

CITY COUNCIL

27 February 2012



CABINET MINUTE 115

BUDGET AND CORPORATE PLAN SCRUTINY REPORT 2012/13

The report of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board on the Budget and Corporate Plan Scrutiny 2012/13 was submitted together with minute 84 of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board.

Councillor James (Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board) presented the report and advised Cabinet Members that -

- (a) the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board had scrutinised the Council's partners for the first time, in addition to the Cabinet Members;
- (b) the Management Board had been assisted by advisers this year;
- (c) the scrutiny exercise had been undertaken over three days, 11, 16 and 18 January 2012;
- (d) his thanks were extended to Cabinet Members, directors and assistant directors for their assistance;
- (e) his thanks were also were extended to Katey Johns and Ross Jago (Democratic Support Officers) and Giles Perritt (Head of Performance, Policy and Partnerships) for their immense contributions and support;
- (f) the recommendations of the Management Board were submitted for consideration.

In response to questions from Cabinet Members, Councillor James advised that the scrutiny process could be improved and indicated that he was in favour of replacing the scrutiny panels with task and finish groups.

The Chair responded and expressed a reservation about the role of advisers. She thanked Councillor James, the Management Board and advisers for their considerable amount of work and felt that the sessions had been genuinely challenging. The inclusion of the Council's partners had added to the quality of the sessions and the exercise demonstrated that scrutiny could add value to the Council's decision making process.

On behalf of Cabinet, she broadly welcomed the recommendations and Cabinet's response to the Budget and Corporate Plan 2012/13 scrutiny recommendations was submitted.

Agreed the responses, as submitted and appended to these minutes, as the Cabinet's formal response to the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board.

Note:

The full report in connection with this minute is available on the website

www.plymouth.gov.uk/democracy

or by contacting Democratic Support on 01752 304867

**Cabinet Response to recommendations made by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board
following Budget Scrutiny 2012 - 2013**

	Recommendation	Cabinet/CMT lead	Cabinet Response
R1	That the future provision of funding for police community support officers should be included in police base budgets.	GJ/CM	Agreed - recommendation to be made to Police Authority
R2	A position statement from police on identification of any potential areas for collaboration with Council for shared services in Plymouth to be sought.	IB/AB	Agreed - include with shared service planning response R43 below
R3	Commitment required from Police to appropriate resourcing to meet crime and community safety targets in the city reflecting the city's status as the major urban centre within the force area.	Leader/GJ/CB	Agreed - recommendation to be made to Police Authority
R4	That any proposals for a possible increase in the police precept and the impact on council services during a council tax freeze should be monitored and reported to the Cabinet / Board.	IB/AB	Agreed - precept will be agreed at Police Authority meeting on 17 February

	Recommendation	Cabinet/CMT lead	Cabinet Response
R5	Additional clarification is sought regarding multi agency funding of the Children and Young People's Plan.	SL/CB	Agreed
R6	Plans to increase take-up of free school meals, with in year targets be submitted to the Children and Young People's scrutiny panel.	SL/CB	Agreed
R7	Department to provide additional detail on schools infrastructure plan to include impact of Academy transition on the Council's PFI liabilities, and actions being taken to address this.	SL/CB	Agreed, although for capital items as yet unfunded see R8 below
R8	Schools capital spending priorities beyond those in the funded capital programme are published.	SL/CB	Not agreed – capital programme will include only funded items
R9	Cabinet member to supply evidence of a coordinated cross Council response to the issue of Child Poverty and worklessness amongst young people, with clear accountability and delivery arrangements at Council and Partnership level and SMART targets for review during the coming year.	SL/CB	Agreed – to be included in the work programme of the Members' working group on Child Poverty

