



Audit Committee

9 November 2015

Finance Scrutiny Panel

Purpose of Report: Progress report

Two meetings of the Panel have been held.

In August the Portfolio Holder for Finance had presented the long list of proposed savings drawn up by each service area which were to be considered in more detail at two Budget Seminars for all Members.

A further meeting was held recently when Members considered the impact of their comments on the information presented to those Seminars. The budget setting process in Powys is evolving and, whilst the Panel welcomed the earlier and more detailed involvement of Members, there remained concerns that there were still too many elements of 'salami' slicing rather than transformational change. The Panel remain concerned whether some proposals are deliverable.

The Panel agreed to ask a series of questions to all Heads of Service regarding the level of confidence they had in achieving the proposals and the plans and process that are in place to deliver savings. Some service areas may be questioned in more detail regarding their responses. A final report will be prepared for Cabinet's consideration prior to the final Members' Budget Seminar scheduled for 18 December 2015.

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Sources/background papers: Notes of meetings 14 August and 19 October 2015

Group Members: County Councillors A W Davies (Lead Member), D E Davies, S Davies, D R Jones, M J Jones, J G Morris, A G Thomas, D A Thomas, R G Thomas and Mr J Brautigam