

Task Group Update

Partnerships

Membership: Cllr Desna Allen, Cllr Jane Burton, Cllr Chris Caswill, Cllr Peter Colmer, Cllr Chris Humphries, Cllr Jonathon Seed and Cllr Roy While (Chairman).

The Task Group met on June 21st where the councillors welcomed the Chairman of Community Safety – Confidence Group - Diana Fulbrook (chief executive of the Probation Service) and Tim Mason- Interim Project Manager.

The Task Group was given an overview of the work Confidence Group, whose key purpose is to increase confidence in the criminal justice system and in partnerships and agencies reducing crime and anti-social behaviour in local communities.

Key discussion areas included the performance measurements for monitoring confidence and the deliverables that had been achieved since the group's inception.

The Task Group for its next meeting will be inviting representatives from Wiltshire Police to discuss their role in the Community Safety Partnership. The Chairman together with representation from the Task Group will also attend the next meeting of the Community Safety Executive Board to inform them of the work of scrutiny.

Budget & Performance

Membership: Cllr Tony Deane (Chairman), Cllr Jeff Osborn, Cllr Mollie Groom, Cllr Rosemary Brown, Cllr Carole Soden, Cllr Jon Hubbard, Cllr Mike Hewitt and Cllr Pip Ridout.

At the meeting held on 20 May the Head of Finance – Neighbourhood and Planning provided an overview of the key steps and processes for budget monitoring from a departmental to corporate level. Councillors also considered the latest capital and revenue budget reports and agreed a format for future graphical presentation of the budget monitoring.

A summary of the Performance Reward Grant Scheme for Area Boards was provided and the Task Group requested that a briefing note be circulated to all

councillors providing clear guidance on the application process (including criteria) to enable councillors to more effectively participate in the process.

A further meeting was arranged for 30 June in order for councillors to consider the Revenue and Capital budget outturn reports 2009-2010. The Joint Corporate Director for Public Health and Wellbeing also attended this meeting to provide further analysis on a number of Health National Indicators.

At the Chairman's request, the KPMG Interim Audit 2009/10 report was added to the Agenda. The Task Group felt that the KPMG report highlighted a number of issues relating to SAP which were not fully explored when councillors considered the Health check – SAP financials report earlier in the year. Councillors also raised concern at the increase in KPMG's fees for next year and reflected this in their commentary.

The next meeting is currently being arranged so that the Task Group can consider the revenue and capital budget monitoring reports (for the period April to May 2010) which will be submitted to Cabinet on 27th July and to also approve the Task Groups annual report for future endorsement by the Committee.

Major Contracts

Membership: Cllr Richard Britton (Chairman), Cllr Ricky Rogers, Cllr Nigel Carter, Cllr Judy Rooke, Cllr Roy While and Cllr Helen Osborn.

At the last Committee meeting councillors agreed to extend membership of the Task Group to include a 6th person. As a result Councillor Helen Osborn has volunteered and will now join the Task Group in carrying out future contract reviews.

The next meeting of this Task Group will take place on the 21st October 2010 at 14.30 where a review of the Sodexo Contract will be undertaken. Following previous practice the School Catering element of this will be considered separately by the Children's Services Select Committee.

Workplace Transformation Programme

Membership: Cllr Philip Brown (Chairman), Cllr Nigel Carter, Cllr Charles Howard, Cllr Judy Rooke, Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cllr Jeff Osborn, Cllr Tony Deane

On 28th June the Task Group undertook a site visit to Bourne Hill. A meeting was held on site where the WTP Project Lead for Service Engagement provided councillors with a presentation on the potential for future co-location of services in Salisbury. The WTP Director also talked members through a Bourne Hill – budget update report.

Following the meeting the Task Group went on a tour of the refurbished old building and the new extension and the officers and Cabinet members for Resources responded to a number of questions regarding lighting, ventilation, internal decoration and the flexibility of the under-floor layout in terms of IT.

Overall councillors were very impressed with the design and the many environmentally friendly features such as the solar fins and 'green roof' and the high percentage of recycled material used.

The Task Group also visited two other Council owned buildings in the area which highlighted issues relating to secondary access, poor working environments and the potentially high costs that would be required to refurbish such buildings to an acceptable standard.

The next meeting, due to take place in September, will focus on decant arrangements and the refurbishment designs for the MECH and old County Hall building.

Member Support in the Locality

Membership: Cllr Desna Allen, Cllr Richard Britton, Cllr Jeff Ody, Cllr Jonathon Seed (Chairman), Cllr Bridget Wayman, Cllr Ian West and Cllr Fred Westmoreland.

The Group held its first meeting on 15 June 2010 where members carried out a scoping exercise to determine the work programme and future witnesses.

During the meeting several issues were raised with the Group

1. Steve Milton, Head of Community Governance, will be invited to the Task Group's next meeting to provide an update on the review of the Community Issues System (CIS) and to discuss the Community Area Managers' (CAMs') role in supporting councillors' to resolve local issues.
2. John Quinton, Head of Democratic Services, will be invited to a future Task Group meeting to discuss general councillor support issues.
3. All Councillors are to be asked the question, via email: "Do you have a view on the support currently available for helping you to resolve casework issues and community area issues?", with responses being reported to the Task Group's next meeting.
4. The Task Group will consider the following documents, as requested by the Councillor Development Group, at a future meeting:
 - 'Helping Councillors Get Things Done' guidance note
 - Community Issues Triage Checklist

- Area Boards – Dealing With Local Issues flowchart
- Councillor Call For Action guidance note

The next meeting will take place on 16th July where the Head of Community Governance and the Head of Democratic Services will attend as per bullet points 1 & 2 above. The Service Director for ICT and Business Transformation and the Cabinet Member for Resources will also attend to provide an update following the rapid scrutiny exercise undertaken in respect of Members ICT.

Future ICT Provision

At the last Committee meeting the Future ICT Provision Task Group was established to scrutinise the wind down of the Steria contract and the development of structures for the new in-house service.

Membership is so far confirmed as follows: Cllr Jon Hubbard, Cllr Nigel Carter, Cllr Roy While and Cllr Jonathon Seed.

The first meeting is due to take place at the end of August during which members will undertake a scoping exercise to determine the work programme and future witnesses.

S106 Agreements

Membership: Cllr Philip Brown, Cllr Bill Douglas, Cllr Peter Fuller, Cllr George Jeans, Cllr Howard Marshall and Cllr Anthony Trotman (Chairman).

At the meeting held on 25 March 2010 the Committee agreed to establish a Task Group to consider the responsibilities and pressures of S106 agreements in the Unitary Council.

Several meetings have taken place since the commencement of the Group and an interim report is now attached (at appendix 1) which provides details of the Group's findings.

Proposal:

The Committee is asked to:

1. **Endorse the content of the interim report**
2. **Approve the continuation of the Task Group**
3. **Make any necessary representations to the Cabinet Member for Economic Development Planning and Housing**