

**Minutes of Budget and Transformation Panel Meeting
11 and 13 March 2015**

**1. Attendance
11 March 2015**

Members:

Councillor Deidre Hargey
Councillor Billy Hutchinson
Councillor Tim Attwood
Councillor Michael Long
Alderman Gavin Robinson
Alderman Jim Rodgers

Apologies:

Alderman Stalford

**Attendance
13 March 2015**

Members

Alderman Gavin Robinson
Councillor Jim McVeigh
Councillor David Browne
Councillor Mervyn Jones

Apologies

Alderman Stalford
Councillor Attwood
Councillor Hutchinson

Officers:

Suzanne Wylie, Chief Executive
Ronan Cregan, Director of Finance and Resources (11 March only)
Gerry Millar, Director of Property and Projects
John McGrillen, Director of Development
John Walsh, Town Solicitor
Jill Minne, Director of Organisational Development (11 March only)
Mark McBride, Head of Finance and Performance (13 March only)
Emer Husbands, Strategic Performance Manager

2. Member Charter re-assessment

The Director of Organisational Development –provided an update on the Member Charter re-assessment process, highlighting that the assessment team would be interviewing members on 24th March 2015. It was agreed that HR would contact party group leaders to get nominations for these interviews.

3. Governance

The Chief Executive outlined the key documents which form part of the council's constitutions that would be taken to SSP&R for approval on 20th March. Members raised a number of points in relation to the standing orders and the scheme of delegation and it was agreed that these would be incorporated into the revised documents and cover paper before circulation to committee.

4. BIF / LIF

The Director of Property and Projects outlined for members the content of the report on the Local Investment Fund that would be presented to SSP&R in March. A number of comments were feedback and it was agreed that the recommendations in the report would be update to reflect this. A further report on the Belfast Investment Fund would be brought to committee in April 2015

5. Support Fund

Members discussed the possible options for the re-allocation of non recurrent spend which now included a request from BCC community services in light of the reduced funding from DSD for the Community Development Grant Programme. It was agreed that the Director of Finance and Resources should present a number of options in his paper to the SSP&R meeting in March.

6. LGR Update

The Chief Executive updated the group on ongoing work with LCC / CBC and the DoE in relation to the transfer of assets and liabilities which is being worked through as part of the overall transfer scheme.

7. Leisure Capital

The Chief Executive outlined the next stage in the physical development side of the Leisure programme and members requested that a report on Phase II be brought to the March SSP&R meeting. Consideration was also to be given to a future launch of the next stages of the programme.

8. Festivals

As a result of the financial settlement for transferring functions, the Council will receive additional funding of £400k for one year only. This relates to income received from the transferring car parks which in future years will be used to offset the cost of regeneration.

It was agreed that a proposal should be brought to committee to use this fund to support festivals and events in the city in the first year of operation of the new council.