

Corporate and Customer Overview and Scrutiny Panel - Efficiency Gains Sub-Group

Tuesday, 5 February 2008

Present: Councillor Mrs Stella Walsh (Chair) and Councillors Mike Devaney, David Dickinson and June Molyneaux

Also in attendance: Gary Hall (Assistant Chief Executive (Business Transformation)) James Douglas (Business Improvement Manager) and Ruth Hawes (Assistant Democratic Services Officer)

08.32 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Henry Caunce, Mick Davies, Keith Iddon, Kevin Joyce, Thomas McGowan and Geoff Russell.

08.33 DECLARATIONS OF ANY INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest by Members relating to the items on the agenda.

08.34 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

No members of the public requested to speak at the meeting.

08.35 QUESTION SETTING

Members considered the draft questions and allocated questions to each Member for the ensuing feedback session.

RESOLVED – That the questions be set as below:

1. Please outline the services within the remit of the directorate.
2. How many Full Time Equivalentts are there in the directorate?
3. What contribution has the directorate made to achieving those gains?
4. What areas of improved efficiency have been targeted for the future?
5. Is there any scope for joint working within the directorate?
6. How is efficiency managed and improved within the directorate and how does it link with the business improvement plan and the corporate strategy?
7. What is the budget and what are the main heads of expenditure?
8. How is it ensured that any efficiency gains achieved are corporately collected and reported?
9. What measures have been taken to ensure that effective procurement practice is in place within the directorate and are there examples of this in practice?
10. The use of the absence management policy can lead to efficiencies. Is the policy working in the directorate?
11. We understand that there will be significant efficiency savings as a result of the mobile working project. How is the project progressing?

08.36 ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION) ON THE NEIGHBOURHOODS DIRECTORATE

The Chair welcomed Gary Hall to the meeting and thanked him for attending the meeting to discuss the Neighbourhood Directorate. The feed back session comprised questions and answers collated into a schedule enabling comparison with those responses given by other officers.

Chair