

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT
Statement to Scrutiny Commission by the Finance, Efficiency and
Assets
Portfolio Holder – Cllr Spendlove-Mason
First six months - 2012/13

Key Achievements

Finance Services

Implementation of a number of transformation recommendations on time, including moving to laser cheques and, upgrade of the finance system to a new version.
Completing the year end accounts and receiving a clean audit opinion.

Efficiency

Under the Organisational Design work stream the whole organisation structure has been reviewed starting with the Senior Management team and then progressing through to Service Managers and their teams. Some staff have left the authority with the majority of those taking voluntary redundancy and some new posts have been created and recruited to. This has delivered a leaner, focussed work force with relevant skills for the current challenges facing Local Government.

The Senior Management Leadership Development work stream delivered a number of workshops aimed at supporting Senior and Middle Managers through the Organisation redesign period and to equip them with the skills required to lead and manage change going forward.

The Community Engagement Work stream carried out engagement with residents utilising a variety of methods including a comprehensive telephone survey, focus group meetings across the district and an on line survey. This work was carried out by CR Market Research and the key findings covered accessing council services, service delivery, being involved and influencing decisions. We have used the feedback from the community engagement to inform service redesign, to consider how to engage in the future and that we ensure that we are people and customer focussed.

Implementation of transformation recommendations - there were 81 original recommendations and a further 13 were added which came from the Democratic review (94 in total) we have completed 31 to date. 3 have been withdrawn; this is because circumstances have changed for example in the case of lifeline (recommendations 84 and 85) or an alternative solution has been identified which offers better value for money (recommendation 36 consultation software for planning)

Assets

The Property work stream has looked at the use of the Council Head Quarters and the Market Hall. A business case identifying options for the Market Hall was presented to members and agreement has been given for a 400K investment to be made to develop a vibrant market hall. A great deal of work has been done to enable the council to consider its options regarding the development of the council headquarters on Adam and Eve Street. This has resulted in approval being given this month to make a £5.75m investment to provide improved public access, better civic facilities and an improved home for the Harborough Museum and Library.

A draft corporate property strategy has been developed

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Key Challenges

Finance Services

Limited resources to undertake a number of key transformation recommendations, whilst completing the year end process and achieving a clean audit opinion from the Audit commission, and maintaining the day to day transactional process.

Key Areas of Work in Progress

Finance Services

Budget process for 2013/14 using the newly implanted module Collaborative Planning.
E-procurement – to be set up and rolled out
Restructure of the Finance Services team in order to provide resilience.

Assets

Implementation of the refurbishment of the council offices
Implementation of the changes arising from the market hall project
Corporate Asset Strategy to go through Scrutiny process

Key Performance Indicators

- LPI 530 Sundry Debtor Arrears (excl. S106) – at 30 September the actual position of overdue debt is £0.3m compared to a target of £0.4m at the end of March 2013.
- LPI 531 Timely Payment of Creditors (30 days) – at 30 September the actual position of payment of creditors is 94.6% compared to a target of 95.0% at the end of March 2013.
- LPI 532 Treasury Management - at 30 September the actual position of % above 7 day LIBOR is 0.2% meeting the target of 0.2% at the end of March 2013.