

# **RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL**

## ***Panel Report***

### **Public**

**Date of Meeting:** 17<sup>th</sup> February 2011

**Title:** Overview Report and Work Programme

**Report of:** Overview and Scrutiny Officer

**Report reference:** OS 05/11

### **Summary:**

This report provides an overview of matters related to the Resources O&S Panel's work. It also includes the latest version of the work programme.

### **Recommendations:**

Members are asked to:

- Agree items for consideration by Scrutiny which are included in the Forward Plan (Para 1 & Appendix 1)
- Note and/or amend the Panel's work programme (Appendix 3).

**Contact Officer:** Nicola Edwards

**Ext:** 7122

## **1. Forward Plan Items**

The Forward Plan of the Executive covering the period 1<sup>st</sup> February – 31<sup>st</sup> May 2011 was published on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2010. The issues which fall into the remit of this Panel are as follows and full details can be found at Appendix 1:

**KD004/11 - Amendment to Council Framework for Member Learning** – *to be considered at this meeting of the Panel.*

## **2. References from the Executive**

The following reference from the Executive can be found at Appendix 2.

**EX.007/11      Policy Framework**

## **3. Work Programme**

The current work programme is reproduced in Appendix 3 for consideration and/or amendment.

**FORWARD PLAN**

Appendix 1

**Index of Active Executive Key Decisions relevant to:  
Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel**

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<b>Key Decision Ref Nos:</b>	<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Date of Executive Meeting</b>
KD.004/11	Amendment to Council Framework for Member Learning	14 February 2011 14 March 2011

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**FORWARD PLAN**  
**Active Executive Key Decisions relevant to:**  
**Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel**

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**Ref:** KD.004/11                      **Portfolio Area** Performance and Development

**Subject** Amendment to Council Framework for Member Learning

**Key Decisions:**

To amend the Council framework for Member Learning

**To be considered initially by Executive:** 14 February 2011

**Decision to be taken at Executive on:** 14 March 2011

**Responsible or Lead Overview and Scrutiny Panel:**

Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel

**Date when the matter will be available for consideration by Overview and Scrutiny Panel**

Policy and Budget Framework matter which will available for consideration on 17 February 2011 by Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

**Consultees:**

**Date for Consultees' comments:**

**Relevant reports/background papers which are available:**

The Town Clerk and Chief Executive's report will be available five working days before the meeting

**Further Information From:**

Town Clerk and Chief Executive, Carlisle City Council, Civic Centre, Carlisle CA3 8QG

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**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE  
EXECUTIVE  
HELD ON 19 JANUARY 2011**

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**EX.007/11 POLICY FRAMEWORK**  
(Key Decision)

**Portfolio** Cross-Cutting

**Subject Matter**

Pursuant to Minute EX.171/10, the Assistant Director (Governance) submitted report GD.08/11 concerning the Council's Policy Framework.

The Assistant Director (Governance) reminded Members that they had on 25 October 2010 considered Report GD.54/10 on the matter and, as a result, agreed that consideration should be given to streamlining the Council's Policy Framework as specified in its Constitution.

He then outlined the purpose of the Policy Framework, together with results of the consultation feedback, details of which were provided.

The matter had been considered by the Community; Environment and Economy; and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panels and Minute Extracts COSP.87/10, EEOSP.88/10 and ROSP.115/10 circulated prior to the meeting.

In conclusion, the Assistant Director (Governance) recommended improvements to the Policy Framework via a reduction in the number of policies reserved to Council thus streamlining both the Framework and the Council's decision making process. If the Executive was supportive of the proposal the intention was that a report with a recommendation would be presented to the City Council at its meeting on 1 March 2011.

The Chairman of the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel stated that the cross-party workshop held on 21 December 2010 had been excellent. Members were content with the proposed reduction of the Council's Budget and Policy Framework, recognising that it would clarify decision making within the authority.

