

BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE PANEL

Budget and Performance Panel – Work Programme

19th February 2025

Joint report of the Chief Officers Finance and Governance

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To consider the Panel's Work Programme.

This report is public.

RECOMMENDATIONS

(1) That the Panel consider the updates below.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Panel is responsible for setting its own annual Work Programme within the Terms of Reference, as set out in the Council's Constitution.
- 1.2 Members are requested to consider the Work Programme attached at Appendix A and also consider any additional items the Panel may wish to add within its terms of reference. Also attached at Appendix B are the Terms of Reference of the Panel. Also appended is the Risk Management Policy (March 2024).

2. Updates

The Panel is asked to consider the following updates.

2.1 Salt Ayre Leisure Centre - update report on the shortfall of income

This item has been added to the agenda for this meeting.

2.2 Commercial Property Income

At the meeting of the Panel on 15th January the Cabinet Member for Finance and Property advised that a report on Commercial Property income (exempt report) could be considered by the Panel.

The Panel is asked what information it wishes to be included in the report.

This item has been scheduled for the Panel's meeting on 13th March.

2.3 Delivering Our Priorities

At its meeting on 4th December the Panel requested:

- That the Chief Officer – People and Policy be requested to attend a meeting of the Panel to inform on staff vacancies, the well-being of Council staff and how the Council are to fill vacancies.
- That the Chief Officer – Housing and Property be requested to attend a meeting of the Panel to inform on the HRA Capital Programme for Mainway.

These items have already been added to the Work Programme for the new financial year. It is suggested that an additional meeting of the Panel be arranged to consider these items.

2.4 **Strategic Risk Register**

At its meeting on 4th December the Panel requested:

- That Risk Management Guidance be shared with Members of the Panel to enable assurances to be robustly scrutinised.
- That the effectiveness of the mitigation factors, in particular with regard to Risk 3 – SR03, be increased to reduce the likelihood of risk.

Consultancy work has been commissioned on risk management due to be delivered before the end of March. After which point the following are likely to change:

- a. The risk scoring moving from a 4x4 to a 5x5 matrix.
- b. The process for escalating risks will be made clearer.
- c. The three lines (of defence) model will be implemented.

Given that the next scheduled meeting of the Panel is not scheduled until 17th September 2025, it is suggested that an additional meeting of the Panel be arranged for this item and also the items referred from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (also see below).

Appended to this report is the Risk Management Policy (March 2024).

2.5 **Referral items from Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

At its last meeting, held on 5th February, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee was advised that the Panel was to consider Risk Management and that it would be appropriate to consider the following items at the same meeting of the Panel with all Members of Overview and Scrutiny Committee invited to attend when this meeting is arranged.

<p>Are the current key performance indicator and project reporting systems fit for purpose to provide the information we need as Councillors to help us understand what is happening in our Wards?</p>	<p>Invite the Chief Officer – People and Place and the Projects and Performance Manager to a meeting to inform on Performance Management.</p>	<p>To be considered by B&PP – O&SC members to be invited.</p>
<p>Benchmarking</p>	<p>What big ticket services and outcome should we be benchmarking, where would we get data from and how would we use it to improve our performance? Invite Chief Officer – People and Policy and Projects and Performance Manager to November 2024 meeting to inform on Performance Management.</p>	<p>To be considered by B&PP – O&SC members to be invited.</p>

These items will be added to the Panel’s Work Programme.

2.6 Budget

At its last meeting the Panel requested that a report and information be provided to the Panel regarding any ways being considered and proposals as part of the Fit for the Future project to generate income and deliver efficiencies, subject to the Chief Officer – Resources/Section 151 Officer liaising with the Chief Executive to ensure that the documentation is available for scrutiny.

The matter was discussed in more detail at the OBR Strategy and Co-Ordination Group and a meeting between SLT and Cabinet is due this month to review the initial Benefit Plans. Following this meeting there should be more clarity in how to progress this request and the Panel will be updated accordingly.

- 3.1 Members are asked whether they wish for an additional meeting of the Panel to be arranged in the new financial year to consider the additional items of business.
- 3.2 The Panel is asked to consider its Work Programme in accordance with its Terms of Reference. Members may also wish to suggest additional training or request areas for closer scrutiny in line with the Panel’s Terms of Reference at Appendix B of the report.

RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK

There are no direct implications as a result of this report.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(including Health & Safety, Equality & Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)

There are no direct implications as a result of this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 9 (a) advises that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Budget and Performance Panel will be responsible for setting their own Annual Work Programme within the Terms of Reference set out in Part 2, Section 5, 9 and 10 of the Constitution.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications as a direct result of this report. Any further reports on specific issues contained within the Work Programme will require further consideration of the financial implications.

OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS, such as Human Resources; Information Services; Property; Open Spaces:

None.

SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The S151 officer has been consulted and has no comments to make.

MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

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

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

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