

SHADOW EXECUTIVE

10 APRIL 2008

SUBJECT	APPOINTMENT TO CENTRAL IMPLEMENTATION TEAM (To appoint Officers to the Central Implementation Team as required by Article 22.1 of The Bedfordshire (Structural Changes) Order 2008)
REPORT OF	Proper Officer of Mid Bedfordshire District Council
<i>Contact Officer: Jon Ruddick (Tel: 0845 8496147) Barbara Morris (Tel: 01462 611024)</i>	

IMPLICATIONS

SUSTAINABILITY	None as a result of this report.
FINANCIAL	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.
LEGAL	The Bedfordshire (Structural Changes) Order 2008
PERSONNEL/EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES	None as a result of this report.
COMMUNITY DEV/SAFETY	None as a result of this report.
TRADE UNIONS	None as a result of this report.
HUMAN RIGHTS	None as a result of this report.
KEY ISSUE	No
BUDGET/POLICY FRAMEWORK	No

OTHER DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO REPORT

None

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Shadow Executive approve the formation of the Central Implementation Team as set out in paragraph 4 to this report.
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Background

1. The Bedfordshire (Structural Changes) Order 2008 came into force on 28 March 2008. Article 22 of that Order requires that not later than 21 days after coming into force of the Order that the Shadow Authority shall form a team of officers (the Central Implementation Team - CIT) for the purpose of assisting the Authority in the transformation process. The members of the team shall comprise of officers of both the County Council and each of the District Councils. The Leader of the Joint Implementation Team shall be an officer of one of the District Councils.
2. The transition to the 2 new unitary authorities must take into account the wider sub-regional and partner agenda. It is important that we do not lose momentum on key aspects of our current joint work such as the growth agenda and improving performance through the mechanism of the Local Area Agreement. We have therefore invited representatives from our key partners to the first meeting of CIT which has been called for 15 April 2008 at Priory House. At that meeting partner colleagues will be asked to nominate representatives and to consider the proposed Implementation Strategy and how best they can influence making the transition a successful one for all of us. The CIT will, as can be seen below, comprise of officers from all three Councils and will support the work of the Shadow Executive. They will liaise closely with Bedford Borough's Joint Implementation Team, particularly in relation to disaggregation matters. They will consider matters referred from the Programme Board or Proper Officers.
3. We have started discussions with Bedford Borough and will be seeking to make sure that our demands upon partners are kept to a minimum by meeting and working jointly wherever possible. A representative of Bedford Borough (normally the Chief Executive) will join the CIT and there will be a reciprocal arrangement on the Bedford Borough Joint Implementation Team.
4. To meet the requirements of the Order and to provide support for the Shadow Executive it is proposed that the core members of the CIT are the officers from Mid Beds, South Beds and the County Council with the Bedford Borough Chief Executive joining whenever matters relate to the formation of the 2 new unitaries. They will consider matters referred from the Programme Board or the designated Proper Officers. The core membership is recommended as :

Jaki Salisbury, Chief Executive, Mid Beds – Lead Officer

Jon Ruddick, Chief Executive, South Beds

Simon Redmore, Deputy Chief Executive, Mid Beds

Anne Brereton, Deputy Chief Executive, South Beds

Martin Reeves, Interim Chief Executive, County Council (invitation made)

Richard Ellis, Transition Director, County Council (invitation made)

The proper officers for the Shadow Authority (Interim Monitoring Officer, Barbara Morris and Interim Chief Finance Officer, David Sutherland) can attend these meetings of right.

5. The wider CIT is likely to include:

Police representative
PCT representative
Fire & Rescue Authority representative
Business Sector representative
“Third Sector” representative
Observer representative from Go-East

6. At the first meeting partners will be asked to consider the Implementation Strategy and the key issues that have been identified for the CIT to focus on. Once we have confirmed partners views we will finalise the CIT and its priorities in consultation with the Leader.

Members are therefore requested to confirm the appointment of the officers to form the core of the CIT, as set out above.

<i>Background Papers:</i>	The Bedfordshire (Structural Changes) Order 2008
<i>Location of Papers:</i>	Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford, SG17 5TQ
<i>File Reference:</i>	N/A