

FUNDING AND ACTIVITY REVIEW WORKING PARTY PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE (August 2006)

Purpose of the Working Party

The Funding and Activity Review Working Party has two distinct purposes. These are for elected members to:

- i. 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.
- ii. Provide a strategic overview to officers as they undertake the detailed activity reviews.

Membership

Up to four elected members will be members of the working party.

Portfolio Leaders

Portfolio Leaders will be invited to engage in discussions with the working party on activities under review (as part of clause 2 of these Terms of Reference) which pertain to their area of responsibility.

Chair

The chair and deputy chair shall be appointed by the Council.

Parent Committee

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

Terms of Reference

1. The working party has specific responsibilities to prepare a report that recommends changes to (or occasions when the Council should make decisions that are inconsistent with) the Revenue and Financing Policy (July 2006).

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
 - 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.
2. The working party has specific responsibilities to receive and review reports from officers on their findings from the detailed activity reviews.

In its review of officers' reports the working party will provide guidance on:

- the strategic alignment of activities
- the appropriateness of alternative service delivery options
- the appropriateness of service level options
- the results of asset management plan 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 this triennium.