

ANGUS COUNCIL

19 SEPTEMBER 2002

ANGUS COUNCIL: THE SIXTH YEAR

Report by Chief Executive

ABSTRACT

This report is intended to set out the main achievements of Angus Council over the financial year 2001/2002.

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council notes the content of this report and makes it available to the public at Council offices/libraries and by circulation to Community Councils and Area Forums.

2. BACKGROUND

Members will recall that at this time each year, I have brought forward reports summarising the significant progress made by the Council despite the pressures created by economic constraints, and there has been general agreement that Angus Council Departments have moved local government forward in a professional and systematic fashion.

Over the 2001/2002 financial year, the Council has continued its commitment to a systematic strategic planning approach and in particular has responded to the demands of the Modernisation Agenda, including Best Value, Community Planning and E-Government against a backdrop of our own corporate plan, which has been used to guide decision-making and to inform individual Service Plans.

We have continued to make determined efforts to handle the financial context in a way which is sensitive to local needs and fulfils the Council's "duty to make proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources" as per the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994. We have also recognised the need to move towards three-year service planning linked to resources in order to minimise the disruption caused by year on year budget cuts.

The development of Member/Officer Groups linked to the themes of our corporate strategy should again help us to identify our priorities and continuously to improve our performance.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

4. HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES

There are no direct human rights implications arising from this report.

5. CONSULTATION

All Chief Officers have been consulted during the preparation of this report.

6. CONCLUDING REMARKS

I have said before that it is a salutary experience to read through a summary of one's colleagues' achievements and I would wish, as Chief Executive, to acknowledge the contribution of all staff and all elected members in working together to the benefit of the Angus community.

It often seems that in local government the only constant is change. However, given a continuation of the professional and prudent approach which staff at all levels have taken over the past year, I am confident that Angus Council will continue to provide quality services for the people of Angus.

A B Watson
Chief Executive

Note: No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information), were relied on to any material extent in preparing this paper.

VS/YEG/Reports 2002 Angus Council The Sixth Year RTF