Council Priorities July 2002

Administration	Lib Dem	Scrutiny 2	Comments
Provide CIC in Dunmow			Plan for CIC being prepared – no revenue implications; capital costs included in overall office accommodation project
Public consultation on budget process			Will be annual commitment; methodology to be determined. No budget provision in 2002/03 or subsequent years
Implement PFI schemes			Specific Council approvals already in place and financial implications built into planning.
Prepare Council for CPA	Aim for high CPA classification for rural district; link to training below		Lack of corporate staffing will place strain on organisation to meet requirements.
Set reduced budget targets			Proposals to be brought forward for September Committee cycle
Make new committee system work	Adapt scrutiny methods to be more investigative & challenging; priority to health scrutiny		Constitution Task Group to review and make further recommendations for 2003. No significant resource implications expected.
Keep Council tax low			June Resources Committee agreed 2.5% for planning purposes
Examine activities for possible transfer to Town & Parish Councils			Discussions ongoing on Close Garden – minimal budget impact.
Scrutinise appointments			All appointments are scrutinised and opportunities taken for rationalisation where possible.
Encourage partnership working			Opportunities to be brought to members as appropriate – audit proposals to Resources Committee September 2002 for which budget implications already flagged
Review Arts Development & sports			Part of current best value review on community & leisure
Reduce Community Safety costs			Some staffing re-organisation in 2002. Continuing to make maximum use of external funding opportunities
Reduced speed limits			Need to take opportunities to promote reduced speed limits with ECC
Pursue policy on airport			Extraordinary Council meeting confirmed previous broad policy; any additional short-term expenditure will need to be met from reserves
Complete Local Plan			Second deposit period Autumn 2002; expect local plan inquiry Spring 2003. One-off costs to be met from reserves
Extend recycling	Increase investment in recycling including green waste	_	No further growth items so far included in budget plan. Pilot green waste scheme being funded by Environmental Trust Need clarity on any further member proposals
Encourage Council house sales			Ongoing; possible legislative changes may affect sales and use of receipts
Enable more affordable housing	Increase supply of affordable housing		Ongoing – reflected in annual housing strategy
Pursue sponsorship	Members lead in strengthening sponsorship capability		Need further information on members' lead and expectations

Prepare Community Strategy			No revenue budget provision; some resource needed to support process, including staffing
Financial gains from BV reviews			To be established on individual review basis
Press ECC for more locally determined highways budget			Need to lobby ECC at appropriate time
Improve links with business	Establish resource to oversee management of and investment in local economy		Proposed course of action unclear – possible staffing implications
Locate asylum seekers removals centre on airport		Removals centre –	No specific resource implications
Centralise grants schemes			Proposed new arrangements not clear. Possible revenue implications
	Restructure planning department		Proposals to be brought to members in due course.
	Rebalance resources towards informal countryside and youth activities and away from established activities		Proposals not clear – possible revenue implications
	Improve communications; encourage village appraisals		Possible revenue implications, especially for staffing
	Strengthen corporate policy resource		Revenue implications
	Increase training for officers and members		Revenue implications
	Introduce priority-based budgeting		Unlikely to achieve by 2003 – benefits unclear
		Parking decriminalisation	Experience of other Essex districts will enable fuller evaluation of revenue implications
		Public Service Agreement	Lack of corporate resource to oversee process. Possible financial gain at end of year 3 if targets met
		Cycle-ways in district	Financial implications – capital and revenue – will be largely for ECC, unless UDC contribution envisaged