

BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE PANEL

Work Programme Report 31st March 2009

Report of Head of Democratic Services

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Members with an update of the Panel's Work Programme.

This report is public

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) That consideration be given to appointing a Panel Member to the District Wide Tenants Liaison Group whilst the Liaison Group considers the implications of revisions to council housing rents.
- (2) That the Panel agree to the Budget and Performance Panel section of the Annual Scrutiny Report 2008-09.

1. Referral from Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Council Housing Rents

At the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 11th March 2009, Councillor Kerr discussed issues within his portfolio with the Committee. Among the issues raised were the possible budgetary implications in view of the recent announcement from the government minister of a 3.1% increase in council rents as opposed to the council's agreed 5% increase. Councillor Kerr advised the committee that this would be raised in the District Wide Tenants Liaison Group and invited the Committee to send a representative to these discussions. As this was a budgetary issue the Committee agreed that this should be referred to Budget and Performance Panel for consideration.

The Corporate Director (Community Services) will be reporting to a future Cabinet on this issue as the announcement was too late to be incorporated into this year's budget process.

The Panel are requested to consider appointing a representative to attend the District Wide Tenants Liaison Group whilst the Liaison Group discusses consideration of this issue.

2. **Agreement of Budget and Performance Panel section of the Annual Scrutiny Report 2008-09**

A copy of the draft Budget and Performance Panel section of the Annual Scrutiny Report 2008-09 has been circulated to Panel Members electronically with the request that any revisions/comments be forwarded to Democratic Services prior to the meeting in order that any revisions can be incorporated into the version which will be submitted to the Panel at the meeting. This will be considered by Full Council on 8th April 2009.

The Panel are requested to agree to the Budget and Performance Panel section of the report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS	Contact Officer: Liz Bateson Telephone: 01524 582047 E-mail: ebateson@lancaster.gov.uk Ref:
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