

Cherwell District Council

Executive

3 October 2016

Efficiency Plan – 2017/18 to 2021/22

Report of Chief Finance Officer

This report is public

Purpose of report

To provide Executive with details of the Council's Efficiency Plan 2017/18 to 2021/22 for approval.

1.0 Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To approve the Efficiency Plan 2017/18 to 2021/22 (Appendix 1).

2.0 Introduction

- 2.1 The Government grant settlement in December 2016 was for four years, rather than the usual one. With this certainty over a significant variable element of funding, came a requirement to produce an efficiency plan. The efficiency plan must be provided by 14 October 2016 in order to accept the offer of the four year settlement.

3.0 Efficiency Plan

- 3.1 For the first time in a number of years, the Government grant settlement announced in December 2016 was a multi-year settlement. Previously, the settlement had been for one year only.
- 3.2 In order to accept the four year settlement offer, the Council is required to publish a link to an Efficiency Plan by 14 October 2016.
- 3.3 Following the approval of the Efficiency Plan by Executive the plan will be published.

4.0 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations

- 4.1 Members are requested to note the content of this report and approve the Efficiency Plan at Appendix 1.

5.0 Consultation

There is a requirement to consult on the draft budget and this consultation will take place as part of the budget setting process.

6.0 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 6.1 The following alternative options have been identified and rejected for the reasons as set out below.

Option 1: To not approve the report but this would mean that the Council is unable to accept the four year grant settlement.

7.0 Implications

Financial and Resource Implications

- 7.1 There are no direct financial implications stemming from this report as it is setting out the scale of the medium term financial deficit that needs to be addressed through the budget process setting process.

Comments checked by:
George Hill, Corporate Finance Manager
george.hill@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

Legal Implications

- 7.2 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

Comments checked by:
Kevin Lane, Head of Law and Governance
kevin.lane@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

Risk Management

- 7.3 Financial Resilience and Capital Investment are managed as strategic risks via the corporate risk register. The register is monitored on a regular basis by the Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee, Executive and Joint Management Team

Comments checked by:
Ed Bailey, Corporate Performance Manager, 01295 221605
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Equality and Diversity

7.4 There are no equality and diversity implications arising directly from this report.

Comments checked by:

Caroline French, Corporate Policy Officer, 01295 221586

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8.0 Decision Information

Key Decision

Financial Threshold Met: No

Community Impact Threshold Met: No

Wards Affected

All

Links to Corporate Plan and Policy Framework

This links to the Council's priority of Sound Budgets and a Customer Focussed Council.

Lead Councillor

Councillor Ken Atack, Lead Member for Financial Management.

Document Information

Appendix No	Title
Appendix 1	Efficiency Plan
Background Papers	
None	
Report Author	Paul Sutton, Chief Finance Officer
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