



Corporate Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date:	Thursday, 5 March 2009
Time:	6.00 pm
Venue:	Committee Room 1 - Wallasey Town Hall

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AGENDA

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/PARTY WHIP

Members are asked to consider whether they have personal or prejudicial interests in connection with any item(s) on this agenda and, if so, to declare them and state what they are.

Members are reminded that they should also declare, pursuant to paragraph 18 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, whether they are subject to a party whip in connection with any item(s) to be considered and, if so, to declare it and state the nature of the whipping arrangement.

2. MINUTES (Pages 1 - 10)

To receive the minutes of the meetings held on 12 January and 4 February, 2009.

3. PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT - QUARTER 3 (Pages 11 - 20)

4. ACCOMMODATION CHANGE - UPDATE

Report to follow.

5. UPDATE ON WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 21 - 24)

6. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE CHAIR

CORPORATE SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Monday, 12 January 2009

Present: Councillor L Fraser (Chair)

Councillors C Meaden K Wood
C Tegg P Southwood
J Crabtree J Keeley

In attendance: Councillors J Green

39 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST / PARTY WHIP

Members were asked to consider whether they had personal or prejudicial interests in connection with any item(s) on this agenda and, if so, to declare them and state what they were. Members were reminded that they should also declare, pursuant to paragraph 18 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, whether they were subject to a party whip in connection with any item(s) to be considered and, if so, to declare it and state the nature of the whipping arrangement.

No such declarations were made.

40 MINUTES

Members were requested to receive the minutes of the meetings of the Corporate Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 2 and 17 December, 2008.

In response to a comment from a Member on minute 34 (2/12/08) the Director of Law, HR and Asset Management reported on the number of employees, around 170, who would be affected if Cabinet were to approve all the proposals in the Strategic Asset Review and the efforts which would be made to identify solutions for those staff.

Resolved – That the minutes of 2 December be approved and the minutes of 17 December be approved, subject to an amendment on page 3, minute 37, “.....seconded by Councillor Wood”, to read “.....seconded by Councillor Keeley”.

41 UPDATE ON LISCARD HALL

At the request of the Chair, the Director of Law, HR and Asset Management submitted a report on the current position regarding Liscard Hall which was subject to an arson attack in July 2008.

Four options were presented to Cabinet in a report on 16 October, 2008. These were:

Option 1 - to leave the cleared site of the Hall to become absorbed into Central Park as an additional grassed area.

Option 2 - to expose the external and basement walls as features to show the original structure and physical footprint of Liscard Hall.

Options 3 and 4 - to look at whether the site could be redeveloped in isolation or in a larger scheme that would include the existing depot buildings.

Once the necessary information had been compiled a planning application would be submitted to the Secretary of State for retrospective consent to demolish the Hall, as it was a Listed Building. The opinion of English Heritage, with regard to the Council's actions, would be paramount in enabling the Secretary of State to reach a decision. Accordingly, additional information was being assembled in respect of all of the 4 options, as well as the evidence of how the Council had tried to get the building refurbished, by means of the Development Brief and a tendering process.

When the planning application had been determined, the merits of the respective options would be addressed again in light of any suggestions or recommendations made by the Secretary of State arising from his decision on the Council's Listed Building planning application. These would then form part of a future report to Cabinet. In any event, the Liscard Hall Steering Group would be consulted further with regard to any possible alternative uses for the site and the depot buildings.

In response to comments from Members, the Director reported upon the valuation of the building in its condition immediately prior to the fire. He would also bring a report to a future Committee clarifying future timescales and prior to the next meeting provide members with the insurance 'excess' figure.

Resolved - That a further report be submitted to Cabinet and this Committee, following the determination of the Listed Building planning application.

42 UPDATE ON CORONER'S BUDGET

At the request of the Chair, the Director of Law, HR and Asset Management submitted a report updating the Committee on the current position of the Coroner's Service and its budget.

The report set out the duties of the Coroner along with the current budget position and that of recent years. The Coroner's budget formed part of the local authority's funding (RSG). There was no separate or specific budget allocated to the Coroner in the RSG and therefore the Coroner's budget had to be treated as part of the departmental budget.

