

<b>SHADOW EXECUTIVE</b>
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<b>10 APRIL 2008</b>
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<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>CREATING CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY</b>  (To seek approval of the Draft Creating Central Bedfordshire Implementation Strategy)
<b>REPORT OF</b>	<b>The Proper Officer of Mid Bedfordshire District Council.</b> <i>Contact Officer: Simon Redmore (Tel: 01462 611255)</i>

**IMPLICATIONS**

<b>SUSTAINABILITY</b>	None as a result of this report.
<b>FINANCIAL</b>	The Bedfordshire (Structural Changes) Order 2008 provides for expenditure incurred by the Shadow Authority to be divided among and paid by the constituent authorities in such proportion as may be agreed by them and Bedford Borough Council.
<b>LEGAL</b>	The contents of the draft Implementation Strategy conforms with the Bedfordshire (Structural Changes) Order 2008.
<b>PERSONNEL/EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES</b>	Dependent upon further Regulations relating to employment issues.
<b>COMMUNITY DEV/SAFETY</b>	None as a result of this report.
<b>TRADE UNIONS</b>	None as a result of this report.
<b>HUMAN RIGHTS</b>	None as a result of this report.
<b>KEY ISSUE</b>	No
<b>BUDGET/POLICY FRAMEWORK</b>	No

<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO REPORT</b>
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None
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<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b>
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<b>That the Creating Central Bedfordshire Implementation Strategy, as set out at Appendix A to this report, be approved.</b>
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<i>Reason for recommendation:</i>	<i>To enable approval by the Shadow Executive of the Strategy to prepare for the implementation of Central Bedfordshire.</i>
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1. On 28 March 2008, The Bedfordshire (Structural Changes) Order 2008 came into force. The Order confirmed that there will be two new unitary Council structures within Bedfordshire with effect from 1 April 2009. In accordance with Article 19 of that Order, the Shadow Authority for Central Bedfordshire is required to prepare, keep under review and revise as necessary, an implementation plan which shall include such plans and timetables as are, in its opinion, necessary to secure the effective, efficient and timely discharge of its functions. It is also required to prepare such budget and plans as it considers necessary or desirable to facilitate the economic, effective, efficient and timely discharge, on or after 1 April 2009, of the functions of the former County Council and District Councils.
2. In light of the above requirements, attached at Appendix "A" to this report, Members will find the draft Creating Central Bedfordshire Implementation Strategy. The draft strategy sets out key principles, governance structure in the transition period, risk management, service design and milestones along the way. In particular Members are asked to note the proposed governance and delivery vehicles that are set out in figure 1 included within the draft strategy.
3. The draft Strategy does not include all the governance arrangements which are being put in place by the Shadow Authority. Members are referred to the report to the Shadow Council meeting on 10 April entitled "Central Bedfordshire – Proposed Governance Arrangements". That report covers additional committees which it is proposed to establish including:
  - Scrutiny Committee
  - General Purposes Committee
  - Standards Committee
  - Appointments and Appeals Committee.
4. At the time of writing this report, various pieces of guidance and regulations (e.g. employee regulations) are awaited from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG). An oral update will be provided at the meeting.
5. Members are requested to consider and approve the Creating Central Bedfordshire Implementation Strategy.

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**Background Papers:** The Bedfordshire (Structural Changes) Order 2008

**Location of Papers:** MBDC Deputy Chief Executive's office, Priory House

**File Reference:** CG3 - 2

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