

**ACTION NOTES FROM STAR CHAMBER HELD ON 24 SEPTEMBER 2008**

**PRESENT:** Councillors R Mace (Chair), E Archer, J Barry, E Blamire, J Gilbert, D Kerr  
H McManus, P Loker, R Muckle, N Muschamp, G Haigh (Part), J Barlow (notes)

**1 APOLOGIES**

Apologies received from Councillor S Charles, M Cullinan.

**2 “EVERY PENNY COUNTS” CAMPAIGN – PRESENTATION BY GILL HAIGH**

Key messages (slide 9) 3<sup>rd</sup> bullet point should be changed to say “average council tax per household per week” and not “average cost” as this wasn’t strictly true.

As well as Council owned buildings GH was asked to explore the possibility of putting displays in the libraries, the museums, supermarkets, Arndale Centre, empty offices on Euston Road, empty shops, bus station.

It was agreed to use the display when doing public consultation on priorities. Copies would be sent to all Cabinet members for their use as appropriate. Star Chamber noted that the Campaign was to be launched in October.

**3 BUDGET UPDATE AND FUTURE PROCESS**

The new process for bringing forward efficiency and savings options were discussed in detail.

An updated calendar of meetings was requested. NM to update the B&PF timetable and incorporate other timetables involving meetings re budget setting, and distribute.

Councillor Mace was available to Cabinet members for discussion about priorities which could be discussed further at 7 October Cabinet.

Directors to arrange meetings with Service Heads and Cabinet Members to progress options for efficiencies, savings and growth.

Members to indicate when setting priorities what were not priorities which is helpful for officers when preparing options.

**4 OUTSTANDING ITEMS**

Outstanding reports would go to portfolio holders who should decide if there were efficiency/savings options that could go forward for recommendation to Star Chamber and Cabinet.

Directors to clarify to members all Services’ statutory and non-statutory functions to help them identify efficiencies and savings.

**5 NEXT MEETING**

The meeting on 1 October was cancelled. The next Star Chamber meeting would be 12 November.

The Leader requested an informal Cabinet meeting on 15 October at Morecambe. JEB to inform those not present and book a venue.

**JEB/25 September 2008**