The Director reported that the Head of Legal and Member Services had attended a seminar in Manchester arranged by the Home Office for local authority officers responsible for the coroner's service. The purpose of the seminar had been to share best practice and consider the proposals for Coroner's reform. He summarised a number of key points which had been made at the seminar and stated that virtually all authorities represented reported significant budget issues.

An additional £150,000 was added to the budget in 2008/9 as unavoidable growth to address an historic overspend. The expenditure for this financial year was currently forecast to be in line with the budget. However, this forecast was based on a straight line projection of spending. Therefore, this would need to be monitored for the remainder of the year in case there was any upward trend in expenditure over the remainder of the financial year.

In response to comments from Members, both the Director and Director of Finance's representative explained how variations might arise in some of the budget headings for the Coroner's service and why there had been an increase in specialist reports.

Resolved – That a further report be brought back to the Committee when the outturn for the 2008/09 budget is known.

43 **ASSET MANAGEMENT - OFFICE ACCOMMODATION COSTS**

At the request of the Chair, the Director of Law, HR and Asset Management submitted a report on how the council intended to achieve a 20% reduction in administrative accommodation by 2011.

On 27 November 2008 the Chief Executive reported to Cabinet with proposals arising from the Strategic Asset Review (SAR) for the consolidation of the Council's asset base. Part of his report dealt with administrative accommodation. This advised members that, with a programme of workspace change, it would be reasonable to expect to save at least 20% of the council's annual expenditure on office accommodation.

This figure of 20% represented a reasonable estimate of savings that would be delivered through a change programme that would include a number of elements and the report gave details of these. It also made clear that for this scale of savings to be achieved significant initial investment would be required both to create new and more efficient working environments and to provide the necessary IT infrastructure and equipment.

The proposals arising from the SAR were currently subject to consultation and it was intended that they would be the subject of a further report to Cabinet on 15 January 2009. If the proposals relating to office accommodation were agreed, the Director would report to a future meeting of Cabinet on more detailed proposals for accommodation change, including the centralisation of current facilities management arrangements.

Also at the request of the Chair, the Asset Manager circulated a list of municipal accommodation with asset valuations (this being a depreciative cost evaluation not a market value) and revenue expenditure for each. He drew the Committee's attention to those seven buildings identified in his report for initial vacation and responded to Members' comments on the buildings identified.

In response to comments from Members and the leader of the Conservative Group, the Director reported that he had held some discussions with the Head of IT and gave an indication of the costs per person to introduce a scheme of agile working. These costs would reduce with economies of scale leading to greater savings being generated the more people who were working from home or on the road. Savings of

£1m could be made after all IT etc was taken into account with a reduction in administrative accommodation, although these savings would not necessarily form part of the 2009/10 budget setting process.

A member suggested that a more substantial piece of scrutiny work could be undertaken on the issue of office accommodation by a sub-group of the Committee which could then report back to the Committee.

The Director stated that he would be happy to bring a more detailed report back to the next meeting of the Committee at which point the Committee would have a clearer picture and could decide whether it wanted to pursue a more in-depth piece of scrutiny work. He would also report upon the leasehold arrangements for buildings such as Cheshire Lines.

Resolved - That a further report be submitted to the next meeting of this committee following a Cabinet decision on the implementation of the Strategic Asset Review and the development of an implementation programme for accommodation change.

44 **LEGAL SECTION AND EXTERNAL LEGAL FEES**

At the request of the Chair, the Director of Law, HR and Asset Management submitted a report detailing the funding of the Council's legal service which was based within the Legal and Member Services section in his Department. The section provided advice to the council, councillors and council officers and representation in court hearings and tribunals on behalf of the Council both prosecuting and defending cases.

The Department employed 12 qualified solicitors (including the Director of Law, HR and Asset Management and the Head of Legal and Member Services). 2 of the solicitors worked part time so this amounted to 10 Solicitor FTEs within the legal section itself (including the Head of Legal and Member Services). It also employed another 11 non-solicitor fee earners (10FTE) some of whom had legal qualifications as legal executives.

In line with most other authorities the Council's legal section was staffed to deal with the normal day to day legal activities experienced by a local authority legal department. It was necessary to externalise some areas of work which came outside of this or where there was a lack of internal capacity and/or expertise. The principal areas where this expenditure arose were:

- (1) the use of barristers; and
- (2) the use of external solicitors on major projects.

and the report gave details of the budget and expenditure for the current year on external legal fees.

