

Report to:

# Council

Agenda  
Item

**11(ii)(b)**

Meeting Date: 10 September 2013

Public/Private\*: Public

Title: **Chairman's Report – Councillor Reg Watson**

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Chairman reminded the panel of the Saving Paper Task and Finish Group on the move to paperless meetings. He raised concerns regarding the amount of paper sent out for the Council meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> July. The Panel have agreed to reconvene to discuss further areas of savings with the Chief Executive and ICT to explore the necessity to change the paper format and style to more easily fit the tablet format. (500 pages do not make for easy reading on a tablet). Members agreed that the amount of paperwork made it difficult to absorb all the necessary information and make comment on it. It was felt that a more condensed report would improve readability on the tablets. Effective communication is an important part of the Council's business.

## Sickness Absence Reports

The Panel was pleased to see an improvement in the sickness absence for 2012/13. Nearly 550 less FTE days being lost to short term absences and 870 less to long term absences. It was noted that an improved return to work interviews of 96% was a significant improvement on previous years.

## Organisational Development Reports

The Panel was pleased to see the number of successes of employees working towards improved qualifications.

A member's health day has been arranged for the 10<sup>th</sup> September Council meeting when basic health checks will be available to members free of charge. They may save your life.