

# **BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE PANEL**

## **Work Programme Report**

**10 September 2013**

### **Report of Chief Officer (Governance)**

#### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To update members regarding the panel's work programme.

**This report is public.**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- (1) That members note the updated work programme as detailed in Appendix A to the report.**
- (2) That members consider whether they would like to include any further items in the work programme.**

#### **1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 This report provides members with recommendations for inclusion in the panel's work programme and advises of possible upcoming items for consideration and work in progress.
- 1.2 The Budget and Performance Panel is responsible for setting its own annual work programme within the terms of reference, as set out in Part 3, Section 13 of the constitution.
- 1.3 Members of the Budget and Performance Panel are entitled to give notice to the Chief Executive that they wish an item relevant to the Terms of Reference of the meeting to be included on the agenda for the first available meeting, and the meeting will determine whether the issue should be included in its Work Programme based on its relevance as compared to the priorities as set out in the scrutiny work programme (Part 4, Section 5 of the Constitution).

#### **2.0 Report**

##### **2.1 Updates on Future Legislation on Revenues and Benefits**

Members are advised that at its meeting on 10 July 2013, Overview and Scrutiny Committee had considered the items on its work programme which had been carried over from municipal year 2012/13. The committee had resolved the following:

To refer Updates on Future Legislation on Revenues and Benefits to the Budget and Performance Panel.

It was felt that this issue fell under the terms of reference of the panel, and as such members are requested to consider including this issue on the panel's work programme.

## 2.2 Salt Ayre Sports Centre

At its meeting on 26 March 2013 the panel received a report to update members on the continuing work in relation to the performance of Salt Ayre Sports Centre. Members were advised that the review of the sports centre was ongoing and the panel agreed that further reports should be requested in order to update members on progress made. The panel had also requested that information regarding the marketing of SASC and use of social media be included in this report. The Assistant Head of Community Engagement (Wellbeing) has advised that this report will now be presented to the meeting of the panel scheduled for 22 October 2013.

## 2.3 Building Control

At its meeting on 11 June 2013 the panel requested that the appropriate officer be invited to attend a meeting of the panel in order to provide a report regarding building control. Following consultation with the Chief Executive it has been agreed that the Chief Officer (Regeneration and Planning) will present a report to the meeting of the panel scheduled for 22 October 2013. This has been included on the panel's work programme accordingly.

## 2.4 Empty Houses, Voids and why Properties are in need of Repair

At the meeting on held on 11 June 2013 members discussed the briefing note regarding 'Empty Houses, Voids and why Properties are in need of Repair'. The panel agreed that a further report providing more detail be requested to cover a number of very specific questions asked by panel. The report is included on the agenda for this meeting of the panel.

## 2.5 Briefing Notes

At its meeting on 11 June 2013 the panel agreed that a briefing note be requested on solar panels; particularly the panels at SASC that have not been generating electricity. On 28 June 2013 a briefing note titled 'Solar Panel Project' was circulated to members.

Members are also reminded that at its meeting on 11 June 2013 the panel had requested that the briefing notes 'Lettings of Council Buildings' and 'Shared Property Services with Lancashire County Council' be recirculated.

Should the panel wish to consider any issue contained within these briefing notes a report can be requested for inclusion on the agenda for a future meeting of the panel. It should be noted, however, that the panel will now receive quarterly updates on general property matters as a matter of course (the first quarter being elsewhere on this agenda).

The briefing note on procurement, in context of the Public Services (Social Value) Act, has been draft and should be circulated shortly.

## 2.6 Service Level Agreements (SLAs)

Previously the panel has chosen to monitor SLAs, requesting reports as appropriate. At its meeting on 11 December 2012 the panel received a report regarding progress towards introducing commissioning arrangements which would replace the current Service Level Agreements with voluntary, community and faith sector (VCFS) partners and arts/leisure partners.

The panel requested that the monitoring of VCFS contracts be added to the work programme, with appropriate dates for monitoring included once the new commissioning arrangements have been agreed.

Officers have now advised that this report will be presented to the panel when performance information for VCSF contracts is available and arrangements for arts commissioning are further developed. It is expected that a report could be presented to the panel in June 2014.

## 2.7 Partnerships

In the past the panel has received reports to update members throughout the year on progress against the planned work programme, outcomes from completed evaluations and any issues arising from the ongoing development of the framework for partnership performance management and governance.

At its meeting on 27 November 2012 the panel was advised of a database that had been created that provided an overview of key partnerships helping the council to achieve its priorities. It was agreed that this would be helpful in assisting the panel to fulfil its terms of reference and that this be added to the panel's work programme.

Members are asked to identify any issues of particular interest regarding partnership arrangements. Reports can then be requested on these particular issues.

### **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**

None.

**Contact Officer:** Tom Silvani  
**Telephone:** 01524 582132  
**E-mail:** tsilvani@lancaster.gov.uk