SCRUTINY CALL-IN

Names of Members: (minimum of 2)

(indicate Lead Member)

Councillors Twomey (LM) and Rodwell

Date of Cabinet: 14 December 2012

Item for Call-in:

Budget Strategy 2012/13 to 2014/15, and in that respect the proposed budget savings outlined in Item CEX/SAV/01 relating to the CE's organisational review, specifically the proposed deletion of the post of Divisional Director of Assurance and Risk

Decision of Cabinet:

To approve the above proposal with effect from 1 April 2012

Reasons for Call-in:

(include supportive statement on additional sheet(s) if necessary)

Over the past 18 months a number of compliance issues have been brought to the attention of PAASC. There have been a number of examples relating to both actual and perceived policy and procedural lapses.

This culminated in a recent report to the committee where members expressed a wish to do a general review of compliance within the organisation – partly triggered by the number of "limited assurance" internal audit reports there have been.

Compliance and assurance have been identified by CMT as a corporate risk, yet the CEO has decided to remove the Assurance and Risk post in the savings proposals.

The dilution of this function within other employee roles will cause a regression of the overall risk and assurance levels currently achieved. Even though we have improved in this area over the last 3 years we have only managed to achieve a 56% total on substantial assurance.

In these times of severe cuts, savings and organisational change it is important to consider and protect our staff, members, customers and clients by having, and more importantly, implementing a clear risk mitigation strategy across the organisation