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Policy Review and Performance Scrutiny Committee

Correspondence update 2014 - 15

Committee date& topic	Recipient	Comments/Information requested	Response received	Response	Future Action
14 May Call-In	Cllr Hinchey	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Following its scrutiny of call in procedure in relation to decision CAB/14/105 – Glamorgan County Cricket Club Loan Write-off and Re-structuring the Committee is not referring the decision back to Cabinet for further consideration.	No response required		
12 May Performance	Cllr Bale	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Members are seeking clarification of arrangements around the cost implications and selection process put in place for the appointment of the advisor to the Education Service.Members wish to have sight of the recommendations such specialist advisors present to the Council.Members look forward to meaningful pre-decision scrutiny of the Attendance & Well-Being		On 2 June agenda.	

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APPENDIX 1

		<p>Review at the forthcoming 2 June Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Committee will be looking to invite service specific representatives to PRAP next time it scrutinises Performance• Members look forward to receiving copies of the minutes of the Challenge Forum• The Committee will be factoring the concerns, recommendations and requests of the four other scrutiny committees into its future consideration of Performance.			
<p>12 May</p> <p>Financial Resilience</p>	<p>Cllr Bale</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Members suggest the Council asks its customers what services they need free of charge, and what they are prepared to pay for, with a view to increasing the Council's income from services.• Members ask that you place on record that libraries will be protected in the 2016/17 budget			

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APPENDIX 1

		<p>round, as agreed at the 2015/16 budget meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Should there be a proposal to close Roath Library; Members ask that the proposal be presented to Full Council.• In light of the ongoing work around Alternative Delivery Models, Members urge that you build in realistic timescales for budgeting purposes• Members would be interested to hear of an example where a co-operative solution has resulted in financial savings in service delivery.• Members request that you bring a draft of any proposed Council support for the City Deal to Committee for pre-decision scrutiny.			
31 March OD progress	Cllr Hinchey	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A cultural change is required to prevent directorates expecting the corporate centre to resolve	18 May		

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APPENDIX 1

<p>report</p>		<p>overspends.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support for a cross party scrutiny panel to monitor the budget monthly – to cabinet for discussion.• Progress report to come back to committee for deeper scrutiny, particularly of the financial position and resilience of the Council, achievements to date, and the speed and pace of change.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Listened to one Member’s interesting proposal to establish a cross-party budget monitoring scrutiny panel, but would suggest that this is something that scrutiny chairs should discuss further and seek to take forward jointly.• Corporate Director (Resources) to address directly the financial position and resilience of the Council in next progress report to the Committee. This will also include an overview of the planned new approach for the ODP.• Welcome the	
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APPENDIX 1

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hubs –meeting need ,reducing costs, avoid ‘welfare warehouse’• Would like a copy of the Council’s benchmarking strategy		<p>opportunity to bring proposals for a refreshed ODP to a future meeting of the Committee in advance of formal consideration by Cabinet, which is expected to be in July 2015. Effective engagement with your Committee, as well as with the Challenge Forum and Members more widely, will form an essential part of our work to update the ODP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome the opportunity to bring the Council’s benchmarking strategy to a future meeting of the	
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APPENDIX 1

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wouldn't wish to restrict ADM's to 6 only. • Outstanding responses to letters as follows:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 21 Jan OD Programme/WAO Corporate Assessment.○ 12 March Q3 Performance		<p>Committee and discuss further our approach in this area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committed to maintaining the momentum of engagement with staff and a continued programme of engagement has been put in place for 2015/16• The Council's Employee Survey is also due to commence during May 2015 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apologise for the delay in responding to these letters and will seek to ensure more timely replies are provided to the Committee in the future	
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APPENDIX 1

<p>31 March</p> <p>WG White Paper 'Power to Local People'</p>	<p>Cllr Bale</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Disappointed to have only received Councils proposed response at 1pm on the day of committee. <p>Requested re-consideration of Councils proposed response as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Call-ins – amend to reflect Members views that Call-ins should apply to any decision where these are sufficient grounds. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Amend to reflect Members support for a Leaders Manifesto and Corporate Plan, Members do not accept that proposals will be unnecessarily bureaucratic.	<p>30 April</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Apology receivedCouncil's response amended to press for the provisions and criteria for call-in to be a matter of local discretion for councils. However Cabinet believes any locally designed system must not be open to abuse.Cabinet supports improved accountability for performance improvement, but believes that the proposals in the White Paper will be particularly onerous in terms of the detailed technical information required, which will not	
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APPENDIX 1

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Devolution – amend to reflect Members support for the position as set out in White Paper.		<p>improve accessibility and public engagement with the Corporate Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Council’s response has not been amended and continues to make the case for further devolution of powers to local government where appropriate.	
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