	Recommendation	Cabinet/CMT lead	Cabinet Response
R10	A review of the Common Assessment Framework be undertaken to ensure that it is fit for purpose in the new economic environment	SL/CB	An update on the Common Assessment Framework will be provided
R11	A report is prepared for the Management Board outlining how Children's services, Plymouth Community Healthcare, Adult Social Care and Plymouth Community Homes are jointly providing aligned and coordinated locality based services that are understood and accessible to customers	SL/CB	Agreed
R12	Cabinet assurance is sought that plans are in place to ensure a smooth and seamless transition for children in care to adult social care.	SL/CB	Agreed – joint commissioning arrangements in new People directorate will address
R13	To provide Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Panel with an update of the results of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and its use in the development of the Health and Wellbeing strategy.	GM/CB	Agreed – agenda item for March meeting of Panel
R14	Information to be provided into the impact of the Adult Social Care transformation programme on the adult care sector.	GM/CB	Agreed – work already undertaken

	Recommendation	Cabinet/CMT lead	Cabinet Response
R15	Ensure that the Health and Wellbeing Board has appropriate and effective representation from the community and voluntary sector.	GM/CB	Will be raised with Health and Wellbeing Development Group for consideration when Shadow Board is put in place in April/May 2012
R16	That further details of the Adult Social Care transformation plan were to be incorporated into the corporate plan.	GM/CB	Included at high level – further detail more appropriate in Health and Wellbeing Strategy when published later in 2012-13
R17	The Adult Social Care service should undertake demand forecasting on which to inform the allocation of budget and resources. The production of the information should be monitored by the adult social care overview and scrutiny panel.	GM/CB	Work already being undertaken
R18	The budget to support young carers in the city should sit within adult social care.	GM/CB	Agreed – will be addressed as joint commissioning arrangements for children and adults are put in place
R19	That the growth board consider the impact of changes to health provision on the health workforce and consider future health workforce development in the city.	TF/AP	As R14 above
R20	A report is produced detailing the demographic impact of Plymouth's ageing population.	GM/CB	Agreed

	Recommendation	Cabinet/CMT lead	Cabinet Response
R21	Proposals are brought forward to demonstrate how capacity is being built and liabilities offset to enable a viable Community Assets Transfer programme	IB/AB	Community asset transfer principles already agreed
R22	Clarification is sought on how the Growth Fund will be maximised and ringfenced to economic development	TF/AP	Cabinet decision of March 2011 regarding Growth Fund in place, subject to review
R23	Detailed monitoring of worklessness targets and outcomes by project and work area is published regularly	TF/AP	Agreed - worklessness plan under development
R24	Undertake a risk assessment of the localisation of non-domestic rates detailing likely impact on the Council's medium term financial plan.	IB/AB	Agreed - will be undertaken as government proposals regarding transition arrangements are clear
R25	Cabinet member to supply evidence of a coordinated cross Council response to the issue of worklessness, with clear accountability and delivery arrangements at Council and Partnership level and SMART targets for review during the coming year.	TF/AP	As R23 above
R26	Details are published of the indicative Transport Capital Programme (£11.94m)	KW/AP	Agreed – will be produced as details are available

	Recommendation	Cabinet/CMT lead	Cabinet Response
R27	Bus Punctuality Improvement Plan is published, with details of punctuality and targets by route/geography.	KW/AP	Agreed
R28	Update on progress in investment commitments made by GoAhead around the sale of Citybus be provided.	KW/AP	Agreed
R29	Demonstrate how the strategic parking review will support retail growth within the city.	KW/AP	Agreed
R30	Impact on car parking and CCTV control room of future redevelopment of Mayflower East/West car parks be assessed and mitigated.	KW/AP	Agreed – as plans are developed
R31	Demonstrate how the Market Recovery Plan identifies priorities for delivery in the coming year and expected outcomes.	TF/AP	Agreed
R32	Impact of community infrastructure levy (CIL) is assessed on economic development objectives.	TF/AP	Agreed

	Recommendation	Cabinet/CMT lead	Cabinet Response
R33	Impact of Localism Act – ensure modelling is undertaken to test the capacity of the planning service to respond to the changing legislative environment, particularly to support neighbourhood planning forums.	TF/AP	Agreed
R34	Amend the capital programme to reflect the fact that £4m won't be spent on MRF in 2012/13.	IB/AB	Agreed
R35	Provide strategy for potential allocation of the night time levy.	GJ/CB	Agreed – as legislation is clarified and details worked up
R36	Produce a Recycling Strategy and Action Plan.	ML/AP	Contained within Waste Management Strategy
R37	The Council to allocate additional resources over and above the grant allocation to major adaptations to ensure that the promoting independence agenda is fully supported.	GM/CB	Will be considered against other funding priorities
R38	An impact assessment is carried out and published of the likely impact of housing benefit and other relevant welfare reforms on both homelessness and existing tenancies, with an action plan demonstrating how the impact on key vulnerable groups is being addressed.	TF/CB	Agreed

