

**Recommended Item from Council held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2011**

**867. STRATEGIC ALLIANCE BOLSOVER AND NORTH EAST DERBYSHIRE  
EXEMPT PARAGRAPH 1, 3 AND 4**

The Leader presented the report on the Bolsover and North East Derbyshire Strategic Alliance, informing colleagues that he had attended North East Derbyshire's Council meeting yesterday.

The Strategic Alliance initial phase would focus on the appointment of a joint Chief Executive, along with one set of Directors and Heads of Service. It was proposed that the new Chief Executive would be in place from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2011, to drive the process down; this was a big step and would take some organisation and a lot of trust on both sides.

A copy of the existing management structures and the proposed joint structure were attached to the report.

The formation of the Strategic Alliance would enable both Councils to generate significant savings, it was estimated that the shared savings could amount to £1.5m per year once the Alliance was fully rolled out.

The two Councils border each other and provide similar services and collaborate across a range of areas including ICT, Internal Audit, Recycling, Procurement and Building Control.

The Leader informed Members that both authorities would continue to function in their own right and advised Members that this was not a take over of each other. The headlines in the Derbyshire Times didn't help by referring to a merger. Any press statements would be discussed and released at the same time, the Leader appreciated the concerns of the staff.

Members were advised that a board would be set up and operated by Members with an equal numbers from each authority which would also be politically balanced,

The Leader congratulated Councillor Baxter in becoming Leader of the Year.

Both Councillor Clifton and Webster supported the creation of the Strategic Alliance.

Moved by Councillor E. Watts, seconded by Councillor A.F. Tomlinson

**RESOLVED** that (1) the formation of a Strategic Alliance with North East Derbyshire District Council, to come into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011,

(2a) the Senior Management of the Strategic Alliance be provided initially by way of a Joint Committee established under Sections 101 and 102 of the Local Government Act 1972 over-seen by a minimum of nine Elected Members from each authority, with consideration being given at the earliest opportunity to the formation of a separate company limited by guarantee to undertake the operational duties of the Alliance,

(2b) delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive Officer in consultation with the 3 Party Leaders to appoint Members to the Joint Committee,

(3) the establishment of a Management Structure comprising a single Chief Executive (and shared Head of the Paid Service) from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011, to be followed as soon as possible by the appointment of a joint Senior Management Team including shared Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 post),

(4) the formation of a recruitment panel for the post of Joint Chief Executive to comprise the Leaders and Deputy Leaders, plus one member from each Authority or substitutes, six Members in total to recommend the appointment to the relevant Council,

(5) further appointments to the joint Senior Management Team be made by a panel appointed from the Alliance Joint Committee and that necessary changes to the Council's Constitution be progressed through Standards Committee and Council to recognise this change,

(6) Appointees to the new Joint Senior Management Structure be paid on NEDDC Senior Management rates of pay with other terms and conditions being those of the successful employees original authority,

**(7) delegated authority be granted to the Joint Chief Executive Officer authority to progress the Strategic Alliance by taking any action necessary to facilitate it including but not limited to redundancies which may result from the implementation.**

(Chief Executive Officer)