

CONFIRMING THE APPROACH TO THE IPP CAFÉ 2017

Report of the Head of Scrutiny

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1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To provide the Committee with an opportunity to consider any changes members may want to make in the approach to the IPP Scrutiny 2017/18 and future years.

2. Summary

- 2.1 The current approach and a proposed change to the IP Café papers and timeframe are set out below:-

- a) To maintain the approach undertaken this year whereby a backbench Member group covered an Executive Member portfolio. Eight back bench Member groups in total were held: four in the morning and four in the afternoon. Each group met for two hours and covered all themes relating to the portfolio.
- b) A proposed change is to amalgamate the separate IP panel and IP scrutiny papers into a combined set of IPP papers including IPP scrutiny questions.
- c) At the April OSC it was suggested that members consider extending the Café over two days to allow additional time for members to debate and conclude the findings.

- 2.2.1 The disadvantages to 2.1 a) are:

- a) that it is difficult to identify cross cutting recommendations
- b) that it may difficult for backbench members to develop on overview of the IP proposals

- 2.2.2 The Director of Resources already attends the committee in December to outline the IP proposals for the forthcoming financial year i.e. 2017/18. Members could utilise this occasion to address the disadvantages identified at 2.2.1. The session could be structured to provide an overview of the overall budget and identify possible cross cutting areas to take forward for further exploration at the Café in January.

2.3 The advantages of the proposal at 2.1.b) are:

- a) That Members have only one set of papers from which to work.
- b) That the workload of departments is reduced.

2.4 Chief Officers and Finances Officers have been asked for their views. Those who have responded are supportive of the approach outlined at 2.1.b) and 2.2.2 above.

3. Recommendations

3.1 Members are invited to decide if they want to continue the current approach to the IP café; confirm the proposed approach to IP papers; and agree the focus for the December OSC identified at 2.2.2.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Background Information

Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 20 April 2016