



BUDGET SCRUTINY PANEL

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To: Councillors Draycott, Gerrard, Miah (Chair), Parsons and Seaton (For attention)

All other members of the Council
(For information)

You are requested to attend the meeting of the Budget Scrutiny Panel to be held in Committee Room 2 - Council Offices on Tuesday, 2nd October 2018 at 6.00 pm for the following business.

Chief Executive

Southfields
Loughborough

24th September 2018

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES
 2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING 4 - 9
- The Panel is asked to confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 26th July 2018.
3. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY AND PERSONAL INTERESTS
 4. DECLARATIONS - THE PARTY WHIP

5. QUESTIONS UNDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE PROCEDURE 11.17

No questions were submitted.

6. DRAFT MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2019-2022

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A report of the Head of Finance and Property Services setting out the draft Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019 to 2022, which was agreed by the Cabinet on 13th September 2018, is attached.

The process for undertaking scrutiny of the budget agreed by the Scrutiny Management Board identifies the following issues for the Panel to consider:

- a review of the underlying assumptions
- a review of the implications of the calculations for efficiency plans and future budgets
- the policy background to and the rationale behind the draft being proposed. In particular, what scenarios had been considered, for example a strategy based on statutory requirements, a strategy based on maintaining services or a strategy based on providing additional services to meet the Corporate Plan, and the reasons for the option then chosen.

Possible outcomes of Panel discussion:

- recommendations to the Cabinet regarding changes to the Medium Term Financial Strategy, to be considered when the final version of the Strategy is submitted following consultation
- recommendations to the Cabinet regarding preparation of the draft 2018/19 budget.

7. FURTHER PANEL MEETING DATES 2018/19

Further meetings of the Panel in 2018/19 have been scheduled as follows:

- Wednesday 12th December 2018 at 6.00pm – to consider draft budgets for 2019/20
- Tuesday 8th January 2019 at 6.00pm – to consider the Panel's draft report.

SCRUTINY QUESTIONS

What topics to choose?

- What difference will scrutiny make?
- Is this an area of concern – public/performance/risk register?
- Is this a corporate priority?
- Could scrutiny lead to improvements?
- What are the alternatives to pre-decision scrutiny?

Pre-decision scrutiny

- What is Cabinet being asked to agree?
- Why?
- How does this relate to the overall objective? Which is ...?
- What risks have been identified and how are they being addressed?
- What are the financial implications?

- What other options have been considered?
- Who has been consulted and what were the results?
- Will the decision Cabinet is being asked to take affect other policies, practices etc.?

Basic Questions

- Why are you/we doing this?
- Why are you/we doing it in this way?
- How do you/we know you are making a difference?
- How are priorities and targets set?
- How do you/we compare?
- What examples of good practice exist elsewhere?