

Maidstone Borough Council

Corporate Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday 3 April 2012

The Council as a Business? Review

Report of: Overview & Scrutiny Officer

1. Introduction

- 1.1 At the meeting of the Corporate Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 7 June 2011, Members agreed to carry out a review of the Council as a Business, exploring the financial restraints the Council face and how savings and income generation could be achieved in a more innovative manner.
- 1.2 The Committee agreed to focus its review on the following objectives:
 - What does Maidstone Borough Council want to be and what do our residents want from us including identifying who our customers are and what their requirements are;
 - Establish what the Council perceives its core function to be now and in the future and what statutory services we must provide;
 - Establish the funding opportunities are available to the Council;
 - Identify the factors that are currently considered when savings are made and practical measures and actions for future savings and increasing revenue, income and service improvement;
 - Establish where the Council sees itself in 4 years time; and
 - Identify how the culture of Maidstone Borough council can be more business focussed.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 Members are recommended to consider the draft report of the Council as a Business Review and make amendments and suggestions as appropriate.
- 2.2 Following any requested amendments to the report, Members are recommended to approve this for submission to the appropriate Cabinet Member and external bodies.

3. Impact on Corporate Objectives

- 3.1 The Committee will consider reports that deliver against the Council's priorities:
 - 'Corporate and Customer Excellence'
 - 'For Maidstone to have a growing economy'; and
 - 'For Maidstone to be a decent place to live';
- 3.2 The Strategic Plan sets the Council's key objectives for the medium term and has a range of objectives which support the delivery of the Council's

priorities. The Committee's work will contribute to the delivery of these key objectives over the next year.