

LOCAL GOVERNMENT WHITE PAPER 2006 – Strong and Prosperous Communities

Agenda Item 5(a)

Member Portfolio:	Leader of the Council
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Background Papers:-	Local Government White Paper – Strong and Prosperous Communities
Financial Implications:-	None identified
Equalities Implications:-	None identified
Legal Implications:-	None identified
Options:	Take no action on the White Paper
Risks:	The risks are limited since this is a White Paper and is subject to legislation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.0 Introduction

The Local Government White Paper – Strong and Prosperous Communities – has now been published and the LGA summary is attached to this report.

All Members have been sent a summary of the White Paper; Group Leaders and Cabinet Members have been sent all the documentation.

2.0 Way Forward

At this early stage, it is not intended to undertake any further commentary on the White Paper; however, in discussion with Group Leaders it is proposed to set up a small working group to review the White Paper and the implications and opportunities that could arise from the White Paper.

It is proposed that the working group consist of:

- All Group Leaders
- Chairman of Scrutiny Committee
- 2 Councillors

3. Peer Review

The Peer Review report also identified opportunities to improve the decision-making and Scrutiny process of the Council. It is further proposed that the Constitution and Member issues identified by the Peer Review also be considered by the above working group.

DECISION:

That a review of the implications and opportunities within the White Paper be reviewed by the working group as set out above.