

Reference from Resources and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Joint Task Group – Business Rates Collection

**Growing the Economy
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Date: 30th November 2016

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

1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 To consider a reference from Resources and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee that a Joint Task Group be established with this Committee to discuss proposed changes to the Business Rates collection and legislation.

2. Recommendations

That the Growing the Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee consider an invitation from the Resources and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee to establish a Joint Task Group with this Committee to discuss changes to the Business Rates collection and legislation.

3. Detail

- 3.1 At its meeting on 21st September 2016, the Growing the Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the request from the Resources and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee that a joint meeting be convened to discuss the issue of business rates. However, it was unclear, at that time, whether the request was for a joint meeting to be convened or whether a joint Task Group should be established. Members were also reminded that they would be considering a report from the Corporate Director of Economy, Regeneration and Skills about a sustainable approach to business rates at this meeting (30th November 2016) and , consequently, determined to only note the request, pending clarification of the Resources and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee's intention.
- 3.2 At its meeting held on 26th September 2016, Resources and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee, in considering the minutes from its meeting held on 13th June 2016, confirmed that the Growing the Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee should be requested to form a Joint Task Group to discuss the

proposed changes to Business rates collection and legislation once the Government has announced its decision.'

- 3.3 The Resources and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee appointed the following members to the proposed Task Group:

Councillors Emma Faramarzi, Maureen Penny, Chris Watts and Caryl Sydney-Smith

- 3.4 The Committee is invited to consider the request from the Resources and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee, referenced above, that a joint Task Group should be established to discuss the proposed changes to Business rates collection and legislation.

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 It is a matter for the Growing the Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee as to whether to support the request of the Resources and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee..

5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 This report has no financial or procurement implications.

Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 Legal and Human Rights considerations have been taken fully into account in compiling this report. It is considered that the recommendations of this report are compatible with convention rights.

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

- 5.3 This report has no other specific implications.

Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.4 A Diversity Impact Assessment (DIA) is not required in respect of this report.

Risk Management

- 5.5 There are no identified unmitigated risks.

6. Consultees

- 6.1 The Interim Corporate 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