

**BUDGET SCRUTINY
ARRANGEMENTS
2017/18**

Purpose of Budget Scrutiny

- Provides challenge to decision makers
- Drives improvement in budget setting and transparency
- Enables voice and concerns of the public to be heard
- Principles:
 - Prioritisation
 - Value for Money
 - Review Budget Process
 - Affordability

Key Questions

- Budget Setting:
 - How has budget setting been decided? (income, grants, fixed/variable costs, savings ,use of reserves, impact on council tax, consultation, priorities)
 - What does in year monitoring show? (timing, information – financial and performance, understandability, exceptions, taking action (specific reviews))
 - How is the budget reflected in the financial statements
 - What are lessons learned, impact of future years

Process for Budget Scrutiny

- To consider whether Cabinet has produced an effective budget that meets the Council's Strategic Purposes
- To review each Strategic Purpose Budget to ensure that it is sufficiently detailed to convey a clear picture of proposed spending
- To ensure that the correct budget setting process has been followed in line with the Council's rules and procedures as set out in the Constitution.
- To meet S11 recommendations

Issues from 2016/17

- Lack of detailed information
- Lack of explanation of variances
- Timeliness of information
- Need for more operational discussions (Heads of Service)
- Limited information available on wider context eg – Business Rates / New Homes Bonus

INFORMATION FOR SCRUTINY

- Details of expenditure and income against strategic purposes
- Details of previous year spend / income to proposed budgets
- Details of additional pressures to budget
- Proposed Savings – explanations of how they are derived
- Income levels based on assumptions of demand / realistic
- Reserves Statements
- Review of balances

INFORMATION FOR SCRUTINY

- Capital Programme
 - Details of individual schemes
 - Details of financing costs
 - Spend to save projections
- External Funding
 - New Homes Bonus
 - Grants Received
 - Business Rate assumptions
- Budget report – format for Cabinet & Council

Detailed Financial Information

KEEP MY PLACE SAFE AND LOOKING GOOD

Department		2015/16 Actual £'000	2015/16 Variance £'000
Bereavement Services	Exp		
	Inc		
	Net		
Building Control	Exp		
	Inc		
	Net		
Cesspools/Sewers	Exp		
	Inc		
	Net		
Development Control	Exp		
	Inc		
	Net		
Environmental Health / Protection / Enforcement	Exp		
	Inc		
	Net		
Totals:			

Detailed Financial Information

KEEP MY PLACE SAFE AND LOOKING GOOD				
Department		2016/17 Budget £'000	2016/17 Projected Outturn £'000	2016/17 Projected Variance £'000
Bereavement Services	Exp			
	Inc			
	Net			
Building Control	Exp			
	Inc			
	Net			
Cesspools/Sewers	Exp			
	Inc			
	Net			
	Net			
Development Control	Exp			
	Inc			
	Net			
Environmental Health / Protection	Exp			
	Inc			
	Net			
Totals:				

Detailed Financial Information

KEEP MY PLACE SAFE AND LOOKING GOOD				
Department		Proposed 2017/18 £'000	Proposed 2018/19 £'000	Proposed 2019/20 £'000
Bereavement Services	Exp			
	Inc			
	Net			
Building Control	Exp			
	Inc			
	Net			
Cesspools/Sewers	Exp			
	Inc			
	Net			
	Net			
Development Control	Exp			
	Inc			
	Net			
Environmental Health / Protection	Exp			
	Inc			
	Net			
Totals:				

Capital Programme

- Capital Programme

Scheme	Funded by (borrowing / S10 6 etc)	Budget 2017/18 £'000	Budget 2018/19 £'000	Budget 2019/20 £'000

Dates for Scrutiny Meetings

- 27th June
 - projected outturn (pre audit)
 - Update on savings plans
- 8th August
 - 2015/16 outturn v 2016/17 budget proposed (in detail)
- 19th September
 - Update re efficiency plan
- 31st October
 - Fees and Charges pre scrutiny

Dates for Scrutiny Meetings

- 28th November
 - Draft Budget pressures
 - Draft Budget Savings
- 19th December
 - Capital Programme details
 - Financing projections
- 16th January
 - Final Proposals 2017/18 – 2020/21