



BIRMINGHAM INDEPENDENT IMPROVEMENT PANEL ACTIVITY AND COSTS 2017/18

1. Panel activity

1.1 The Panel was established in January 2015. The members of the Panel are John Crabtree OBE (chair), Frances Done CBE (vice chair), Cllr Keith Wakefield (former leader of Leeds City Council), and Steve Robinson (former chief executive of Cheshire West and Chester Council). Dave Hill, Children's Social Care Commissioner is an ex-officio member of the Panel. The adviser to the Panel is Sally Hammond.

1.2 The Panel has met regularly with the Leader of the Council, Deputy Leader and Chief Executive to discuss the Council's progress. The Panel has also met on several occasions separately with the leaders of the Conservative and Liberal Democrat opposition groups to discuss their contribution to the Council's progress.

1.3 Panel members have also undertaken a large number of meetings with senior Council leaders, Cabinet Members, Councillors, the Chief Executive and corporate leadership team, senior managers across the Council, and many of the Council's partners and stakeholders in public, private and third sector organisations. The Panel has also kept in touch with other important stakeholders such as the Local Government Association.

1.4 The total time spent on activity by Panel members and the adviser in 2017/18 has been approximately 188 days. The Chair, John Crabtree, has carried out his duties in relation to the Panel on an unpaid basis throughout the year.

2. Panel costs

2.1 The cost of operation of the Panel during 2017/18 including the remuneration of Panel members and adviser and travelling expenses was £108,234.

2.2 The Panel would like to thank Gowling WLG for providing meeting rooms for meetings of the Panel at no cost.

2.5 The costs of the Panel were financed by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and Birmingham City Council in equal shares.