

<b>COUNCIL</b>	AGENDA ITEM No. 9
<b>4 MARCH 2015</b>	PUBLIC REPORT

## **EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL**

### **(a) CABINET RECOMMENDATION – PETERBOROUGH CULTURE STRATEGY 2015-2020**

Cabinet, at its meeting of 23 February 2015, received a report from the Cabinet Member for City Centre Management, Culture and Tourism. Culture and leisure services were long established priorities of the Council and the Council published a cultural strategy five years ago to deliver its priorities up to 2014.

Recognising the need to take a fresh look at its approach and priorities to develop a new culture strategy, the Council had developed a refreshed strategy, as set out in the document 'Peterborough Culture Strategy 2015-2020'.

The purpose of the report was for Cabinet to approve the strategy and recommend its adoption to Council.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED** that Council:

Adopt the Peterborough Culture Strategy 2015-2020.

(The original Cabinet report and Appendix follows this report).

**(b) CABINET RECOMMENDATION – BUDGET 2015/16 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2024/25**

Cabinet, at its meeting of 23 February 2015, received a report as part of the Council's formal budget process set out within the Constitution and legislative requirements to set a balanced budget for 2015/16 and medium term financial strategy to 2024/25.

The purpose of the report was to recommend to Council budget proposals for 2015/16 through to 2024/25, in line with the final local government finance settlement for 2015/16 and in advance of some Department for Education specific grants being finalised. The draft Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) was presented during the Cabinet meeting of 19 January and, subject to updated information contained within the report to 23 February 2015, was the basis for Cabinet to recommend the budget for approval by Council. Attached to the report were the relevant documents Cabinet referred to within the report.

The report also provided an update on budget consultation responses received so far, recognising that that the consultation remained open until 2 March and that some meetings with key stakeholder groups were still to take place.

Cabinet endorsed the recommendations, including the recommendations to Council.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED** that Council:

- 1) Have regard to the consultation feedback received to date and statutory advice detailed in the report when determining the budget recommendations, noting that consultation remains open and further update will be provided at the Council meeting.
- 2) Approve:
  - a) The budget is set in the context of council priorities and has been undertaken following a two phase approach to consider budget proposals to set a balanced budget for 2015/16;
  - b) The budget for 2015/16 takes note of the budget monitoring position for 2014/15;
  - c) The revenue budget for 2015/16 and proposed cash limits for 2016/17 to 2024/25 (including investment and savings proposals);
  - d) The capital programme for 2015/16 and proposed cash limits to 2024/25 and associated capital strategy, treasury management strategy and asset management plan;
  - e) A council tax freeze in 2015/16 with indicative increases for planning purposes of 2% for 2016/17 to 2024/25;
  - f) That education funding is spent at the level of funding resources available to both schools and the council in 2015/16 and future estimates to 2024/25;
  - g) The budget is supported adequately with reserves, provisions and robust budget estimates set in the context of the risks outlined in the report;
  - h) The proposals for setting fees and charges for 2015/16.
- 3) Approve the Council Tax setting resolution as set out in Appendix A.

The budget book has been circulated as a separate document.