

**Minutes of Budget and Transformation Panel Meeting
11 April 2014**

1. Attendance

Members:

Alderman Gavin Robinson (Chair)
Councillor Tim Attwood
Councillor Matt Garrett for Councillor Jim McVeigh
Councillor Billy Hutchinson
Councillor Lee Reynolds

Apologies:

Alderman David Browne
Councillor Maire Hendron
Councillor John Kyle

Officers:

Peter McNaney Chief Executive
Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Mark McBride, Head of Finance and Performance
Sharon McNicholl, Strategic Planning and Policy Manager
Caroline Wilson, Neighbourhood and Development Manager

2. Leisure Transformation Programme

The Director of Parks and Leisure distributed a draft outline of the management report which will be presented to the Strategic Policy and Resources (SP&R) Committee on the 25 April 2014. He advised that the APSE report prepared on behalf of the Trade Unions was not available at this stage, but the TUs had confirmed that it would be delivered to management on 11 April. Elected Members and Senior Managers had also been invited to a briefing by APSE and the Trade Unions on Monday 14 April 2014.

The Panel agreed that the management report should include a "Fact Sheet" summarising the Key Assurances which the Council are committed to. This should cover issues such as:-

- Terms and Conditions
- Pensions
- Continuity of Employment
- Living Wage
- Apprenticeships
- Good Employer
- No Leisure Centre Closures
- Leisure Centres will still be owned by the Council
- Leisure Capital Investment Programme.

It was also agreed that the Leisure Transformation Programme item should form the substantive business at the SP&R Meeting on the 25 April and that officers should therefore try to limit the content and presentation of other reports at the meeting. Ideally if the other items of business could be limited cleared within a 30 minute slot, this would leave appropriate time for members to consider and discuss the Leisure Transformation programme report. Sharon McNicholl agreed to write to Directors advising them of this.

3. Communications Update

The Chief Executive referred to the draft information leaflets on the Investment Programme and Local Government Reform, together with the latest edition of City Matters.

The Panel commented that the documents were very useful and that subject to the minor amendments discussed they should be distributed to the Party Groups.

4. Belfast Future City – Proposed June Conference

The Chief Executive provided an overview of the draft report on the Belfast Future City Conference – Planning for Growth, which is proposed for the 20 June 2014.

The Panel agreed with the proposal to align the date of the Belfast Conference with the Regeneration and Investment Conference in Liverpool as this would facilitate the attendance of key speakers at the Belfast Conference. It was noted that the full report would be presented to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on the 25 April 2014.

Members highlighted the significant number of meetings and events which would have to take place in June following the establishment of the Shadow Council which would operate alongside the existing Council governance structures. The Panel asked the Chief Executive to be mindful of this when scheduling meetings in June and to consider if non urgent meetings could be rescheduled to August.

The Chief Executive advised that he would consider the proposed June timetable of meetings at the next Corporate Management Team meeting following which a draft schedule of meetings will be distributed to Members.

5. Date of Next Meeting

To be Advised