

**REPORT FOR: OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Date of Meeting:	22 February 2011
Subject:	Report of the Performance and Finance Scrutiny Sub-Committee Chair
Responsible Officer:	Alex Dewsnap, Divisional Director, Partnership Development and Performance
Scrutiny Lead Member area:	All areas
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 January 2011

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

Recommendations:

That the report of the Performance and Finance Scrutiny Sub-Committee Chair be noted.

Section 2 – Report

Introductory paragraph

This report provides a summary of issues to be taken forward by the Performance and Finance Scrutiny Sub-Committee following the meeting held on 18 January 2011.

The minutes of the meeting are attached.

Issues identified for further follow-up

- **Budget holder forecasting compliance**

This report related to the performance indicator measuring the percentage of managers entering a forecast for their budget in SAP. Further information on this matter was requested, including details of budget holders not entering forecasts in SAP, the size of the budget affected, as well as the total revenue spend for which a forecast was not entered into SAP. The Sub-Committee also requested that Members be provided with monthly financial monitoring information.

The Chair and Vice-Chairman will consider whether a further report on this matter should be received at the next meeting of the Sub-Committee.

- **Payment to suppliers**

This report related to concerns raised by Members regarding payment of invoices on time. Further information was been requested, including the monetary value of the 29% of invoices where the purchase order was raised after the invoice date.

The Chair and Vice-Chairman will consider whether a further report on this matter should be received at the next meeting of the Sub-Committee.

The Sub-Committee also requested a meeting with the new Corporate Director of Finance when appointed.

Issues where no further follow-up required

- **Housing Ambition Plan and Resident Involvement in the Delivery of the Plan**

Members agreed that the planned challenge panel on resident engagement was not now required.

- **Project Update – Narrowing the Gap**

No further work by scrutiny is required at this stage.

- **Performance Update on National Indicators (NI) used in Children's Social Care Assessments (NI 59 and NI 60)**

No further work by scrutiny is required at this stage.

Issues identified at previous meetings

- 1) Changes to the performance management framework, including the future of National Indicators [20 September 2010] – this issue is being addressed through a scrutiny review established by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Chair is a member of this review group.

- 2) Implications of the Comprehensive Spending Review, including implications of cuts to specific grants [20 September 2010];
- 3) Progression against in-year saving, containing the projected overspend for 2010-11 and addressing the £16-18m funding gap for 2011-12 [20 September 2010].

The Chair and Vice-Chairman will consider how to progress items 2 and 3 at their next briefing.

Agenda planning for the next meeting of the Sub-Committee – 24 March 2011

A briefing for the Chair and Vice-Chairman of the Sub-Committee has been set up for 23 February 2011 to consider performance at Quarter 3.

Scrutiny Members are requested to notify the Scrutiny Officer if there are matters that they would like the Chair and Vice-Chairman to investigate or to consider adding to the agenda.

Financial Implications

There are none specific to this report.

Performance Issues

There are none specific to this report.

Environmental Impact

There are none specific to this report.

Risk Management Implications

There are none specific to this report.

Corporate Priorities

The work of the Sub-Committee addresses all of the Council's corporate priorities.

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Not required for this report.

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Heather Smith, Scrutiny Officer, 020 8420 9203, heather.smith@harrow.gov.uk

Background Papers: None