	Recommendation	Cabinet/CMT lead	Cabinet Response
R39	Resources are made available to improve on the current rate of 500 per year of the 18000 properties with category one hazards that are being addressed.	TF/CB	Not agreed – current risk based arrangements appropriate given other calls on housing related resources
R40	Proposals are consulted on regarding the nature of local schemes for Council Tax benefit and the Social Fund.	IB/AB	Agreed
R41	How is the Council as a whole addressing the issue of troubled families?	SL/GJ/CB	Agreed - details will be provided as proposals developed
R42	Provide the projected savings for post 12/13 co-location with Health at Windsor House.	GM/CB	Agreed – details will be provided as they are quantified
R43	Provide a shared services plan that defines principles and definitions of shared services, with expected outcomes for the Council, proposed principle and secondary partners, Member and officer leads and accountabilities. Propose milestones and projected outcomes for the coming year and beyond.	IB/AB	Agreed

	Recommendation	Cabinet/CMT lead	Cabinet Response
R44	Bring forward Transaction Centre integration proposals for addition integration of services for the coming year, with projected efficiency savings.	IB/AB	Agreed
R45	Ensure capital priorities are clearly linked to city priorities.	IB/AP	Agreed
R46	Publish plans to reduce IT applications across the Council, with projected targets and financial savings.	RB/AB	Agreed
R47	Bring forward proposals as to how as yet unfunded capital investment priorities can be considered prior to funding becoming available.	IB/AP	Not agreed as R8 above
R48	Identify contingency plans if no partner investment is available for the Civic Centre following tender exercise during 2012-13.	IB/AB	Agreed, will be developed as necessary
R49	What targets are being set for key staff engagement measures for the coming year, and how are they to be met?	IB/AB	Agreed, information will be provided when agreed

	Recommendation	Cabinet/CMT lead	Cabinet Response
R50	A review is undertaken into the procurement, shared services and location risk assessment arrangements of the data centre.	RB/AB	Agreed
R51	What are the SMART targets by service area for sickness in the coming year and how are managers going to be held accountable for delivering them?	IB/AB	Agreed – as R49 above
R52	Publish a Workforce Development with resource requirements and measurable outcomes.	IB/AB	Agreed
R53	The business case for a fully transactional website to be published and made available for consultation.	RB/AB	Agreed
R54	The libraries review to be made available for pre-decision scrutiny and further engagement work is undertaken with the community and voluntary sector regarding the development of libraries as community hubs.	GJ/AB	Agreed

	Recommendation	Cabinet/CMT lead	Cabinet Response
R55	Undertake a risk assessment of customer services ability to deal with increased demand and contacts during welfare reform implementation.	RB/AB	Agreed
R56	Scrutiny management Board to receive proposals on changes to committee and scrutiny structure.	SR/AB	Agreed
R57	Identification of mitigation to offset impact of lack of statutory legal aid representation for priority groups.	SR/AB	Agreed – work already undertaken
R58	An appropriately funded plan be put in place to mitigate the likely impact on voter numbers of the proposed electoral reforms.	SR/AB	Identification of potential impacts will be undertaken
R59	Any decision to use the Life Centre for the count at the local elections is informed by cost and value for money implications.	SR/AB	Agreed
R60	Ensure the city's long term priorities clearly reflect the more turbulent economic climate we are moving through and that the medium term focus on key areas of delivery is clearly drawn out in the Corporate Plan.	VP/BK	Corporate Plan amended – further work will be undertaken during the year through business planning process

	Recommendation	Cabinet/CMT lead	Cabinet Response
R61	Investigate the best ways of joining up our various priority areas of delivery through an overall programme.	VP/BK	As R60 above
R62	Provide risk mitigation around red delivery plans in 2012-13.	Identified Cabinet members and directors	Agreed