

# CABINET

## Star Chamber

22<sup>nd</sup> January 2008

### Report of Corporate Director (Finance and Performance)

PURPOSE OF REPORT				
To receive an update on the Star Chamber meetings held since the last report to Cabinet of 11 December 2007.				
Key Decision		Non-Key Decision	Referral from Cabinet Member	X
Date Included in Forward Plan	N/A			
This report is public.				

#### RECOMMENDATIONS OF COUNCILLOR ROGER MACE

(1) That the report be noted.

##### 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Star Chamber is an informal meeting of Cabinet Members supported by senior officers. Its purpose is to provide a continuing process that examines current and future spending plans with the aims of ensuring value for money, identifying efficiencies and diverting resources into Council priorities and away from non-priorities, as well as alternative methods of delivery. It also provides the framework and focus for achieving the financial savings targets included in the Medium Term Financial Strategy and those efficiencies required under Gershon. Consequently, it will look at financial, physical, and human resource matters.
- 1.2 The group meets regularly and reports for information are made on a regular basis into Cabinet and also into the Budget and Performance Panel.
- 1.3 Star Chamber works to revised Terms of Reference as agreed at the Cabinet meeting held on 5 June 2007.
- 1.4 Since the last report to Cabinet, Star Chamber met on 12 December and 19 December. Action notes are attached as an **Appendix**.

## **RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK**

The work of the Star Chamber is critical to providing a challenge and review to both the way that our services are provided or their appropriateness to the targets set out in the Corporate Plan & Policy Framework. In particular this can be seen in:

- Corporate Plan Core Values – Sound Financial Management
- Corporate Plan Priority No 1 “To deliver value for money customer focused services”
- Revenue Budget & Capital Programme Monitoring
- Medium Term Financial Strategy target

## **CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

**(including Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)**

None arising directly as a result of this report.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

None arising directly as a result of this report.

## **SECTION 151 OFFICER’S COMMENTS**

The Section 151 Officer has been consulted and has no comments to add.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

None arising directly as a result of this report.

## **MONITORING OFFICER’S COMMENTS**

The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no comments to add.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Corporate Plan 2007/08  
Revenue Budget and Capital Programme  
Medium Term Financial Strategy 2007

**Contact Officer:** Roger Muckle

**Telephone:** 01524 582022

**E-mail:** rmuckle@lancaster.gov.uk

**Ref:** RCM/JEB