

# **BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE PANEL**

## **Work Programme Report**

**29<sup>th</sup> April 2008**

### **Report of Head of Democratic Services**

#### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To update Members with regard to the Work Programme.

**This report is public**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- (1) That Members consider the referrals from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the additional information previously circulated and consider whether reports should be requested and the following items added to the Work Programme:-
  - (a) That the Budget and Performance Panel be asked to look at non-priority repairs in Council Housing and Councillors be asked to inform Democratic Services of any cases they are aware of.
  - (b) That the Budget and Performance Panel be asked to look at the budgetary issues regarding the funding of building conversions in the West End.
  - (c) That the Budget and Performance Panel be asked to consider the adequacy of social rented housing provision in the District.
- (2) That Members note the scheduled financial training event taking place at Lancaster Town Hall on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> September 2008, and agree to add this to the draft Work Programme for 2008/09.

#### **1.0 Introduction**

This report provides Members with recommendations for additions to its Work Programme for consideration and advises of upcoming items to be dealt with by the work of the Panel.

### 1.1 **Upcoming Reports to the Panel**

The Panel is requested to note that an update on Service Level Agreement (SLA) Monitoring will be available for the Panel's consideration at its meeting scheduled for 10<sup>th</sup> June 2008. Furthermore the Panel should be advised that the Local Environment Quality Pilot Study results will also be available for consideration at the meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2008.

### 1.2 **Referrals from Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

At the Panel's request additional information on the referred items from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding Housing issues has been circulated in advance of this meeting. The Panel is requested to consider the recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:-

- (1) That the Budget and Performance Panel be asked to look at non-priority repairs in Council Housing and Councillors be asked to inform Democratic services of any cases they are aware of.
- (2) That the Budget and Performance Panel be asked to look at the budgetary issues regarding the funding of building conversions in the West End.
- (3) That the Budget and Performance Panel be asked to consider the adequacy of social rented housing provision in the District.

The Panel are requested to note these referrals and agree to request reports on the highlighted matters and add them to its Work Programme.

### 1.3 **Training Event**

Members should be advised that Financial Services have organised a short training event for Members of the Budget and Performance Panel, covering the basics of treasury management. In particular, it will include an overview of the economy and other factors to be taken account of by the Council, in formulating its borrowing and investment plans for the forthcoming year.

Richard Dunlop, a Director of Butlers (i.e. the Council's Treasury Advisors), will be presenting the session. The training will also be available to other Members and Officers involved in financial monitoring or decision making and is due to take place at the meeting scheduled for 9<sup>th</sup> September 2008. Members are requested to note this event and agree to add it to the Panel's draft Work Programme for 2008/09.

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