

*To consider*

**Business Plan and Budget for 2009: Monitoring**

**Issue**

1. How members wish to monitor performance against the 2009 Business Plan and Budget.

**Recommendations**

2.
  - a. To agree that the Chief Executive's reports should be mapped against key aims in the 2009 Business Plan and provide summary information on income and expenditure and on performance against service targets (paragraphs 10-13).
  - b. To agree that a detailed report of income and expenditure, with analysis of significant variances against budget be a standing item on Resources Committee agendas (paragraphs 14-15).

**Further information**

3. If you require further information about this paper, please contact us by email: [gmc@gmc-uk.org](mailto:gmc@gmc-uk.org) or tel. 0161 923 6602

## Background

4. Our accounting period is the calendar year; and the annual budget cycle is scheduled accordingly. The aim is to have an agreed budget and business plan in place by 1 January each year.
5. The Resources Committee considers, and when satisfied, approves the budget for the forthcoming calendar year. The Council is invited to endorse the approved budget at the next Council meeting, normally in December.
6. Fee levels are approved by the Council, on the recommendation of the Resources Committee.
7. On 18 November 2008, the Resources Committee approved the business plan and a balanced budget for 2009, based on income and expenditure of £83.3 million. The Resources Committee recommended fee levels from 1 April 2009, including an annual fee for registration (the annual retention fee) of £410.
8. On 2 December 2008, Council endorsed the business plan and budget for 2009 and approved the fee levels. A copy of the Council paper is at Annex A.
9. As foreshadowed at the induction meetings, we propose, in mid 2009, to invite Council to begin to review the longer term strategic direction.

## Discussion

10. It is essential that members are provided with the information required to monitor performance against the 2009 Business Plan and Budget.
11. In recent years, regular information to enable effective monitoring has been provided in two main ways.
12. First, the Chief Executive's Report, a standing item on Council agendas, is mapped against key aims in the business plan. It also includes summary financial information, as well as details of performance against service targets.
13. This has enabled all members to monitor progress; and we propose to continue to report in this way.

**Recommendation:** To agree that the Chief Executive's reports should be mapped against key aims in the 2009 Business Plan and provide summary information on income and expenditure and on performance against service targets.

14. Second, at each of its meetings, the Resources Committee has considered a detailed analysis of income and expenditure, with reports on significant variances against budget.

15. This has enabled members of the Resources Committee to scrutinise at an appropriate level of detail, in order that the Committee can discharge its purpose, which includes securing effective control of expenditure.

**Recommendation:** To agree that a detailed report of income and expenditure, with analysis of significant variances against budget be a standing item on Resources Committee agendas.

16. We will agree with the Resources Committee the level of detail that it requires.

17. The four reference groups – Education and Training, Fitness to Practise, Registration, and Standards and Ethics – will each receive regular information on progress against plans.

### **Resource implications**

18. None. The costs of reporting as proposed are negligible.

### **Equality implications**

19. None.