

BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE PANEL

Budget and Performance Panel 8th September 2009

Report of Head of Democratic Services

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Members with an update of the Budget and Performance Panel Work Programme.

This report is public

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) That the Budget and Performance Panel consider the referral from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee with regard to inviting LDSLP Thematic Group Chairs to Panel meetings.**
- (2) That the Panel note the updates with regard to partnership monitoring.**
- (3) That the Panel note that a detailed work programme will be brought to the October meeting.**
- (4) That the Panel note the scrutiny training sessions arranged for 19th November.**

1. Referral from Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Budget and Performance Panel's terms of reference include 'to review the effectiveness of the Council's overall performance management arrangements in relation to partnership working and to scrutinise the performance of the Council's major partnerships.'

At the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 15th July 2009 Members made the following recommendation to the Panel:

“That the Budget and Performance Panel be recommended to include in their Work Programme regular invites to their meetings of the Chairs of the LDLSP Thematic Groups.”

The Panel are requested to consider inviting the Chairs of the LDLSP Thematic Groups to meetings where partnerships or issues within their relevant thematic groups are being considered.

2. Partnership Monitoring – WEP & CCTV

The Panel were scheduled to consider the monitoring of these partnerships at September’s meeting.

Commencement of the West End Partnership evaluation has been delayed due to other work commitments and a mid-term review of the West End Masterplan requested by the Corporate Director (Regeneration) and reported to Cabinet on 2nd June 2009. Officers feel that it may be beneficial to delay commencement of this evaluation until such time as ongoing responsibility for it is formally determined following the inauguration of the Morecambe Parish Council.

With regard to the CCTV partnership which was scheduled to be brought to this meeting, the evaluation has been undertaken and that a more detailed report/update on the outcomes from this and the other partnership evaluations will be reported in October.

3. Budget and Performance Panel Work Programme

A detailed work programme was scheduled to be considered by the Panel at this meeting. The Panel are requested to note that there has been a delay in compiling the work programme as a result of officer absence (sickness and holiday). An updated work programme will be brought to October’s meeting.

4. Notification of Scrutiny Training – 19th November 2009

Arrangements have been made to once again engage Frances Taylor to provide some scrutiny training. This training will take place on Thursday 19th November. 2 training sessions will be provided: Chaining Skills from 3 until 5pm and Questioning Techniques from 6 until 8pm. Members may attend one or both of the sessions, refreshments will be provided and networking opportunities as neighbouring authorities will also be invited. Please contact Liz Bateson for further details (tel: (01524) 582047, or email ebateson@lancaster.gov.uk).

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