

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS – ADDITIONAL DATES FOR THE PERIOD JUNE 2009

1. Reason for Report

This report asks Members to consider additional dates to be added to the Calendar of meetings for the period June 2009.

2. Recommendation

Members are asked to agree:-

2.1 to withdraw delegation from the Corporate Policy Committee: and

2.2 dependent upon decision at 2.1, that a Delivering Excellence Seminar be arranged for Tuesday 2 June 2009 at 2pm or at the conclusion of Corporate Policy Committee

3. Plan Links and Contribution

The proposals in this report are consistent with the principles and values in the Corporate Plan for Member leadership and scrutiny, local decision making and in the delivery of services.

4. Resources/Value for Money Assessment

4.1 The principle direct costs associated with committees are for stationery, printing, postage, press advertising, equipment (e.g. sound systems) and travel costs associated with attendance of members and staff at meetings. Any proposal on reducing the number of committees or their frequency would have a direct impact on these costs. The indirect costs associated with committees are staff salaries incurred in the preparation of reports and agenda papers and attendance at meetings.

4.3 Over and above these immediate direct and indirect costs, the Council's decision making structures need to be robust and fit for purpose to ensure best value. Scrutiny functions are necessarily costly to support but essential in allowing Members to properly fulfil their scrutiny role.

5. Risk Assessment

A fit for purpose decision making structure is essential to enable Members to move forward the business of the Council and to scrutinise performance. Having a forward plan of meetings enables the Council to progress its business and for Members to plan their forward work commitments. Failure to do so would interrupt the Council's business and decision making processes.

6. Consultations

The Corporate Management Team has been consulted and is in agreement with the terms of the report.

7. Key Issues

The following assumptions and principles have been used to prepare the revised/updated calendar of meetings

- All morning meetings begin at 10.30am unless otherwise shown.
- All afternoon meetings begin at 2.00pm unless otherwise shown.
- Calendar provides for briefing meeting to be scheduled into the Central Diary

8. Authorities and Legal Implications

Full Council at its meeting on Thursday 30 April 2009 agreed to better assure business continuity that as Corporate Policy met on a monthly basis that authority be delegated to Corporate Policy to agree amendments to the Council's calendar of meetings.

9. Amendments / additional meetings

9.1 The following additional meeting/seminar is recommended:-

Delivering Excellence Seminar – 2.00pm or at conclusion of Corporate Policy Committee – Tuesday 2 June 2009

9.2 Members are asked to note that a Community Safety Partnership Board meeting has been arranged for Friday 5 June 2009 at 10.30am

Fiona Brown, Governance and Committee Support Officer, Committee and Member Services Date of Report: 5 May 2009	Alex Haswell, Director Chief Executive Service Council Offices, English Street, Dumfries DG1 2DD
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APPENDICES – none
Background Papers as per file