

Committee: Budget Planning Committee
Date: Tuesday 8 October 2013
Time: 6.30 pm
Venue: Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, OX15 4AA

Membership

Councillor Nicholas Mawer (Chairman)	Councillor Douglas Webb (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Ken Atack	Councillor Andrew Beere
Councillor Maurice Billington	Councillor Margaret Cullip
Councillor Tim Emptage	Councillor Russell Hurle
Councillor Neil Prestidge	Councillor Nigel Randall
Councillor Lawrie Stratford	Councillor Barry Wood

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitute Members

2. Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare any interest and the nature of that interest which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting.

3. Urgent Business

The Chairman to advise whether they have agreed to any item of urgent business being admitted to the agenda.

4. Minutes (Pages 1 - 6)

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2013.

5. Medium Term Financial Strategy Update and Latest Position

To receive a presentation from the Director of Resources.

6. Budget Strategy 2014 to 2015 and Beyond (Pages 7 - 20)

Report of Director of Resources.

Summary

At its meeting on 7 October, the Executive considered a report on Budget Strategy 2014-15. The Report covered:

- service and financial planning process for 2014-15, the 2014-15 budget strategy and budget guidelines for issue to service managers to enable the production of the 2014-15 budget;
- recent medium term financial forecasts;
- the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2014-15; and
- the Council's approach to Business Rates pooling for 2014-15.

This report is now being presented to Budget Planning Committee for information.

The Director of Resources and Head of Finance and Procurement will provide an update to the Budget Planning Committee following consideration by the Executive on 7 October.

7. 2013/14 Capital Programme Review and 2014/15 Capital Strategy (Pages 21 - 24)

Report of Director of Resources.

Summary

To provide a summary update on the Council's capital programme.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to review the schedule of capital schemes.

8. Investment Opportunities (Pages 25 - 28)

Report of Interim Head of Finance and Procurement.

Summary

The report is to set the context for discussion as to options for addressing future years funding gaps by considering options for how the council uses its funding.

Recommendation

To note the report.

9. Update on Business Rates Incentives (Pages 29 - 32)

Report of Interim Head of Finance and Procurement.

Summary

The report updates the committee on the Business Rates incentives available to support businesses in the District.

Recommendation

To consider and note the report.

10. Welfare Reform Update (Pages 33 - 36)

Report of Interim Head of Finance and Procurement.

Summary

To advise members of the current impact of certain welfare reforms.

Recommendation

To note the current position.

11. Work Programme 2013/14 (Pages 37 - 38)

To note the Committee's Work Programme.

12. Exclusion of the Public and Press

The following report contains exempt information as defined in the following paragraph(s) of Part 1, Schedule 12A of Local Government Act 1972.

3– Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Members are reminded that whilst the following item(s) have been marked as exempt, it is for the meeting to decide whether or not to consider each of them in private or in public. In making the decision, members should balance the interests of individuals or the Council itself in having access to the information. In considering their discretion members should also be mindful of the advice of Council Officers.

No representations have been received from the public requesting that this item be considered in public.

Should Members decide not to make a decision in public, they are recommended to pass the following recommendation:

“That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business, on the grounds that they could involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph(s) 2 of Schedule 12A of that Act.”

13. Budget Building Blocks (Pages 39 - 42)

Report of Director of Resources.

Summary

The report details the category 1 budget reductions which have currently been identified and asks the Committee to note the proposed building blocks for inclusion in the Council's revenue budget 2014-15.

Recommendation

That the proposed building blocks for inclusion in the Councils revenue budget 2014-15 be noted.

Councillors are requested to collect any post from their pigeon hole in the Members Room at the end of the meeting.

Information about this Meeting

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence should be notified to democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk or 01327 322365 prior to the start of the meeting.

Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare interests at item 2 on the agenda or if arriving after the start of the meeting, at the start of the relevant agenda item.

Local Government and Finance Act 1992 – Budget Setting, Contracts & Supplementary Estimates

Members are reminded that any member who is two months in arrears with Council Tax must declare the fact and may speak but not vote on any decision which involves budget setting, extending or agreeing contracts or incurring expenditure not provided for in the agreed budget for a given year and could affect calculations on the level of Council Tax.

Evacuation Procedure

When the continuous alarm sounds you must evacuate the building by the nearest available fire exit. Members and visitors should proceed to the car park as directed by Democratic Services staff and await further instructions.

Access to Meetings

If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named below, giving as much notice as possible before the meeting.

Mobile Phones

Please ensure that any device is switched to silent operation or switched off.

Queries Regarding this Agenda

Please contact Dave Parry, Democratic and Elections
dave.parry@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk, 01327 322365

Sue Smith
Chief Executive

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