

**Subject:** Cabinet Portfolios

**Status:** For Publication

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**Report to:** The Cabinet

**Date:** 18<sup>th</sup> October 2006

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**Report of:** Chief Executive

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**Portfolio**

**Holder:** Leader of the Council

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**Key Decision:**

NO

Forward Plan   
*Relevant Box*

General Exception

Special Urgency

"X" In

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**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To seek approval for the revision of portfolios and revised role descriptions following the agreement of Full Council to an increase in the size of the cabinet.

**2. CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

- 2.1 The issues dealt with in this report impact on the corporate priorities in the following way:
- *Implementing the Member Development Strategy* – through setting clearly defined roles and responsibilities for members of the Cabinet.

**3. RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 The issues considered in this report raise no specific risk issues.

**4. BACKGROUND AND OPTIONS**

- 4.1. At its last meeting the Council agreed to an increase in the size of the Cabinet to 8 allowing the opportunity to rebalance the size of some portfolios while also ensuring that adequate member attention is given to the whole scope of the Council's activities.
- 4.2 There are many options available for constructing portfolios in essence, however, all of these come down to one of or, some combination of;
- A match to the management structures

- A thematic basis, often aligned to corporate priorities

4.3 For various practical reasons smaller Councils such as Rossendale tend towards the first of these and this is broadly the approach that has been adopted up to now. It is suggested that this is continued in the revised portfolio as it is least disruptive for members and officers and provides the clearest degree of political accountability in respect of individual services.

4.4 The changes suggested are as follows;

- To create a new Community and Partnerships portfolio covering this particular service unit, leaving the Customer Service portfolio focused on the work of the Customer Services and E Government Service unit.
- To create a Policy and Performance portfolio taking some elements from the Leader’s portfolio. This provides a single member lead for the work of the Policy and Change Management Service Unit which has a central role in the Councils improvement journey and in supporting the CPA reassessment process.

4.5 The Leader proposes to allocate portfolio as follows:

<b>Cabinet Members</b>	<b>Portfolio</b>
Cllr W Challinor	Regeneration and Deputy Leader
Cllr J Driver	Street Scene & Liveability
Cllr B Essex	Policy & Performance
Cllr J Farquharson	Customer Service
Cllr J Graham	Human Resources and Member Development
Cllr M Ormerod	Finance and Risk Management
Cllr D Smith	Community and Partnerships

4.6 At the meeting of the cabinet in June role descriptions for each portfolio holder were agreed. Copies of new and revised role descriptions are attached for approval.

## **5. Comments of the Head of Finance**

5.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

## **6. Comments from the Head Legal and Democratic Services**

6.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report. Any specific member development issues will be addressed with members of the Cabinet on an individual basis, through personal development planning.

## **7. Comments of the Head of Human Resources**

7.1 There are no specific Human Resource implications arising from this report.

**9. Consultation**

9.1 Leader of the Council.

**10. Conclusion**

10.1 Following the increase in the size of the Cabinet there is a clear need to redraw the portfolios while there are a range of options the changes suggested provide least disruption while increasing and clarifying the political accountability of specific service areas.

**11. The Cabinet are recommended to;**

- a) Approve the changes to portfolios set out in paragraph 4.4.
- b) Note the allocation of portfolios set out in paragraph 4.5.
- c) Agree the new and revised role descriptions attached to this report.

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There are no background papers