REPORT TO: **FINANCE & MANAGEMENT**   AGENDA ITEM: **7**

DATE OF
MEETING: **17th October 2002**   **CATEGORY: OPEN**

REPORT FROM: **CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**

MEMBERS'   **DOC:**budget strategy2002\
CONTACT POINT: **Terry Neaves (x5800)**   FMC Budget Process

SUBJECT: **IEG Statement 2**   **REF: TN**

WARD(S)   **TERMS OF**
AFFECTED: **ALL**   **REFERENCE: FM10**

1.   Recommendations

Members are asked to:-

❑   Consider what comments they wish to make on the Council's IEG 2 statement set out at Appendix A.

2.   Purpose of Report

2.1   To seek members comments on the draft IEG Statement for South Derbyshire District Council.

3   Executive Summary

3.1   Last year the Government asked all Councils to prepare an Implementing Electronic Government Statement setting out their plans for delivering 100% of their services electronically by December 2005 where it is possible to do this.

3.2   South Derbyshire submitted its first statement in July 2001, which was considered satisfactory. The Council was ultimately awarded £200,000 of Government Finance in this year 2002/3 to contribute towards its plan.

3.3   Having eventually produced a national strategy for E-Government in March 2003 the Government has now requested all councils to review their strategies against this clearer template.

3.4   This report sets out the first draft of the South Derbyshire strategy for consideration by members. It is intended that this strategy will be submitted to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister by the end of October subject to any final changes members wish to make at full council in November.

4. Detail

WHY IS THE IEG STATEMENT IMPORTANT

4.1 The IEG statement should not be viewed as just another time consuming document that the Council is asked to produce for the Government that has little real impact on the way we deliver services.

4.2 We must recognise that technology is changing and more importantly the way people use it is changing as well.

4.3 A few years ago few people would have believed that the internet would expand at the rate it has done and even fewer would have thought that public bodies would be starting to engineer the delivery of their services with the internet in mind.

4.4 Similarly the needs of the customers that we serve are also changing. People expect to gain access to services outside of normal working hours or at the very least be able to get information on them.

4.5 We need to think how we can harness the use of technology to meet those needs as well as the needs of other people, who may find it difficult to access our services because they do not live near to the main Council Offices in Swadlincote.

4.6 The IEG statement provides an important means of planning how we can use technology to respond to these needs as well as making a genuine improvement in the services that we deliver.

4.7 Members are asked to consider this important document. They will also hopefully derive some reassurance from the document that the Council is taking genuine steps forward to achieve e-government objectives.

4.8 It is proposed that the statement will be submitted in draft form to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister by the end of October prior to being finalised at the full Council meeting in November.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 As set out within the IEG Statement.