

## Policy Review and Performance Scrutiny Committee

Correspondence update 2015 - 16

| Committee date& topic                     | Recipient | Comments/Information requested   | Response received | Response  | Future Action |
|---|-----------|--|-------------------|---|---------------|
| 12 May<br><br><b>Financial Resilience</b> | Cllr Bale | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>Members ask that you place on record that libraries will be protected in the 2016/17 budget round, as agreed at the 2015/16 budget meeting.</li> <li>Should there be a proposal to close Roath Library; Members ask that the proposal be presented to Full Council.</li> </ul> | 16 July           | <p>As part of the Budget Strategy 2016/17 a fourth savings driver of income generation has been introduced. Current Ask Cardiff Survey 2015 asks Would you support the Council charging more for some services if it means they could be continued. And Do you support the Council in the greater implementation of fines for non-compliance? Answers will be used as evidence in the Cardiff Debate analysis.</p> <p>Confirmed that 2015 budget decision to fund library services remains in place, and reaffirmed in a motion passed at Council on 23 July 2015.</p> <p>On 16 July Cabinet agreed: the condition of Roath Library means alternative temporary provision needs to be delivered in the area; the existing building be advertised for Community Asset Transfer; alternative permanent options be explored; if no CAT solution is found, a future Cabinet Report be</p> |               |

**Correspondence Monitoring Sheet**

**Appendix 1**

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|   |                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In light of the ongoing work around Alternative Delivery Models, Members urge that you build in realistic timescales for budgeting purposes</li> <li>Members would be interested to hear of an example where a co-operative solution has resulted in financial savings in service delivery.</li> <li>Members request that you bring a draft of any proposed Council support for the City Deal to Committee for pre-decision scrutiny.</li> </ul> |               | <p>required for long term library provision.</p> <p>Agree that delivery timescales need to be robustly challenged. The magnitude of ongoing cuts and timing of the Comprehensive Spending Review are causes for concern and will delay confirmation of devolved funding and the local government settlement for 2016/17. Confirmation of the Councils financial settlement might be later than usual. Work will proceed to ensure the Councils MTFP is as robust as possible by late autumn 2015.</p> <p>It is difficult to quantify savings from the investigatory work into Co-operative Councils as this approach does not always lead to financial savings</p> <p>Agree it would be useful to engage with the relevant scrutiny committee(s) at appropriate stages in the development of this initiative.</p> |  |
| <p>7 July 2015</p> <p><b>Organisational Development</b></p> | <p>Cllr Hinchey</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members were keen to establish whether any of the nine OD programmes were a cause for</li> </ul>   | <p>11 Aug</p> | <p>Committees input on critical challenges in deteriorating financial position welcomed.</p>  |  |

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| <p><b>Programme</b></p> |  | <p>concern and whether managerial capacity was an issue. The Chief Executive offered to share the Action Plan for dealing with the risk surrounding Adult Social Services commissioning and demand pressures;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Committee will ensure monitoring of progress on specific OD work streams into the work planning of appropriate scrutiny committees;</li> <li>• The Committee has programmed pre-decision scrutiny of the non-operational property review for September 2015;</li> <li>• The Committee concur that the Council's priority must be service provision and that commercial revenue should be ploughed back into service delivery.</li> <li>• Welcomed the planned App and Twitter option for service requests in the future.</li> <li>• The Committee wishes to</li> </ul> |  | <p>Welcome Committee's offer to monitor progress of specific OD work streams.</p> <p>Consider alignment between cabinet and scrutiny priorities important to the effective governance and long term success of the Council.</p> <p>Will share the Action Plan for dealing with risk surrounding strategic commissioning process with Committee at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p>Look forward to pre-decision scrutiny of the non-operational property review.</p> <p>Will continue Cardiff Debate commitment to open dialogue and engagement with staff on important issues such as the introduction of multifunctional roles and mobile</p> |  |
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|  |  | <p>highlight the importance of good staff engagement on plans for the introduction of multifunctional roles and mobile working, noting that mobile working will be rolled out in social services in April 2016.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Committee would welcome a report following the staff survey 2015 outlining how opinion has changed since the 2014 staff survey;</li> <li>• The Committee wishes to undertake pre-decision scrutiny of proposals for County Hall, which it understands will be brought to Cabinet in October;</li> <li>• The Committee wishes to consider scrutiny of the draft Wales Audit Office Improvement Report.</li> </ul> | <p>working.</p> <p>Critical that we are responsive to staff views. Have recently completed year one of a 3 year programme of engagement with staff.</p> <p>Results of the staff survey 2015 will provide a useful pointer to the outlook of the workforce which is central to successful delivery of the ODP. Staff survey data is being analysed but early indications are that response levels are improved on previous years. The results will be shared with the Committee. Fair to say there is a much higher level of staff engagement than previously.</p> <p>Proposals for County Hall scheduled for Cabinet in November.</p> <p>Officers instructed to share with scrutiny team and an appropriate opportunity for the Committee to consider to be identified.</p> |  |
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| <b>Alternative Delivery Model Evaluation Methodology</b>                            | Cllr Hinchey        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members recognised that building the Council’s own model has enabled wide engagement with stakeholders, and they have specifically asked me to relay that they welcome the model as a most useful corporate tool. They feel the Council could usefully apply the Methodology to other services, such as libraries and arts facilities.</li> </ul> | <b>No response required</b> |                          |  |
| 9 July 2015<br><b>Joint meeting of PRAP &amp; Environmental Scrutiny Committees</b> | Cllr Bob Derbyshire | See attached Appendix 4a   |                             | See attached Appendix 4b |  |