

Key Decision Required	No	In the Forward Plan	No
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CABINET

20 APRIL 2018

REFERENCE REPORT FROM CORPORATE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF 26 FEBRUARY 2018

A.1 BUDGET SCRUTINY

(Report prepared by Debbie Bunce)

BACKGROUND

At the Corporate Management Committee meeting held on 26th February 2018 the Committee discussed ways in which the financial forecast and budgets will be scrutinised within the proposed new committee structure and it was agreed that there were concerns about the number and length of meetings proposed in the new Municipal Year, bearing in mind that the terms of reference for two Overview and Scrutiny Committees were being merged to form a new Resources and Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee. It was decided that the Committee Services Manager could be asked to schedule in some extra meetings into the calendar of meetings throughout the year but that if these were not needed then they could be cancelled.

It was also noted that it would be useful to have Task and Finish Groups on specific topics outside of the ordinary meetings of the Committee with three Members on each Group. The Committee would decide what the Task and Finish Groups Terms of Reference would be and consult with Cabinet on this.

It was also agreed that training/workshops run by an external resource for both of the new Overview and Scrutiny Committees would be advantageous.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS TO CABINET

The Committee **COMMENTED TO CABINET** that:

- (a) Portfolio Holders may be asked to attend meetings of the Resources and Services overview and Scrutiny Committee, as and when required in order for the Committee to ask questions.
- (b) The Committee may need to schedule additional meetings throughout the year to ensure robust and thorough overview and scrutiny.
- (c) The aspirations for the year that the Leader referred to at full Council should feed into the Committee's work programme.

- (d) The Committee would like the opportunity to consult Cabinet and Officers about the terms of reference for Task and Finish Groups. The Committee would like to ensure that all Members have a consistent understanding of the expectations and terms of reference for Task and Finish Groups.

PORTFOLIO HOLDER'S COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO CABINET

Comments

The Portfolio Holder would like to thank CMC for its comments and responds to each in turn as follows:

- (a) The Portfolio Holder notes this comment.
- (b) The schedule of meetings for the future Resources and Services Committee will be agreed by Full Council, any additional meetings may be scheduled at the request of the Committee Chairman but they should only be requested in exceptional circumstances.
- (c) The Leader's aspirations for the year, will be included in the 2018/19 Performance reporting process.
- (d) Prior to the first meeting of the two new scrutiny Committees , further discussions will take place between the Chairmen and Officers to establish terms of reference for Task and Finish groups.

Recommendation to Cabinet

That Cabinet endorses the response of the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Corporate Resources to the comments made by the Corporate Management Committee.