



To: The Leader: Councillor Lewis Herbert
Report by: Head of Finance
Relevant scrutiny committee: The Executive 21 January 2016
Wards affected: All Wards

Budget-Setting Report (BSR) 2016/17

Key Decision

1. Executive summary

Overview of Budget-Setting Report

- 1.1 At this stage in the 2016/17 budget process the range of assumptions on which the Mid-Year Forecast (MFR) was based need to be reviewed, in light of the latest information available, to determine whether any aspects of the strategy need to be revised. This then provides the basis for the budget considerations.
- 1.2 The Budget-Setting Report (BSR), which is attached, provides an overview of the review of the key assumptions. It includes the detailed revenue bids and savings and sets out the key parameters for the detailed recommendations and budget finalisation being considered at this meeting. This report reflects The Executive's final budget recommendations to Council, for consideration at its meeting on 25 February 2016.
- 1.3 The recommendations that follow refer to the strategy outlined in the BSR and all references to Appendices, pages and sections relate to the Budget-Setting Report 2016/17 (Version 1 – Strategy & Resources) as reported to and recommended by the Strategy & Resources Scrutiny Committee on 18 January 2016.

2. Recommendations

The Executive recommends the Budget Setting Report 2016/7 to Council on 25 February 2016, subject to any amendments at the Strategy & Resources Scrutiny Committee meeting on 18 January 2016, namely:

General Fund Revenue Budgets: [Section 5, page 28 refers]

- a) Agree any recommendations for submission to the Executive in respect of:
 - Revenue Pressures shown in Appendix B(a) and Savings shown in Appendix B(b).

- Bids to be funded from External or Earmarked Funds as shown in Appendix B(c).
 - Non Cash Limit items as shown in Appendix B(d).
- b) Recommend to Council formally confirming delegation to the Chief Financial Officer (Head of Finance) of the calculation and determination of the Council Tax taxbase (including submission of the National Non-Domestic Rates Forecast Form, NNDR1, for each financial year) as set out in Appendix A(a).
- c) Recommend to Council the level of Council Tax for 2016/17 as set out in Section 4 [page 25 refers].

Note that the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel will meet on 3 February 2016 to consider the precept proposed by the Police and Crime Commissioner, Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Fire Authority will meet on 11 February 2016 and Cambridgeshire County Council will meet on 16 February 2016 to consider the amounts in precepts to be issued to the City Council for the year 2016/17.

Other Revenue:

- d) Recommend to Council delegation to the Head of Finance authority to finalise changes relating to any corporate and/or departmental restructuring and any reallocation of support service and central costs, in accordance with the CIPFA Service Reporting Code of Practice for Local Authorities (SeRCOP).
- e) Recommend to Council approval of the new remit for the “Invest for Income Earmarked Reserve” [page 22 refers].
- f) Recommend to Council approval of the new remit for the “Office accommodation strategy fund” [page 25 refers].

Capital: [Section 7, page 33 refers]

Capital Plan:

- g) Recommend to Council the proposals outlined in Appendix D(a) for inclusion in the Capital Plan, or put on the Projects Under Development List, including any additional use of revenue resources required.
- h) Recommend to Council the revised Capital Plan for the General Fund as set out in Appendix D(c), the Funding as set out in Section 7, page 37 and note the Projects Under Development list set out in Appendix D(d).

General Fund Reserves:

- i) Note the impact of revenue and capital budget approvals and approve the resulting level of reserves to be used to support the budget proposals as set out in the table [Section 8, page 40 refers].

3. Implications

All budget proposals have a number of implications. A decision not to approve a revenue bid will impact on managers' ability to deliver the service or scheme in question and could have financial, staffing, equality and poverty, environmental, procurement, consultation and communication and / or community safety implications. A decision not to approve a capital or external bid will impact on managers' ability to deliver the developments desired in the service areas.

(a) **Financial Implications**

Financial implications of budget proposals are summarised in the Budget-Setting Report 2016/17.

(b) **Staffing Implications**

See text above

(c) **Equality and Poverty Implications**

A consolidated Equalities Impact Assessment is included at Appendix F in the attached Budget Setting Report 2016/17. Individual Equality Impact Assessments have been conducted to support this, and will be available on the Council's website.

(d) **Environmental Implications**

Where relevant, officers have considered the environmental impact of budget proposals which are annotated as follows:

- +H / +M / +L: to indicate that the proposal has a high, medium or low positive impact.
- Nil: to indicate that the proposal has no climate change impact.
- -H / -M / -L: to indicate that the proposal has a high, medium or low negative impact.

(e) **Procurement Implications**

Any procurement implications will be outlined in the Budget Setting Report 2016/17.

(f) **Consultation and Communication Implications**

As outlined in 3 above, budget proposals are based on the requirements of statutory and discretionary service provision. Public consultations are undertaken throughout the year and can be seen at:

<https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/budget-consultation>

(g) Community Safety Implications

Any community safety implications will be outlined in the Budget Setting Report 2016/17.

4. Background papers

These background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

- Budget Setting Report 2016/17
- Mid-Year Financial Review (MFR) 2015
- Individual Equalities Impact Assessments

5. Appendices

In this Report:

- Budget-setting Report 2016/17 Version 1, February 2016 (covering 2015/16 to 2020/21)

6. Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact:

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