The Director responded to a number of comments from Members regarding legal work for standards board complaints and also upon the need to ensure adequate provision of legal support for child care cases.

(At this point, Councillor Meaden declared a personal interest in what was being discussed by virtue of her daughter's employment in Children's Services and left the room.)

Resolved – That the report be noted.

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CORPORATE SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 4 February 2009

<u>Present:</u>	Councillor	L Fraser (Chair)	
	Councillors	C Teggin K Wood	P Southwood J Keeley
<u>Deputies</u>	Councillors	RL Abbey (in place of J Crabtree) D Roberts (in place of C Meaden)	
<u>Apologies</u>	Councillors	C Meaden	J Crabtree

45 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST / PARTY WHIP

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Councillor L Fraser declared a personal interest in respect of minute 46 (Transforming Wirral – Strategic Asset Review) by virtue of her membership of the Liscard Community Centre Joint Management Committee.

Councillor J Keeley declared a personal interest in respect of minute 46 (Transforming Wirral – Strategic Asset Review) by virtue of his membership of the Liscard Community Centre Joint Management Committee.

Councillor R Abbey declared a personal interest in respect of minute 46 (Transforming Wirral – Strategic Asset Review) by virtue of his membership of the Leasowe Community Centre Joint Management Committee and in respect of the same minute, a prejudicial interest by virtue of his being a Director of Leasowe Community Homes.

46 TRANSFORMING WIRRAL - STRATEGIC ASSET REVIEW

At its meeting on 15 January 2009 (minute 325 refers), the Cabinet, having received a detailed breakdown of the consultation responses on the Strategic Asset Review (SAR) prior to the start of its meeting, considered a report of the Chief Executive, which summarised the response to the consultation and sought the Cabinet's views on the way forward.

In accordance with the procedure adopted for other budget proposals agreed by the Cabinet, the minute had been referred to this Committee for consideration. The report along with its appendices was submitted for the Committee's information.

The Deputy Chief Executive / Director of Corporate Services introduced the item and asked the Committee to consider the decision of the Cabinet in order that their views could be presented to Council on 9 February.

Responding to comments from Members the Director of Corporate Services stated that no promises had been made to Peel Holdings regarding the Guinea Gap site. The Director of Regeneration said that the two year period would allow officers to develop a scheme and seek out potential partners for a regeneration initiative.

With regard to the location of the new build multi-purpose complexes in Liscard and Moreton, Ian Brand, Head of Asset Management, stated that a site had not yet been agreed and that options would be pursued if the SAR was agreed by Council. The size of the complexes would be determined once it was clearer which partners might be involved and local communities would be consulted. The proposed timescale for the new buildings was a four year programme.

Responding to further comments, Ian Brand remarked on strengthened corporate asset management arrangements looking at the whole estate including the extended use of schools and co-operation with partners such as NHS Wirral.

The Director of Regeneration remarked upon the opportunities which could arise from community asset transfers including the involvement of church and faith groups for the provision of facilities. He also stated that there was a need to think about the design of school buildings to enable community access.

In respect of the appendices to the report on the consultation, listing the numbers of letters and emails recorded as having been received with regard to particular proposals, the Committee debated the collation of these figures. The Director of Regeneration assured members that none of his staff were prevented from campaigning on the issues raised by the SAR outside of working hours.

(Councillor Abbey left the room prior to the following matter being discussed.)

Responding to comments on proposed negotiations with Arena / Leasowe Community Homes for the transfer of Leasowe Recreation Centre, the Director of Regeneration said that there was no plan 'B' and the matter would need further consideration if this didn't happen. With regard to proposals to transfer Community centres etc. to community management, where no expressions of interest were received then the facility would close.

It was then moved by Councillor Teggins and seconded by Councillor Abbey, that –

“This Committee recognises the strength of feelings expressed during the consultation period for the Strategic Asset Review. Committee recognises that Cabinet has taken account of many of the issues discussed and, in consequence has amended the recommendations in the SAR with significant reduction in the projected savings.

Further, this Committee recognises that improvements to services have to be funded and the SAR has to be set in the wider context of the Council's limited finances.

This Committee believes that efficiency in the use of assets has to be improved, for example by co-operative working between Council departments and with external partners to promote and improve services to the public.

