

Amendment – Matters Requiring Approval (Item 12a)

Standards and Constitutional Oversight Committee – 26 April 2017

Minute 32 – Review of Scrutiny Arrangements

Proposed by Councillor Phil Gilchrist

Seconded by Councillor Dave Mitchell

Add to Recommendation (4)

Council welcomes the recommendation of the Standards and Constitutional Oversight Committee to have separate Overview and Scrutiny Committees looking at Adults and Children's Services independently. These new arrangements should now provide a greater insight into the issues raised by Ofsted.

In approving Recommendation 4, Council wishes to ensure that the provision of relevant information should not just be referred to the most appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committee but should be provided in a more timely manner. This includes the reporting of financial information which, because of the timing of Cabinet and Committee meetings, can be several months out of date when it is considered by Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

Council requests that all the Overview and Scrutiny Committees receive the latest available financial monitoring report at each Committee meeting, with an updated commentary on the achievement of savings and sources of income. Consideration should also be given to re-introducing the monthly financial statements provided to all Elected Members. By these means, Council recognises that it should be better placed to manage Wirral's finances in the context of the Government's programme of grant reductions whilst seeking to ameliorate them.