

Executive Cabinet

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday, 3 December 2009

Present: Councillor Peter Goldsworthy (Executive Leader in the Chair), Councillor Pat Case (Deputy Leader of the Council) and Councillors Eric Bell, Kevin Joyce, Peter Malpas, Greg Morgan and John Walker.

Also in attendance:

Lead Members: Councillors Harold Heaton (Lead Member (Development Control)) and Rosie Russell (Lead Member (Health and Older People)).

Other Members: Councillors Ken Ball, Julia Berry, Henry Counce, Dennis Edgerley, Anthony Gee, Laura Lennox, Adrian Lowe, June Molyneaux, Mick Muncaster, Debra Platt, Geoffrey Russell, Ralph Snape, Stella Walsh and Peter Wilson.

09.EC.118 VALUE FOR MONEY REVIEW OF THE CORPORATE SUPPORT SERVICES - DETERMINATION OF RESPONSE TO FINAL REPORT

The Executive Cabinet received and considered a report of the Corporate Director (People) presenting the findings and recommendations of the Value for Money review of the various elements of the Council's Corporate Support Services, as part of the Authority's programme of service reviews.

The review had been undertaken to assess the support services effectiveness in delivering high quality services with the most efficient use of resources and working methods.

The review had concluded that, in general, the corporate support services provided good value for money, but the findings had identified a number of improvements and service revisions that had the potential to streamline the use of resources and provide better value for money for Council Tax payers.

A number of Councillors present at the meeting raised associated issues, particularly in relation to the marketing and current use of the Lancastrian Room; the costs of the Mayoralty; and the planned review of the Council's Year Book and Diary. In response, the Executive Leader accepts the suggestions that the Member Support Working Group examine options for the publication of information currently available in the Year Book and Diary and that further reports be prepared on the role and function of the Lancastrian Room and issues surrounding the Mayoralty function, for consideration by the Executive Cabinet.

Decision made:

That the report and findings of the Value for Money Review of the Council's Corporate Support Services be noted and that the recommendations contained in the respective findings reports for the

Office of the Chief Executive, and the Human Resources and Organisational Development; Information and Communications Technology; Policy and Performance; and Corporate Governance (Civic Services, Legal Services and Democratic Services) Directorates be approved for development and implementation.

Reason for decision:

The proposals and potential improvements aim to make the corporate support services more efficient and cost effective.

Alternative option(s) considered and rejected:

None.