Finally, once again, this Committee welcomes the considerable and wide ranging efforts Cabinet is making to bring the budget under control, to maintain essential services and to minimise council tax charges to local people.”

It was moved as an amendment by the Chair and seconded by Councillor Mrs Wood, that –

“This Committee welcomes the high level of public participation in this consultation and notes the level of anger and objection to the proposals by the public. This Committee does not agree in principle, or in any other way, the recommendations in the Strategic Asset Review and therefore recommends that Cabinet withdraws its closure programme and any future proposals to close Wirral’s leisure facilities.”

The amendment was put and lost (3:4).

The motion was put and carried (4:3).

Resolved (4:3) – (Councillors Fraser, Keeley and Wood voting against)

That this Committee recognises the strength of feelings expressed during the consultation period for the Strategic Asset Review. Committee recognises that Cabinet has taken account of many of the issues discussed and, in consequence has amended the recommendations in the SAR with significant reduction in the projected savings.

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WIRRAL COUNCIL

CORPORATE SERVICES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 5TH MARCH 2009

REPORT OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

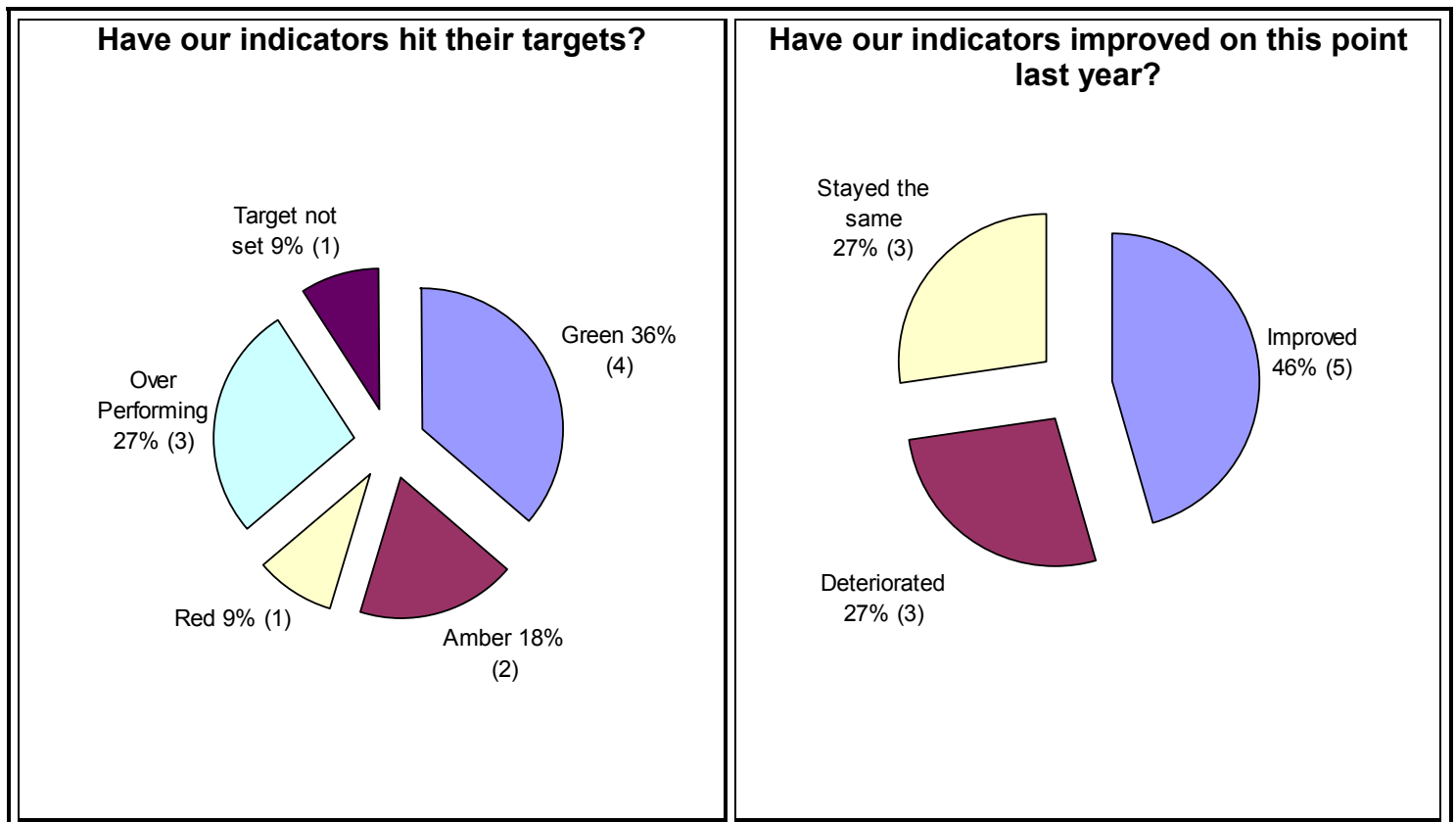
PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT - QUARTER THREE

