

# Cabinet Member Question and Answer Session

## Resources and Corporate Review

### Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> September  
2016

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Author:	Director of Law and Democratic Services
Wards:	All
Locality Affected:	All
Parishes Affected:	All

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#### 1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide the Resources and Corporate Review Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an opportunity to question the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services on his portfolio responsibilities and performance, and ways to maximise income within his portfolio
- 1.2 A key purpose of the Scrutiny function is to hold the Cabinet to account and ensure that Council priorities and performance are being delivered. In particular, Members are invited to measure progress towards achieving the Council-s Vision, Priorities, and Pledges
- 1.3 Members of the Committee are reminded that all Members of the Cabinet are required to go before the Scrutiny Committee to take part in a Question and Answer session that will focus on the full remit of their portfolio. The Resources and Corporate Review Overview and Scrutiny Committee is therefore encouraged to focus its Question and Answer sessions with Cabinet Members on topics and/or service issues specific to the Terms of Reference of this Committee, as detailed in Article 6 of the Council's Constitution in order to avoid duplication.

#### 2. Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 Take note and put relevant questions to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services and decide if any further action is required.

#### 3. Detail

Portfolio Details

- 3.1 The Leader of the Council has assigned the following portfolio responsibilities to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services
  - Financial Management (Revenue and Capital Programme)
  - Finance Management Overview
  - Preparing Future Year's Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan

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Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Iain Tucker, Direct Dial 01793 463605, [itucker@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:itucker@swindon.gov.uk)

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- Procurement
  - Human Resources, Personnel & Trades Union Relations
  - Schools HR
  - The Council's Change Programme including Stronger Together
  - Corporate Performance Management
  - Risk Management
  - Customer Services, including the One Stop Shop
  - Health and Safety
  - Operational Buildings and Property
  - Revenue and Benefits Services
  - Developing Welfare and Benefits Policy
- 3.2 The Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services is also responsible for delivering Priority Four and Pledge 24 of Swindon's vision for 2016-2020. Priority Four focuses on helping people to help themselves while always protecting our most vulnerable children and adults.
- 3.3 Pledge 24 provides early support for people in debt so that we significantly reduce the need to use bailiffs to recover Council Tax and other debts.
- 4. Alternative Options**
- 4.1 The Committee can choose not to operate a Cabinet Portfolio Question and Answer session system.
- 5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management**
- Financial and Procurement Implications
- 5.1 There are no direct financial or procurement implications arising as a result of this report. Any expenditure arising as a result of an item on the Committee's work programme will be met by the Overview and Scrutiny Support budget, subject to the approval of the Committee.
- Legal and Human Rights Implications
- 5.2 Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000 (as amended) requires every Local Authority to establish an overview and scrutiny function to hold the Executive to account, undertake policy development and review, monitor and improve performance.

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#### All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

- 5.3 There are no other direct implications arising as a result of this report. Any further implications will be identified when a topic is reviewed by the Resources and Corporate Review Overview and Scrutiny Committee and in any recommendations made by the Committee.

#### Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.4 No Diversity Impact Assessment (DIA) is required at this stage as this report proposes no changes to services. Any DIA that is required during review of topics included within the work programme will be identified at the appropriate stage.

#### Risk Management

- 5.5 No risk management issues have been identified at this stage. Any risk management issues will be identified at the appropriate time when a topic is under review by the Resources and Corporate Review Overview and Scrutiny Committee and if it makes any recommendations.

## **6. Consultees**

- 6.1 The Board Director, Resources (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

## **7. Background Papers**

- 7.1 None

## **8. Appendices**

- 8.1 None