

CABINET

Recommendations from Budget and Performance Panel 31st July 2008

Report of Budget and Performance Panel

PURPOSE OF REPORT			
To notify Cabinet Members of recommendations agreed by the Budget and Performance Panel following their consideration of the Provisional Revenue and Capital Outturn 2007/08.			
Key Decision		Non-Key Decision	Referral from Budget and Performance Panel
			X
Date Included in Forward Plan	July 2008		
This report is public.			

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE PANEL

- (1) That the recommendations of the Budget and Performance Panel from their meeting on 29th July 2008 be considered by Cabinet prior to their determination of the Provisional Revenue and Capital Outturn 2007/08.

1.0 Introduction

A copy of the recommendations agreed by Budget and Performance Panel in their consideration of the Provisional Revenue and Capital Outturn 2007/08 is appended for consideration by Cabinet. All further details are contained within the Provisional Revenue and Capital Outturn 2007/08 report, previously circulated with the Cabinet Agenda.

In respect of the Panel's scrutiny responsibilities, the Panel have identified a number services that they wish to attend a future meeting of the Panel to answer questions and concerns in respect of budget variances and rationale for overspends and carry forward requests. These are set out in section 3 of the minute.

With specific regard to the procedure for considering controllable overspends, and requests for carrying forward underspends the Panel make no specific recommendations. However, they do urge Cabinet that in considering these, they try to maximise the opportunities for generating additional resources to meet the savings targets in the Corporate Plan/MTFS for this year's budget exercise, and also to help meet the 30 year Council Housing Business Plan deficit (see recommendation 4).

SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Section 151 Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.

MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Copy of Recommendations made by Budget and Performance Panel on Provisional Revenue and Capital Outturn 2007/08.

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SPECIAL BUDGET & PERFORMANCE PANEL MEETING 29th JULY 2008

Item 3: Provisional Revenue and Capital Outturn 2007/08

Resolved:-

That the following recommendations be referred to Cabinet prior to their consideration of the 2007/08 Revenue and Capital Outturn report:-

- (1) That the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and General Fund revenue outturn position for 2007/08 be noted.
- (2) That the transfers to Provisions and Reserves actioned by the Head of Financial Services be noted and endorsed, but Officers be requested to prepare a further note for the Panel on the risks associated with the Luneside East Regeneration project.
- (3) That in respect of the revenue outturn variances:-
 - The Panel notes the positive management action in Council Housing Services that has brought about improvements and savings in respect of voids management and bad debts, and major repairs contract management.
 - The Panel notes the significant improvements and savings generated in City Contract (Direct) Services (CC(D)S).
 - The Panel notes that Officers are undertaking further analyses of the outturn variances to assess any ongoing implications for future years' budgets.
 - That Officers report back to the next available Panel meeting, with the appropriate officer representation to present and answer questions, the reasons and circumstances that have resulted in the various over and underspends highlighted in the report, and why in some circumstances they had not been reported into the quarterly Performance Review Team meetings, for the following services:-
 - Council Housing
 - Legal and Human Resources
 - Information & Customer Services
 - Health & Strategic Housing
 - CC(D)S
 - Property Services
 - Cultural Services (in particular details of individual Festivals and Events including the Maritime Festival, and information on the Heysham Mossgate carry forward request)
 - Planning Services

- Economic Development & Tourism (in particular information about the Storey CIC and Carnforth MTI capital slippage requests)
 - That the relevant Cabinet Member(s) also be invited to attend in respect of those services highlighted above.
- (4) That in respect of the requests for carrying forward underspends, and approach for considering overspends, Cabinet should aim to maximise how these could contribute to delivering the savings and efficiencies targets set out in the 2008/9 Corporate Plan/Medium Term Financial Strategy, and the Council Housing 30 year Business Plan.
 - (5) That the Panel notes the HRA and General Fund capital outturn as set out in Section 4 of the report and that a further report on Luneside will be taken to Cabinet in due course, and recommends to Cabinet that the slippage requests set out in Appendix J be approved.
 - (6) That the Panel notes the timetable for the completion and reporting of the closure of the 2007/8 accounts as set out in section 6 of the report and also the Annual Treasury Management Prudential indicators in Appendix K for referral to Council.