1. Executive summary

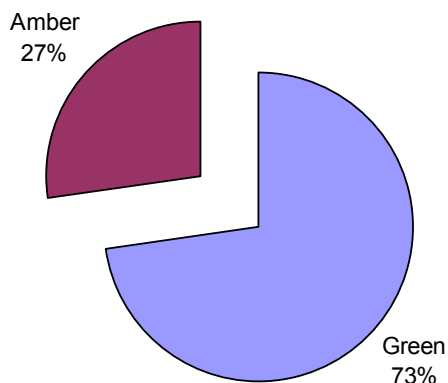
- 1.1. This report provides an overview of progress against performance indicators and key projects which are relevant to the Corporate Services overview and scrutiny committee.
- 1.2. Overview and scrutiny committees will receive a performance report for the relevant performance indicators and key actions that are contained within the council's corporate plan and departmental plans. This will include any of 198 indicators featured within the national indicator set that are relevant to the committee.

2. Performance summary

The following dashboard provides an overall picture at the third quarter stage. It shows the overall position for the performance indicators and key projects which are relevant to this scrutiny committee.



Are our projects on target? (Only projects covered by the scope of this committee)



Status	All key projects	Improvement priority projects
GREEN	16	3
AMBER	6	0

3. Performance analysis

3.1 Progress of key actions

The table below shows the key actions within the departmental plans that are either amber, red or awaiting status that can be reported to Corporate Services overview and scrutiny committee.

Key Projects	Priority for improvement 2008/09	Portfolio	Status	Corrective action	Lead department
Review partnership and governance arrangements for LSP	No	Corporate Services	AMBER	A revised governance structure has been presented to the LAA Programme Board for endorsement and comments. This structure will be presented to a future LSP board. Further work is required regarding the roles and responsibilities of both of these boards as well as a review of the member representation.	Corporate Services
New performance management framework,	No	Corporate Services	AMBER	NI set fully implemented. Key performance management documents, including Data Quality and Target Setting policies are currently being refreshed in light of new national framework. It is expected that these revised documents will be completed by March 2009	Corporate Services

Key Projects	Priority for improvement 2008/09	Portfolio	Status	Corrective action	Lead department
Development of CAA	No	Corporate Services	AMBER	Self evaluation complete. Improvement plan now to be developed. Final CAA framework was published by the Joint Inspectorate on 10th February 2009.	Corporate Services
MIS contract	No	Corporate Services	AMBER	Interim contract agreed by Cabinet to ensure continuity	Corporate Services
Partnerships register	No	Corporate Services	AMBER	A review of the register has taken place and the Head of Legal and Member Services is reviewing it with officers from the Finance Department with a view to reporting in March 2009	Law, HR & Asset Management
Job evaluation	No	Corporate Services	AMBER	Work as part of the implementation of Job Evaluation in schools is taking longer than expected due to the complexity of the work and detailed negotiations.	Law, HR & Asset Management

Status key

Green	All milestones that should have been met at this point have been met
Amber	Some non-critical milestones have been missed or there is a danger of non-critical slippage
Red	Critical milestones have been missed or there is serious slippage

3.2 Direction of travel and target summary

The following tables provide the direction of travel and target summary for the performance indicators that can be reported at the third quarter.

