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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
31 March  <b>OD progress report</b>	Cllr Hinchey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A cultural change is required to prevent directorates expecting the corporate centre to resolve overspends.</li><li>• Support for a cross party scrutiny panel to monitor the budget monthly – to cabinet for discussion.</li><li>• 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.</li><li>• Hubs –meeting need ,reducing costs, avoid ‘welfare warehouse’</li><li>• Would like a copy of the Council’s benchmarking strategy</li><li>• Wouldn’t wish to restrict ADM’s to 6 only.</li><li>• Outstanding responses to letters as follows:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 21 Jan OD Programme/WAO Corporate Assessment.</li><li>○ 12 March Q3 Performance</li></ul></li></ul>			

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<p>31 March</p> <p><b>WG White Paper</b> <b>'Power to Local People'</b></p>	<p>Cllr Bale</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Disappointed to have only received Councils proposed response at 1pm on the day of committee.</li></ul> <p>Requested re-consideration of Councils proposed response as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Call-ins – amend to reflect Members views that Call-ins should apply to any decision where these are sufficient grounds.</li></ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Amend to reflect Members support for a Leaders Manifesto and Corporate Plan, Members do not accept that proposals will be unnecessarily bureaucratic.</li></ul>	<p>30 April</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Apology received</li></ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Council'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.</li></ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Cabinet supports improved accountability for performance improvement, but believes that the proposals in the White Paper will be</li></ul>	
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Devolution – amend to reflect Members support for the position as set out in White Paper.</li></ul>		<p>particularly onerous in terms of the detailed technical information required, which will not improve accessibility and public engagement with the Corporate Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Council’s response has not been amended and continues to make the case for further devolution of powers to local government where appropriate.</li></ul>	
3 March <b>Q3 Performance</b>	Cllr Hinchey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Group Leaders be invited to the next meeting of the Challenge Forum.</li><li>• Requested the Challenge Forum</li></ul>	27 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Group leaders invited to Challenge Forum Meeting 9 April 2015</li><li>• Papers will be</li></ul>	

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		<p>papers, including confidential papers where Members would be bound by our Code of Conduct and Council's constitution.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• With the response to this letter, Members would like to receive the action plan for one of the Star Chamber actions detailed in the cover report, preferably bullet pointed, so that Members can see how this action is being addressed.</li><li>• Officers to liaise with Scrutiny Services to ensure the revised Attendance and Wellbeing Policy comes to this Committee in time for meaningful pre-decision scrutiny, currently scheduled for Cabinet in June 2015.</li><li>• Briefing paper requested from the Environment Director to explain the rationale for the use of agency staff in their Directorate.</li><li>• Briefing papers from the following</li></ul>		<p>sent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Will address Star Chamber point as part of Q4 corporate performance report.</li><li>• MH to liaise with PL to bring revised Attendance and Wellbeing Absence Policy for scrutiny in a timely manner.</li><li>• MH to work with 4 Directors to provide one page briefing notes appended to Q4</li></ul>	
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		<p>Directors, Director of Children's Services, Director of Communities, Housing and Customer Services and Director of Education and Lifelong Learning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Re-iterated previous request for information on the results of PPDR dip-testing to be shared, either in response to this letter or as part of the committee papers for the Quarter 4 Corporate Performance Report item.</li><li>• Requested an update on the level of staff resources available to Cardiff Business Council once discussions have concluded and there is an agreed way forward.</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• OM1 post deleted in Economic Development. Restructure of new service area to create extra management capacity to support Cardiff Business Council. Update of PPDR quality checks with Q4 performance.</li></ul>	
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Benchmarking strategy to committee in the future</li></ul>	
3 March <b>OD-Improved Governance</b>	Marie Rosenthal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thanks officers for their work on Modern.gov</li><li>• Investigate why updated Forward Plan is unavailable</li><li>• Look at work of other local authorities using social media and web based tools for member training.</li><li>• How will Members be engaged in Council's response to WG consultation on Reforming Local Government White Paper?</li></ul>	24 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thanks passed on</li><li>• Forward Plan updated on website for April-June 2015</li><li>• Web-casting available in committee room 4</li><li>• Chairing skills member development session held 25 March</li><li>• Arrangements in place for all Members to be consulted on Councils response to White Paper</li></ul>	

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3 March		The Leader has written to Committee placing on record that he did not feel the minutes of discussion on Cardiff Business Council had been accurately recorded.			
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