

Six month performance update report

Financial Services- 2016/17

Performance measure - To ensure the objective assurance of the Council's activities are paramount and that To ensure the long term financial sustainability of the Council	Baseline	Target	6 month update report
To ensure that the Annual Internal Audit Plan adds value to the organisation	100%	To meet 100% of Service Managers	The annual planning process will take place during the second half of the financial year.
To produce quarterly budget monitoring reports to Committees, including an Outturn report at yearend	N/A	Quarterly	The Outturn report for 2015-16 was presented to Committee in June and quarterly reports for the first two quarters have now been presented
Monitor the financial sustainability of the new leisure centre project and ensure that the long term financial viability of the complex protects the Council's interests. (in accordance with the connected Project Initiation Document)	N/A	In accordance with the project initiation document	The Council has approved the financial business case for the Leisure Centre, which details that the project is fully funded and that the management fee from the operator will cover the Council's additional costs in taking forward the development over the medium term
To provide financial support during the first year of trading of the East Cambs Trading Company	N/A	On going	The Company accounts have been split from the main East Cambs accounts on the financial system, which is allowing monthly reports to be produced, detailing income and expenditure for the Company. Budget monitoring reports are being produced and presented to the ECTC Board on a monthly basis
(If there are outcomes with a 10% variance either positively or negatively then these are written in this section by the Service Delivery Lead)			
Notes:-			

Performance measure - To effectively monitor and report identified fraud	Baseline	Target	6 month update report
Work with partners to provide a co-ordinated approach to tackling fraud	100%	100%	The Cambridgeshire Anti-Fraud Network has been established and provides the means for a co-ordinated approach to tackling fraud.
To increase sign up from Registered Social Landlords (RSL) to share tenancy information	At least 1 RSL signed up	1	No RSL has been signed up so far this financial year to share tenancy information.
Raise awareness of fraud and corruption across the organisation	2 x fraud awareness mail shots Fraud awareness training delivered	2 x fraud mail shots per year To provide fraud awareness training to 100% of relevant new starters during the financial year	Fraud mail shot issued October 2016. Due to the change in service provider from 1 st October 2016, no further work has been undertaken in this area. Future role in raising fraud awareness to be established as part of revised Internal Audit Plan.
(If there are outcomes with a 10% variance either positively or negatively then these are written in this section by the Service Delivery Lead)			
Notes:-			

Performance Measure - To ensure the continued efficiency of financial services	Baseline	Target	6 month update report
To pay undisputed invoices within 30 days	100%	99%	99.47% of invoices were paid with 30 days in the first 6 months of 2016-17
To review the processes and use of technology within the Financial Services Team, to determine if, as a result of advances in technology and the use of modern working practices, there are opportunities to achieve greater efficiencies within the team and to provide an improved service to our customers	N/A	On going	Up-grades are planned for both the Agresso and PARIS systems over the winter period. We are also looking at Payroll and HR with a view to determining whether the current system is meeting all our needs and possible future options if this is not considered the case. Work is also taking place to streamline other process, including the use of spreadsheets and electronic data transfer.
To improve the process for the production of the Statement of Accounts, as an initial step in the move towards earlier close in 2017	N/A	Improved Statement of Accounts presented to CG+F Committee in September	The Statement of Accounts has been moved from an Excel document to Word, which will aid production in future years. A number of unnecessary accounts have been closed, which will aid the earlier closedown in future years as fewer transactions will be required during the closedown period. Further work continues to take place to streamline processes and it is hoped that some parts of the Statement of Accounts will be drafted even before the end of March. We plan to undertake a dry run of earlier closedown at the end of the 2016-17 financial year, although the policy doesn't officially start until 2017-18.
(If there are outcomes with a 10% variance either positively or negatively then these are written in this section by the Service Delivery Lead)			
Notes:-			

Performance Measure - To maintain an effective and well-maintained service	Baseline	Target	6 month update report
To support the continued professional development of the Financial Services Team to ensure that they are meeting with personal and professional career development opportunities	100%	100%	Training needs for staff were considered / identified as part of the appraisal process. These training needs will be resolved during the remaining part of the year. As a specific, the Team's management accountant started an AAT training course in September 2016.
To update our Service Delivery Champion on developments within Financial Services Team, how the service is being operated, what progress has been made with regard to the performance measures within this document and budgetary updates. Service Delivery Champion to act as critical friend.	100% up to date	100% up to date	Ad-hoc, but regular meetings are taking place with the team's Service Delivery Champions

Service Delivery Champions to review six month performance report and write down their comments in the box below.

Name of Service Delivery Champion:- Councillor Chris Morris

Comments:- Excellent report, keep up the good work.

Name of Service Delivery Champion:- Councillor Alan Sharp

Comments:- The Finance Team continues to be well run and hitting all of the expected targets, delivering a good professional service to the Council