Direction of Travel Summary

% PIs	No. of PIs	
45.45%	5	Improved by more than 2.5% on previous year's performance
27.27%	3	Deteriorated by more than 2.5% on previous year's performance
27.27%	3	Stayed within +/-2.5% of previous year's performance
0.00%	0	Awaiting data
0.00%	0	Not applicable
100.00%	11	(Note: percentages rounded to 2 decimal places)

Target Summary

% PIs	No. of PIs	
36.36%	4	Green (within +/-5% of the target)
18.18%	2	Amber (missed or exceeded target by more than 5% but less than 10%)
9.09%	1	Red (missed target by more than 10%)
27.27%	3	Over-performing (more than 10% of the target)
0.00%	0	Awaiting data
9.09%	1	Target not set
0.00%	0	Not Applicable
100.00%	11	(Note: percentages rounded to 2 decimal places)

3.3 Performance indicator exceptions

Details of the performance indicators that can be reported to scrutiny at the third quarter stage that have either deteriorated (compared with the same quarter last year), are not on target, are over performing or are awaiting data are shown below.

PI No.	Title	Yr End Target	Yr End Forecast	Quarter 3 Target	Quarter 3 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel	Corrective Action
LOCAL 6213h	Number of employees aged 65 and over working within the Authority	221	221	218	243	Over Performing	↓	Corrective action is not needed as it is envisaged that due to the number of people leaving the authority as part of the changes in Adult Social Services and Regeneration that the figure should reduce.
LOCAL 6274b	The % of top 5% of earners from black and minority ethnic communities	1.71%	1.73%	1.52%	1.73%	Over Performing	↑	None needed. The target was always to equal the census information showing the BME population of Wirral was 1.71%. We will keep procedures in place to maintain this level.
LOCAL 6276	The % of employees retiring early (excluding ill-health retirements) as a % of the total work force.	0.78% (Lower is Better)	0.78%	0.58%	0.57%	Green	↓	The expected rise in this figure is in line with expectation. The initial increase is due to teachers a further increase in the final quarter is also expected as Departments start to put through efficient savings.

PI No.	Title	Yr End Target	Yr End Forecast	Quarter 3 Target	Quarter 3 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel	Corrective Action
LOCAL 6277	The % of local authority employees declaring that they meet the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 disability definition .	3.16%	2.44%	3.09%	2.44%	Red	↓	The figure has changed significantly due to the data collection exercise undertaken as part of harmonisation. This has seen a 30% rise in the number of employees declaring whether they have or do not have a disability. The significant change in the data part year has meant that the targets for this year are unlikely to be met and targets for 09/10 will need to be reviewed.
LOCAL 6278	The % of employees retiring on grounds of ill health as a % of the total workforce.	0.24% (Lower is Better)	0.15%	0.18%	0.1%	Over Performing	↑	Changes to the ill health retirement process has seen fewer employees receiving retirement. This will continue and targets for future years need to be reviewed.

4. Sickness absence

The authority's absence target for 2009/09 is 8.5 days. At the quarter three stage the authority is performing at 10.25 days.

The absence figures relevant to the Corporate Services scrutiny committee at the third quarter are as follows:-

Corporate Services: 4.34 days
Law, HR & Asset Management: 8.57 days

5. Financial summary

Below is Corporate Services & Law, HR & Asset Management's summary financial position as at 31st December 2008.

Corporate Services

There are no variations to be highlighted at this time.

POLICY OPTIONS

Details	£000	Comments / progress
Local Area Agreement	200	The LAA Board approved bids in June to assist in the delivery of the Local Area Agreement. The use of the remaining funding will be discussed at a future LAA Programme Board meeting.
You Decide Area Forum	220	Initiative delivering more choice to local people about services. The money has now been allocated and the proposals are undergoing a technical appraisal before final approval is given. Approximately 95% of the budget has been allocated.
Assistance for Remploy	6	Officers have not been able to use the funding to secure the future of the company.
Support for Wirral's Veterans	15	Support was provided for a programme of events for Wirral Veterans including enabling attendance at National Veterans Day in June and the Wirral Tribute to Veterans Day.