On behalf of the Executive, the Leader expressed appreciation for the work undertaken by the Assistant Director (Governance) and team, and input from Members of the Council. He therefore looked forward to cross-party support when the matter was considered by Council on 1 March 2011.

**Summary of options rejected** None

## **DECISION**

That the Executive recommended to Council that it:

1. Support and approve the reduction of the Council's Budget and Policy Framework from the existing 80 plus plans, policies and strategies to the 12 as specified in Report GD.08/11;
2. Amend Article 4 of the Constitution and revise its Budget and Policy Framework as specified in Appendix 2; and
3. Authorise the Assistant Director (Governance) to amend the Council's Constitution accordingly.

## **Reasons for Decision**

As detailed in Report GD.08/11, the proposed changes would lead to a reduced Policy Framework which would streamline the decision making process and improve the clarity of decision making and, in particular, the responsibility for decisions.

# RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL WORK PROGRAMME 2010/11

## APPENDIX 3



Issue	Type of Scrutiny						Comments/Current Status	Meeting Dates							
	Performance Management	Forward Plan Item/Referred from Executive	Policy Review/Development	Scrutiny of Partnership/ External Agency	Budget	Monitoring		17 Jun 10	29 July 10	2 Sept 10	3 Nov 10	7 Dec 10	6 Jan 11	17 Feb 11	31 Mar 11
<b>Current Meeting - 17<sup>th</sup> February 2011</b>															
Performance Monitoring Reports	✓					✓	Monitoring of PI's		✓			✓		✓	
Budget Monitoring 10/11					✓	✓	Monitoring of budget		✓			✓		✓	
Transformation Programme					✓	✓	Monitoring of action plans, budget savings and process			✓				✓	
Shared Services						✓	Update report on RBS, ICT & Audit Shared Services							✓	
Amendment to Council Framework for Member Development		✓					Report to amend the Council framework for Member Learning							✓	
Organisational Development Plan			✓			✓	To scrutinise proposed plan.							✓	
<b>Task &amp; Finish Groups</b>															
Capital Programme							Currently undertaking		✓	✓					

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Review							review.								
Use of Consultants			✓				Reported to Executive		✓		✗	✓			
Lease Cars			✓				Monitoring of Task Group Recommendations				✓			✓	
<b>Future Meetings</b>															
Discretionary Rate Relief Policy				✓			To consider protocol and criteria								✓
Projects Assurance Group						✓	Quarterly monitoring of significant projects	✓			✓		✓		✓
Corporate Risk Register						✓	Quarterly Monitoring		✓		✓		✓		✓
Scrutiny Annual Report							Draft report for comment before Chairs Group								✓
<b>Completed Items</b>															
Procurement and Commissioning Strategy		✓					Consideration of 2010-12 strategy						✓		



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Budget					✓		Budget setting 2011/12					✓	✓			
Tullie House		✓					To scrutinise Business Case					✓				
Property Portfolio Options			✓				To scrutinise Draft Business Plan	✓		✓	✓	✓				
Policy Framework		✓					To consider proposed changes to the Policy Framework					✓				
Public Spending Review					✓		Implications of Governments CSR				✓					
Discretionary Rate Relief Policy		✓					To scrutinise proposed changes to the current scheme				✓					
Local Enterprise Partnership/Regional Growth Fund			✓				To consider The 'Cumbria LEP' outline proposal and the consultation response on the RGF				✓					

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Claimed Rights			✓		✓		To consider report with detailing background and financial implication.			✓					
Medium Term Financial Plan					✓		2010-2015		✓						
Asset Management Plan					✓		2010-2015		✓						
Executive Arrangements							Report outlining consultation on Council's Executive arrangements	✓							
2009/10 Provisional Outturn Reports							Outturn reports and recommendations on carry forward requests.	✓							
<b>INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS</b>															
<b>Details</b>								<b>Date Circulated</b>							
Member Development Report								July 2010							