

**Minutes of Budget and Transformation Panel Meeting
12 September 2013**

1. Attendance

Members:

Alderman Gavin Robinson (Chair)

Councillor Maire Hendron

Councillor John Kyle

Councillor Caoimhin Mac Giolla Mhin (deputising for Councillor Jim McVeigh)

Councillor Lee Reynolds

Apologies:

Councillor Tim Attwood

Alderman David Browne

Councillor Jim McVeigh

Officers:

Peter McNaney, Chief Executive

Ronan Cregan, Director of Finance and Resources

John McGrillen, Director of Development

Mark McBride, Head of Finance and Performance

Caroline Wilson, Neighbourhood and Development Manager (for item 3)

2. Revised Fraud Policy

The Director of Finance and Resources tabled the proposed protocol for "Reporting to Members on Suspected Fraud".

Subject to the amendment that "Significant sums of council money or assets.." should be changed to "Council money or assets.." it was agreed that the protocol should be submitted to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee for approval.

3. Leisure Transformation Programme

The Chief Executive provided an update on the Leisure Transformation Programme following the visit of Elected Members to Greenwich. He also advised that a briefing for the Trade Unions on the Leisure Transformation Programme had been undertaken and that this had been attended by local TU representatives and full time TU officials.

It was noted that Greenwich Leisure Limited (GLL) would be visiting Belfast and that the details of the workshop with Elected Members would be notified to the Party Group Leaders.

4. Efficiency Programme 2014/15

The Director of Finance and Resources summarised the current position of the 2014/15 efficiency programme. He advised that at this stage £1.1m of the £2m targeted savings had been achieved and he outlined the areas of focus over the next few months from which the remaining £900k of savings will be targeted.

The Director also outlined the proposals to join iESE and the benefits this would provide in accessing local government expertise in supporting delivery of the efficiency programme and developing a programme of value for money / transformational service reviews. It was noted that an update report on the efficiency programme, which would include the proposal

to join iESE, would be presented to the next meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on the 20 September 2013.

5. Capital Programme Update

The Director of Finance and Resources highlighted the key movements in the capital programme update report which would be presented to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on the 20 September 2013. The report was noted.

6. Belfast Community Investment Programme

The Director of Development advised that a paper would be presented to the next meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on the options for the Belfast Community Investment Programme (BCIP) post 2015.

The Director tabled a briefing note which summarised each of the options in terms of:-

- Strategic Fit
- Operational Risk
- Financial Risk
- Likelihood of Quick Agreement and
- Reputational Risk.

The panel agreed that the preferred option, to ensure that there are adequate funding arrangements in place for the community development sector from 2015, would be to consider community development funding in the context of Community Planning and the transfer of the whole Neighbourhood Renewal Programme to local government with a new outcomes based programme being introduced in 2017.

It was noted that a full report on the proposal would be presented to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee in October 2013.

7. Date of Next Meeting

10.00am, Friday 18 October 2013.