SAVINGS TARGETS

Details	£000	Comments / progress
Strategic Development staff	75	Budgets reduced in Corporate Services
Corporate Policy restructure	60	Budgets reduced in Corporate Services
Transformational Change	30	Budget reduced in T/change.
Tourism and Marketing	60	Budgets reduced in Corporate Services
Supplies & Services savings including procurement	64	Budgets reduced in Corporate Services

CABINET DECISIONS

Date	Details	£000
25 Sept 2008	Creation of the Department of Law, HR and Asset Management.	-803

VOLATILE AREAS / POTENTIAL VARIATIONS

Details	£000	Comments / progress
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None		
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Law, HR & Asset Management

There are no variations to be highlighted at this time.

POLICY OPTIONS

Details	£000	Comments / progress
Carbon footprint	115	From Technical Services and programmed to be spent by the year-end.

SAVINGS TARGETS

Details	£000	Comments / progress
Integrated Payroll operation	50	Budgets were reduced prior to the creation of the new department and included for reference.
Review of Central Services	50	
Review of Legal Services	40	
Skills specific training.	25	
Supplies & Services savings including procurement	84	Budgets reduced in Law, HR and Asset Management.

CABINET DECISIONS

Date	Details	£000
23 July 2008	Ending of SLA Wirral Partnership Homes – Virement from Treasury Management	+148
23 July 2008	Agreement to fund the purchase of an on-line Skills Audit Tool from the Efficiency Investment Budget 2008/9	+80
25 Sept 2008	Creation of the Department of Law, HR and Asset Management	+991
25 Sept 2008	Creation of a Sustainability Unit funded from the Efficiency Investment Budget.	+80
25 Sept 2008	Transfer of carbon reduction policy option from Technical Services	+115

VOLATILE AREAS / POTENTIAL VARIATIONS

Details	£000	Comments / progress
Asset Management		The disposal of land is traditionally a volatile area and remains closely monitored throughout the year.
Coroners Service		The budget was increased for 2008/09, having overspent in previous years. It continues to be closely monitored.

Department	OROGINAL BUDGET **			MONITORING					COMMENTS
	Saving Target	Policy Option	Agreed Budget	Saving Target	Policy Option	Variations		Forecast	
Expenditure	£000	£000	£000			Agreed	Projected	£000	
Adult Social Services	4,494	20	86,434	X	✓	-	+3,500	89,934	Pressures remain on care services from underlying commitments and procurement target. The £3.5m overspend noted by Cabinet on 4 September remains the latest projection.
Children & Young People	3,981	20	70,560	X	✓	+120	-	70,680	Actions have addressed earlier £3m projection. The non-delivery of prior year savings (£0.5m), staff (£0.3m), child care (£0.9m) and transport (£0.3m) offset by use of grants (£2m). Procurement savings to be identified. Cabinet decision was regarding fuel costs.
Corporate Services	289	441	5,112	✓	✓	-	-	5,112	No issues identified. Original budget split with Law, HR & Asset Mgt.
Finance	1,696	40	21,048	✓	✓	-2,200	-	18,848	Housing Benefit largest and most volatile area. Cabinet decision is using Efficiency Budget for reform/change teams in Adults & Finance.
Law, HR and Asset Management	249	115	1,105			+148		1,105	Cabinet decision is transfer from Treasury Management.
Regeneration	821	225	41,229	X	✓	+200	+600	42,029	Procurement savings to be identified. Service re-engineering savings (£0.6m) and income (£0.2m) lead to potential overspend of £0.8m. Partially offset by release of reserves – see Cabinet below.
Technical Services	1,237	30	35,529	✓	✓	+2,780	+500	38,809	Cabinet agreed budget revisions but pressures on Building control / land charges and winter maintenance so may overspend. Cabinet decisions - street lighting (£0.78m) and reduced capitalisation (£2m).
Treasury Management	0	200	11,755	N/a	✓	-148	-2,600	9,155	The financial market volatile and investment returns lower but close management of cash flow has increased investment income, reduced need for temporary borrowing and borrowing for capital schemes.
Moneytravel	-	-	25,311	N/a	N/a	-	-	25,311	Fixed amount - no change.
Local Pay Review	-	-	4,546	N/a	N/a	-	-	4,546	Cabinet report 22 May with Phase 1 payments made in July/August.
Bridging Finance from Balances	-	-	(1,900)	N/a	N/a	-	-	(1,900)	Asset savings and Adults income from fees 2009/10.
Contribution from Balances	-	-	(2,202)	N/a	N/a	-900	-	(3,102)	See Cabinet decisions regarding fuel and energy costs, capitalisation, reform/change teams funding and reserves
Budget Requirement	12,767	1,091	298,527			-	+2,000	300,527	
Income									
Revenue Support Grant	-	-	18,016	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a		Fixed amount-- no change
Area Based Grant	-	-	28,390	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a		Government still to confirm final allocations
National Non Domestic Rate	-	-	129,413	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a		Fixed amount - no change
Council Tax	-	-	123,217	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a		Fixed amount - no change
Collection Fund Deficit	-	-	(509)	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a		Fixed amount - no change
Total Income			298,527						Fixed amount - no change
Statement of Balances									
As at 1 April	-	-	8,593	-	-	5,000	-	5,000	Opening balance - forecast 1 April 2009
Contributions from Balances	-	-	(4,102)	-	-	-	-		
Contributions from Reserves	-	-	509	-	-	+3,000	-	+3,000	Release of Insurance Fund Cabinet 9 July
Cabinet decisions	-	-	-	-	-	+4,100	-	+4,100	From 2007/08 accounts £2.5m (26 June), LABGI £1.3m (23 July) and reserves £0.3m 10 December).
Variations - Agreed by Cabinet						-900	-	-900	Fuel/energy (23 July) - potential £3.5m of which +£0.9m allocated), reduced capitalisation (+£2m), use of Efficiency Budget (-£2.2m) and reserves for Regeneration (£0.2m).
Variations - Projected	-	-	-	-	-	-	-2,000	-2,000	Based upon projections for Adults, Children, Regeneration, Technical and Treasury and potential energy costs (report to go to Cabinet).
BALANCES			5,000			8,600	-2,000	6,600	Projected balance at start / end of year
Key = No concern for item	✓ (Green)			Key = Concern for item			X (Amber)		

