

Finance Committee Authority Briefing

Agenda item 10

Friday 25 November 2016, 1pm
at The Forum, 74-80 Camden Street, London NW1

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1. **BTP Gross Budget for Overground and Underground 2017/18**

- 1.1 BTP presented an updated paper to the Committee on the Gross Budget that provided a further breakdown of the budget and staff numbers. The the Finance Committee agreed the funding envelope of £223.6m.
- 1.2 The Committee discussed the workforce numbers and the additional resources that are required to fill the establishment.

2. **Funding options 2017/18**

- 2.1 The Finance held discussion on the options for funding the 2017/18 overground budget. Final options for funding the budget are presented to the Authority
- 2.2 The key principles that the Finance Committee considered where the financial sustainability and limiting the use of reserves to fund expenditure.

3. **BTPA budget 2017/18**

- 3.1 The BTPA presented the paper to the Committee setting out its budget requirements for 2017/18. The Committee requested further work on options to keep spend within RPI.

4. **2017/18 PSA charges**

- 4.1 The Committee was given a verbal update on the current progress in relation to the calculation of the 2017/18 provisional charges. The charges will be circulated out of Committee for review prior to being submitted to the Authority for final approval and circulation.

5. Project Portfolio plan - update on 2016/17 progress and draft plan 2017/18 plan

- 5.1 BTP presented to the Committee the portfolio plan for review. Work was being undertaken ready to brief the Authority on the 8 December on the governance arrangements that will support the efficiency work that is being undertaken.

6. Update on Emergency Services Mobile Communications programme

- 6.1 The Committee was provided with an updated on the ESMCP and its impact on BTP. The national programme has slipped by six months, but the national project team is currently keeping to the agreed roll out plan. There are concerns in relation to coverage for London Underground as the 4G trail has currently been abandoned.

7. Contract 35: LAN/WAN update

- 7.1 BTP presented a paper to the Committee setting out the proposals concerning the extension to the current contract and the replacement of the current WAN/LAN.

8. Finance Action Plan meeting

- 8.1 BTP provided a verbal update to the Committee concerning the finance action plan. All three deputy director posts have now been filled and the Deputy Director Financial Control has already started. The consultation period has finished on the new structure and the match and slot exercise will begin shortly and will be completed before Christmas.
- 8.2 New controls have been implemented in Finance but more work is required to ensuring that they are embedded throughout the organisation. There needs to be a careful balance around the releasing of interim staff and the successful closing of the end of year accounts and audit.

9. Efficiencies monitoring and review arrangements

- 9.1 BTP provided a verbal update to the meeting on the current work that is being undertaken within BTP. DfT is happy with the approach BTP is taking to meet its target. The first BTP internal efficiency board has met and work will continue in this area. A paper on the monitoring and reporting arrangements is being presented to the Authority on 8 December 2016.