

Report on the 2010/11 Budget Strategy and Medium Term Financial Planning 2011/12 to 2013/14

Summary

1. This report presents an Executive report dated 15 December 2009 detailing the strategy being adopted for the development of the 2010/11 Revenue Budget and outlines the longer term issues linked to public sector funding and the implications these may have on the council's medium term financial planning.
2. A report on the arrangements for the development of the 2010/11 Budget was originally approved by Executive on 23rd June 2009, and the report attached at Annex A seeks to provide further information to Members.

Background

3. As a result of the re-structure of the scrutiny function at the beginning of the municipal year 2009-10, the remit agreed for this committee includes the responsibility for considering the Council's budget strategy. This report is the first of this type, and the Committee will continue to receive such a report annually, around this time in December, until such time as this Committee's remit is changed.

Consultation

4. The budget strategy has been discussed and supported at Corporate Management Team level which has resulted in each Directorate, via their Departmental Management Teams submitting budget proposals.

Options

5. Having considered the information within this cover report and the report at Annex A (and its associated annexes), Members may choose to:
 - ask questions of the Assistant Director of Resources who will be present at the meeting;
 - provide comments on the budget strategy

Analysis

6. A full analysis of the budget strategy is included within the report at Annex A.

Corporate Strategy

7. The information and issues included in the report attached at Annex A are designed to demonstrate that the council's financial planning is focussed on achieving the priorities set out in the council's corporate strategy (2009-12).

Implications

8. **Financial** – There are no financial implications associated with the recommendation in this report. In regard to the report at Annex A, the associated financial implications are detailed in the body of that report.
9. There are no known Legal, HR, Equalities, ITT, Property or other implication associated with the recommendation in this report or the report attached at Annex A.

Risk Management

10. It is clear that the current economic climate and the longer term implications this may have on central government funding represents a significant risk in terms of preventing the council from delivering quality services and meeting its corporate priorities. All financial planning decisions that are made need to be assessed for their sustainability in view of reduced funding and set against expectations that significant efficiencies are derived from the way in which the council delivers its services.

Recommendations

11. Members are asked to consider the report at Annex A and provide any comments on the principles being adopted for the preparation of the 2010/11 budget.

Reason: To assist their understanding of the budget strategy and its approach in 2010-11

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Report Approved**Date** 18 December 2009**Specialist Implications Officer(s)** N/A**Wards Affected:**

All



Background Papers: N/A

Annexes

Annex A – Report on the 2010/11 Budget Strategy and Medium Term Financial Planning 2011/12 to 2013/14

Annex A1 – Unitary Authority Formula Grant – increases in funding for 2010/11

Annex A2 – Unitary Authority Formula Grant – funding per capita fro 2010/11