** The Original Budget 2008/09 was re-allocated per Cabinet on 25 September for the Department of Law, HR and Asset Management.

5. Key issues

There are no key issues to report from departments at the third quarter.

6. Staffing implications

There are no staffing implications to report from departments at the third quarter.

7. Equal Opportunities implications

There are no equal opportunities implications to report from departments at the third quarter.

8. Community Safety implications

There are no community safety implications to report from departments at the third quarter.

9. Local Agenda 21

There are no Local Agenda 21 issues to report from departments at the third quarter.

10. Planning implications

There are no planning implications to report from departments at the third quarter.

11. Anti-poverty implications

There are no anti-poverty implications to report from departments at the third quarter.

12. Social inclusion implications

There are no social inclusion implications to report from departments at the third quarter.

13. Local Member Support implications

There are no local member support implications to report from departments at the third quarter.

14. Background Papers

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

- Wirral's Corporate Plan 2008-2011
- Corporate Services departmental plan 2008/09 - 2010/11
- Q2 Corporate services scrutiny performance report – 5th November 2008.
- Financial monitoring report - Finance department

15. Recommendations

That members note the contents of the report.

Jim Wilkie

Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Services

This report was prepared by Bev McEneaney, who can be contacted on 691 8164

Update on Work Programme: Corporate Services O&S Committee 2008/09

The Committee at its meeting on 10 June, 2008 agreed the following 4 topics as its work programme for 2008/09:

- Human Resources
- Asset Management
- Planned Maintenance
- Emergency Planning and Resilience

Attached is a list of all the items considered at meetings during the year.

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Corporate Services O&S Committee Meetings 2008/09

3 September

- Emergency Planning and Resilience Presentation
- Asset Management
- Liscard Hall Update
- Building Maintenance Presentation
- Human Resources Update
- Performance Monitoring – Quarter 1
- Update on Pilot of Employee Assistance Programme and Sickness Reporting Methodology

27 October (extra meeting)

- Projected Budget 2009/11

6 November (postponed until 2 December)

10 November (call-in meeting)

- Land at Warrens, Thingwall Road East

2 December

- Update on Managing Workforce Change
- Performance Monitoring – Quarter 2

17 December (extra meeting)

- Strategic Asset Review

12 January

- Liscard Hall Update
- Coroner's Budget Update
- Asset Management – Office Accommodation
- Legal Section and External Legal Fees

4 February (extra meeting)

- Strategic Asset Review

5 March

- Performance Monitoring – Quarter 3
- Accommodation Change – Update

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