.
- 2.2 EMERGENCY BUDGET - On 24th May 2010 the Chancellor announced details of an emergency budget introducing £6.2bn of public expenditure reductions. Of this local government is expected to fund £1.165bn of savings. An announcement by the Communities and Local Government Department on the detail was expected on 2nd June but has been delayed and not yet released at the time of writing this report.
- 2.3 QUEEN'S SPEECH – The Queen's speech on 25th May 2010 set out details of the forthcoming legislative programme. I have enclosed the full LGA on the day briefing which sets out the main implications for local government at Annex 2.
- 2.4 NEXT STEPS – The Cabinet is asked to consider the current position and the implications for the Council. As there is to be a national emergency budget announcement on 22nd June, it is recommended that a full, more detailed report be provided to the next Council meeting for all members to consider.

3.0 Options

- 3.1 Set out the various possible options (if any) [Note: on reports to Cabinet and individual Cabinet Members also give reasons why the option(s) not recommended should be rejected.]

4.0 Corporate Implications

4.1 Financial

4.1.1 As set out in Annex 1.

4.2 Legal

4.2.1 As above

4.3 Corporate

4.3.1 The proposals will have a significant impact on the 2011–15 Corporate Plan period.

4.4 Equity and Equalities

4.4.1 None at this stage.

5.0 Recommendation

5.1 Cabinet are asked to note this interim report and agree that a fuller report be presented to Council in July.

6.0 Decision Making Process

This report does not make a key decision.

Contact Officer:	Richard Samuel, Chief Executive
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Annex List

Annex 1	Corporate Management Team Response to Coalition Government Document
Annex 2	LGA: On the Day Briefing Queen's Speech Document
Annex 3	Local Government's Contribution to £6.2 Billion Efficiencies in 2010
Annex 4	Impact of Proposed Government Cuts
Annex 5	2010-11 Revenue Grant Allocation Reductions

Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
Coalition Agreement	H.M GOV – May 2010
Press notice. HM Treasury PN 04/10	H.M Treasury

Corporate Consultation Undertaken
