

BUSINESS EFFICIENCY SCRUTINY PANEL	Agenda Item No. 5
8 JANUARY 2009	Public Report

Report of the Executive Director of Strategic Resources

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BUDGET 2009/10 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN TO 2011/12

1. PURPOSE

The report sent to all members outlines the proposed budget for 2009/10 and Medium Term Financial Strategy to 2011/12 to which Scrutiny and Scrutiny Panels have been invited to make comment. The purpose of this report is to review aspects of these proposals relevant to the functions and remit of this Panel. Any observations will be included in a report back to Cabinet on 2 February 2009.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Panel is asked to comment on the draft budget 2009/10 and medium term financial plan to 2011/12 in so far as it relates to the remit of the Panel

3. LINKS TO CORPORATE PLAN, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

The budget provides the resources to meet the targets and aspirations of the Corporate Plan, Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement.

4. BACKGROUND

This report is submitted to the Panel following consideration of the report by Cabinet on 15 December 2008.

NB: Please remember to bring your copy of the budget papers (previously circulated to all members of the Council) to this meeting.

A briefing on the budget for Members will be held in the Council Chamber at 5.30pm on the 8th January.

5. KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 The proposed Budget 2009/10 and Medium Term Financial Plan to 2011/12 was presented to Cabinet on 15 December 2008 and has been sent to all members of the council. Cabinet resolved that consultation be undertaken and comments invited on the budget proposals outlined in this report from Scrutiny, Scrutiny Panels and other interested organisations.
- 4.2 The main focus of attention for this panel will be the executive summary (pages 2 to 4) which outlines the issues facing the council and proposed actions and pages 9 to 11 of the main report, which detail those projects forming phase 3 of the business transformation programme.
- 4.3 The capacity bids submitted for the next three years include those relating to the impacts of the credit crunch and actions taken to mitigate against these, as well as the costs of financing the proposed capital programme.

6. IMPLICATIONS

As set out in the report to Cabinet on the 15 December 2008.

7. CONSULTATION

This formed part of the process leading to budget setting in February 2009.

8. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

A report to Cabinet with the Panel's views.

9. NEXT STEPS

Comments and observations of the Panel will be presented to Cabinet at its meeting on 2 February 2009 prior to a recommendation being made to full Council on 25 February.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

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As set out in the report to Cabinet - 15 December 2008.

11. APPENDICES

None.