

Audit Committee

16 July 2015

Finance and Performance Working Group

Purpose of Report: Progress report

One meeting has been held in the quarter to consider the Financial Overview and Forecast as at 31 March 2015 and Service Improvement Plan performance data.

It was noted that there had been significant variances between period 10 and year end attributable to some additional grant funding and capitalization of revenue expenditure. At year end only 76% of capital funding had been spent.

The Committee are already aware that the Trunk Road Agency are challenging a significant amount of work against the schedule of rates and that this has been referred to the Place Committee for further scrutiny.

Voluntary severance costs were funded centrally and did not affect service budgets. Although Job Evaluation costs had been met centrally initially, with subsequent pay increases having to be met by the respective service areas.

Any savings not achieved during the year will be reflected in Q1 reports.

The terms of reference for the Group are still to be reviewed as regards scrutiny of performance data. Scrutiny working groups had assessed the Service Improvement Plans for the first time earlier in the year and it was thought that those groups were better placed to review the performance at service level. Further consideration needs to be given to increasing the integration of finance and performance reporting.

Report contact: Lisa Richards, Legal, Scrutiny and Democratic Services

Contact details: <u>lisa.richards@powys.gov.uk</u>, 01597 826371

Sources/background papers: Notes of meetings

Group Members: County Councillors A W Davies (Lead Member), G G Hopkins, J G Morris, T J Van Rees, and Mr J Brautigam