

FUNDING AND ACTIVITY REVIEW WORKING PARTY: TERMS OF REFERENCE

Purpose of the Working Party

The purpose of the Funding and Activity Review Working Party is to:

- a) Guide officers in the review of the Revenue and Financing Policy as it applies to all activities and recommend any changes to the policy to the Strategy and Policy Committee.
- b) Review Asset Management Plans.
- c) Review the performance measurement framework¹.
- d) Provide a governance perspective and strategic overview to officers as they undertake reviews of activities.

Membership

Up to four councillors will be members of the working party. The mayor is also an ex officio member of the working party.

Portfolio Leaders

Portfolio leaders will be invited to engage in discussions with the working party on items directly related to their area of responsibility.

Chair

The chair shall be appointed by the Council.

Parent Committee

The working party will report to the Strategy and Policy Committee.

Terms of Reference

The working party has specific responsibilities to:

1. prepare at least annually – and in conjunction with the long-term and annual plan processes - a report that recommends any amendments to (or occasions when the Council should make decisions that are inconsistent with) the Revenue and Financing Policy. In its review the working party will give consideration to:
 - how each Council activity is funded after consideration of s101(3)(a) and (b) of the Local Government Act 2002
 - the appropriate level for the commercial/ residential rates differential, and if different to the present level, how and over what period should the position be corrected
 - the possible impact on rates following any decision to change the way Council funds activities

¹ For the avoidance of doubt, this does not extend to the setting of performance targets. That responsibility rests with the Strategy and Policy Committee.

APPENDIX ONE

- the application of targeted rates
 - how capital funding should be reflected in the policy (including Development Contributions)
 - the appropriate level of user charges (including the results of benchmarking exercises where applicable)
 - a review of performance against current Revenue and Financing Policy targets
 - the need for any changes to the Council's financial policies as required by s102 of the Local Government Act 2002
 - submissions that are received as part of the special consultative procedure
 - other factors that may impact on the Council's Revenue and Financing Policy.
2. receive and review Asset Management Plans and the performance measurement framework.
 3. receive and review reports from officers on activity reviews.

Delegation

The working party has the authority to carry out its activities in line with its terms of reference.

Frequency of Meetings

A schedule of meetings will be agreed by the working party with the chair having the discretion to call additional meetings as required.

Duration/Sunset

The working party will cease at the end of the 2007/10 triennium.