

STAFF REPORT

TO: Chair and Members, Corporate Services Committee
FROM: Accounting Manager
DATE: 12 March 2009
SUBJECT: Finance Department Report

FINANCE SECTION

It would be fair to say that at the commencement of the 2009-2019 LTCCP exercise, I was unaware of the huge amount of time and resources that the task would consume in the ensuing months. It is now pleasing to report that on robustly making it through the audit process, focus of the section can now begin to return to “normal” matters. Tasks for the team in the immediate timeframe include completing and enhancing the rollout of job costing, the provision of specific financial reporting to supplement monthly reports, training non-finance staff on the use of our financial systems, and working with yellowfin reports.

2009-2019 LTCCP

There was jubilation throughout as news of the Hot Review and Audit signoff were received by staff on Friday 6 March 2009. This is an excellent result, and just reward for the tremendous amount of work and effort put into ensuring the final product was a robust, financially sound plan. My appreciation is extended to all who have been involved.

MONTHLY REPORTING

With staff hours previously being focused elsewhere, we are now back into the regular routine of monthly reporting. Along with these monthly reports we will also be focusing on specific reporting to budget holders, providing analysis on particular accounts which have, or are tracking to have, unfavourable variances to budget.

DASHBOARD REPORTING

The NCS application, Yellowfin, is now installed enabling the writing of static reports, ie reports against a fixed position in time, providing a clear view of how an account, or range of accounts, are positioned. After discussion with us regarding our ongoing use and expectations of Dashboard reporting the NCS team are now building a General Ledger table for Yellowfin which will provide us with a range of reporting options. Expectations for the completion of this table are by the beginning of April 2009. Once available we will have the ability to produce trend reports giving better analysis over time, on a monthly basis.

STAFFING MATTERS

With sadness I advise that Anthea Campbell, our Rates Officer will be leaving us at the end on March. Anthea has decided to spend some time back in Australia to support and care for family.

Diane Jones is also leaving the rates section. Diane is moving to records to fill the position created by Sam Hobbs resignation.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Accounting Manager's report dated 12 March 2009 be received.

Russell Holden
Accounting Manager