

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR WALES

CABINET

CABINET AWAYDAY: FOLLOW UP

Note from the Minister for Assembly Business

Introduction

1. This describes briefly the work that will flow from the Cabinet Away Day that was held on 18 June and its development into the final published strategic plan at the end of October.

Strategic Plan

2. The feedback I have received was that the Away Day was successful and creative. It produced some key themes and ideas to take forward in the final version of the strategic plan. The momentum should not be lost. I propose the next stages should be:

- July** – Statement to plenary on draft strategic plan incorporating Better Wales and Putting Wales First.
- July-September** – Officials and special advisors working with Ministers to develop broad Away Day themes and ideas into firm policy proposals.
- September** – Ministerial agreement to individual policy proposals.
- End September** – Further Away session to consider priorities and possible budget implications.
- End October** – Announcement of strategic plan for a policy programme until end of Assembly session in May 2001.

3. The main themes and ideas to be developed by officials arising from the June Away Day will include:
 - Role of private finance
 - Service delivery by Local Government in Wales
 - Specific items for delivery in health care and social services
 - Specific items for delivery in education
 - Specific service delivery in environment and transport
4. Once we have agreed these items and incorporated them in the revised strategic plan, their delivery can be monitored and tracked, as with other strategic plan commitments, in individual Ministerial policy boards.

Corporate Image for Assembly Government

5. We agreed at the Away Day that we needed to urgently settle our corporate brand. I have asked the Communication Directorate to come forward to Cabinet at the beginning of September with their final options for a logo. The final design can then be ratified at the next away session at the end of September.
6. There was a general view that away sessions were constructive. I will be putting round in October requests for ideas for a further away session in the early part of the New Year. Colleagues are asked to note the action being taken.

Andrew Davies
Minister for Assembly Business