

Title of Report:	Resource Management Select Committee
Report to be considered by:	Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission
Date of Meeting:	3 August 2010

Purpose of Report: To provide an update on the work of the Select Committee.

Recommended Action: To note the information.

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Executive Report

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Select Committee met on 12 July 2010 and the draft minutes are attached at Appendix A. A summary of the discussions held are as follows:
- 1.2 A briefing was provided on the procurement processes in place across the Council, which was followed by a detailed question and answer session. As a result it was agreed that further work was required by the Select Committee and Officers have been invited to attend the next meeting to provide further information on progress with an audit that is being undertaken and to look at best practice. This is intended to assist Members in ascertaining whether recommendations for improvement should be made.
- 1.3 A presentation on progress with the implementation of Timelord was provided. This detailed progress to date, positives and negatives of the programme and plans for phase 3. Some of the negative feedback received from staff caused concern for Members, this included views that the effectiveness of team working had reduced. It was therefore agreed that four Heads of Service will be invited to the next meeting to represent the views of their staff and their own experiences to help Members understand the effect of Timelord and the impact that changed approaches are having to improve the views of staff in some respects. Another concern raised by staff was increased stress levels and the potential for increased sickness absence. This will also be followed up as part of this item with the Head of Human Resources.
- 1.4 The timing of when budget reports can be received by the Select Committee was discussed at length. The Head of Finance and the Portfolio Holder agreed to give consideration to a proposal that would allow the Select Committee to receive quarterly budget reports after Management Board but in advance of Executive. This would create an opportunity for Members to forward comments/ recommendations to the Executive if a mechanism for doing so can be established.
- 1.5 The provisional 2009/10 revenue outturn report was received. The year end position was noted as being positive, however there were concerns that many savings had to be found to achieve this in the last two months of the financial year. A view was also noted that changes had been made late in previous financial years. The Select Committee were pleased with plans to investigate the outturn position over recent years, but it was resolved that there would be a focus at the next meeting on this situation within the Chief Executive Directorate budget.
- 1.6 The 2009/10 capital programme outturn was noted.

2. Discussion items scheduled for the next meeting

- 2.1 The next meeting of the Select Committee is scheduled for 13 September 2010 and in addition to the items mentioned above, draft agenda items are as follows:
 - (1) A review of the action plans in place following the Staff Attitude Survey.

- (2) An update on progress on the work of Property Services and its contractors within schools.
- (3) A review of progress with the exit interview process.
- (4) A briefing on the methodology in place to assess and ensure value for money.

3. Work Programme

- 3.1 The latest work programme for the Select Committee is contained within Appendix A of item 17 of this agenda.

Appendices

Appendix A – Resource Management Select Committee minutes from 12 July 2010