

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....22nd November 2007

1. Title of Item/Report

Performance, Finance and Risk Report Quarter 2  
July - September 2007

2. Record of the Decision

Members considered a report that outlined the Council's performance and financial position for the period Quarter 2, July to September 2007, providing details of performance against targets and improvement trends. The report included the linkages between finance, performance and corresponding risks, general fund balances, medium term financial and capital plan position. Also included in the report was The Council's performance against Council Plan objectives, Service Improvement Plan progress, Corporate Basket of key performance indicators, Gershon Efficiency Savings, complaints and commendations, consultation and sharing of good practice, undertaken during Quarter 2.

With regard to the Performance element of the report Members agreed that there had been good progress towards the achievement and delivery of objectives within the council plan and noted that 91% of objectives had either been achieved or were on track to be achieved. Full details of progress against each objective was provided to Members.

Members were provided with information and details of progress in terms of each theme of the Community Strategy. Achievements and emerging issues were detailed and considered. Members also considered information relating to Complaints and Commendations received during the period.

In terms of the Council's financial position Members were provided with details of the current MTFP position and considered the reasons for movements since the previous reported position, in September.

Member were reminded that the Council's current policy was to hold 3% of General Fund expenditure as balances (equating to £7.4 million at 1st April 2008). In the report to Cabinet in September the forecast level of working balances was £13.0 million and the position had now improved to

£14.1 million, with working capital now exceeding the 3% by £6.7 million. Members noted a number of major issues and pressures that may require funding from the Council's available corporate working capital.

Cabinet was provided with the Capital budget for 2007/2008 and noted movements including savings on expenditure of £(8,000) and slippage of £(3,032,000). In summary, the major reasons for the variances and the areas of slippage included Splash, where the scheme had yet to go out to tender. In addition, works on the school at Hardwick had been delayed as Electricity Board works need to be undertaken on cabling and construction would begin once this was complete. Further information on all the significant variations within the capital programme was provided.

Finally Cabinet was informed that it was expected that the Government would announce details of the Council's next three grant settlements sometime between mid November and early December. The next available Cabinet meeting could be after the consultation period had ended and therefore it was recommended that the Corporate Director of Resources, in consultation with the Leader, be delegated approval to respond to the settlement.

RESOLVED that

1. the overall report be noted.
2. the good progress in the delivery of the Council plan objectives and in meeting the corporate Basket targets be noted.

RECOMMENDED to Council that

3. the revised MTFP be noted.
4. Capital slippage of (£3,032,000) and an expenditure saving of (£8,000) be approved.
5. the revised level of working balances be noted.
6. the Corporate Director of Resources in consultation with the Leader be given delegated approval to respond to the provisional Revenue Support Grant settlement.

### 3. Reasons for the Decision

This report highlights progress against our key Council performance measures and raises any related financial and risk issues.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

Councillor Nelson declared a personal, non prejudicial interest in this item as he was a Member of the Tristar Homes Management Board.

6. Details of any Dispensations

Not Applicable

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

By Midnight on Friday 30th November 2007 in respect of decisions 1 and 2 only.

Proper Officer  
26 November 2007