

Foreword

Cheshire West and Chester Council is your council. As a new authority, formed on the 1st of April 2009, we have a unique opportunity to take a fresh and energetic approach to ensuring that you receive top quality services.

This local authority, and everyone who works for it, is absolutely committed to becoming the best local authority in the country. We will achieve that ambition by keeping our three core values at the heart of everything that we do. Our three core values are clear and simple:-

- Customer First
- Value for Money
- Best Practice

We are committed to pioneering innovative local service delivery solutions to meet local needs with a strong emphasis on localism rather than centralised notions of performance management which can act as a barrier to innovative service delivery.

We have developed a model of local service delivery through Area Partnership Boards involving members of the public, community and voluntary sectors in service delivery.

We also pioneered the “Our Place” joined up local service delivery model in Ellesmere Port and, as a result, have been chosen as one of four authorities nationwide to pilot Central Government’s “Community Budgets” initiative. That initiative is, in our area, expected to join 150 local public, community and voluntary sector service providers together with a combined £4 billion budget to deliver local services. It is the future of local government.

This constitution is not intended to be an exhaustive book of rules covering everything that this authority does. It is intended as a guide for our customers, communities, elected Members (Councillors) and the people who work for and with us, to the most important aspects of how we set our priorities, how we

make decisions and who is responsible for the services that our customers and communities receive.

The constitution will refer to other policies and procedures as necessary and a framework of the various rules and procedures that govern what we do can be found in the Code of Corporate Governance on our website.

The constitution will be updated from time to time to reflect changes in the law and in how we work. The most up to date version will always be available on our website.

We are delighted to be at the forefront of a dynamic and innovative authority that will lead the way in local service delivery. We positively encourage everyone who works and lives in Cheshire West and Chester to get involved in everything that we do.

Cllr Samantha Dixon

Leader of the Council



Gerald Meehan

Chief Executive

