



To: Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources

Report by: Head of Finance

Relevant scrutiny committee: Strategy and Resources 23 January 2017
Scrutiny Committee

Wards affected: All Wards

Budget-Setting Report (BSR) 2017/18

Key Decision

1. Executive summary

Overview of Budget-Setting Report

- 1.1 At this stage in the 2017/18 budget process the range of assumptions on which the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 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, includes the detailed revenue bids and savings and capital proposals and sets out the key parameters for the detailed recommendations and budget finalisation being considered at this meeting. This report reflects recommendations that will be made to The Executive on 26 January 2017 and then to Council, for consideration at its meeting on 23 February 2017.
- 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 2017/18 (Version 1 – Strategy & Resources) as reported to and seeking recommendations at Strategy & Resources Scrutiny Committee on 23 January 2017.

2. Recommendations

The Executive Councillor is recommended to:

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 C (a) and Savings shown in Appendix C (b).

- Bids to be funded from External or Earmarked Funds as shown in Appendix C (c).
 - Non-Cash Limit items as shown in Appendix C (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) which will be set out in Appendix B (a).
- c) Recommend to Council the level of Council Tax for 2017/18 as set out in Section 4 [page 25 refers].

Note that the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel will meet on 1 February 2017 to consider the precept proposed by the Police and Crime Commissioner, Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Fire Authority will meet on 9 February 2017 and Cambridgeshire County Council will meet on 14 February 2017 to consider the amounts in precepts to be issued to the City Council for the year 2017/18.

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 delegation to the Head of Finance, as Section 151 Officer, to make the necessary detailed budgetary adjustments in the GF, to reflect the impact of the triennial valuation of the Cambridgeshire Local Government Pension Scheme.
- f) Recommend to Council approval of a temporary earmarked fund to be set up to accumulate surplus NHB contributions to meet the requirement for funding of projects to mitigate the impacts in Cambridge of the A14 upgrade – the “A14 Mitigation Fund” [page 25 refers].

Capital: [Section 7, page 33 refers]

Capital Plan:

- g) Recommend to Council the proposals outlined in Appendix E (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 E (d), the Funding as set out in Section 7, page 36 and note the Projects Under Development list set out in Appendix E (e).

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 38 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 2017/18.

(b) Staffing Implications

See text above

(c) Equality and Poverty Implications

A consolidated Equality Impact Assessment for the budget proposals is included in the BSR, reporting separately on this agenda. Individual Equality Impact Assessments have been conducted to support this and will be available on the Council's website.

A local poverty rating (using the classifications outlined in the BSR, preface to Appendix C) has been included in each budget proposal to assist with assessment.

(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 2017/18.

(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:

cambridge.gov.uk/current-consultations

(g) **Community Safety Implications**

Any community safety implications will be outlined in the Budget-Setting Report 2017/18.

4. Background papers

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

- Budget-Setting Report 2017/18
- Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) October 2016
- Individual Equalities Impact Assessments

5. Appendices

In this Report:

- Budget-Setting Report 2017/18 Version 1, February 2017 (covering 2016/17 to 2021/22)

6. Inspection of papers

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

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