

## **Committee: Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel**

7 January 2016

## **Healthier Communities & Older People Overview and Scrutiny Panel**

12 January 2016

## **Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel**

13 January 2016

## **Overview and Scrutiny Commission**

28 January 2016

**Wards:** ALL

**Subject:** Business Plan Update 2016-2020 (Members are requested to bring the Business Plan Consultation Pack with them to these meetings)

**Lead officer:** Caroline Holland

**Lead member:** Councillor Mark Allison

**Contact officer:** Paul Dale

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### **Recommendations:**

1. That the Panel considers the proposed additional amendments to savings set out in the Business Plan Consultation Pack which it is proposed are incorporated into the financial implications into the draft MTFS 2016-20.
  2. That the Overview and Scrutiny Commission also consider the Draft Business Plan 2016-20 report received by Cabinet at its meeting on 18 January 2016
  3. That the Panel considers the draft capital programme 2016-20 and indicative programme for 2021-25 set out in Appendix 4 of the attached report on the Business Plan
  4. That the Panel considers the draft savings/income proposals and associated equalities analyses set out in the Business Plan Consultation Pack
  5. That the Panel considers the draft service plans set out in the Business Plan Consultation Pack
  6. That the Panel considers the contents of the consultation pack circulated
  7. That the Overview and Scrutiny Commission considers the comments of the Panels on the Business Plan 2016-2012 and details provided in the consultation pack and provides a response to Cabinet when it meets on the 15 February 2016.
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## **1. Purpose of report and executive summary**

- 1.1 This report requests Scrutiny Panels to consider the latest information in respect of the Business Plan and Budget 2016/17, including proposed amendments to savings previously agreed by Council, the draft capital programme 2016-20, the draft savings/income proposals and associated equalities analyses for 2016-19, and draft service plans, and feedback comments to the Overview and Scrutiny Commission.
- 1.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Commission will consider the comments of the Panels and provide a response on the Business Plan 2016-20 to Cabinet when it meets on the 15 February 2016.

## **2. Details - Revenue**

- 2.1 The Cabinet of 7 December 2015 received a report on the business plan for 2016-20.

- 2.2 At the meeting Cabinet

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet

- 1). agrees the draft savings/income proposals (Appendix 1) and associated draft equalities analyses (Appendix 5) put forward by officers to go to Cabinet and refers them to the Overview and Scrutiny panels and Commission in January 2016 for consideration and comment.
- 2). agrees the latest amendments to the draft Capital Programme 2016-2020 which was considered by Cabinet on 19 October 2015 and by scrutiny in November 2015.(Appendix 4)
- 3). considers the proposed amendments to savings previously agreed. (Appendix 2)
- 4). consider the draft service plans. (Appendix 6)

## **3. Alternative Options**

- 3.1 It is a requirement that the Council sets a balanced budget. The Cabinet report on 7 December 2015 sets out the progress made towards setting a balanced budget. This identified the current budget position that needs to be addressed between now and the next report to Cabinet on 18 January 2016 and 15 February 2016, prior to Council on 2 March 2016, agreeing the Budget and Council Tax for 2016/17 and the Business Plan 2016-20, including the MTFs and Capital Programme 2016-20.

#### **4. Capital Programme 2016-20**

- 4.1 Details of the draft Capital Programme 2016-20 were agreed by Cabinet on 7 December 2015 in the attached report for consideration by Overview and Scrutiny panels and Commission.

#### **5. Consultation undertaken or proposed**

- 5.1 Further work will be undertaken as the process develops.
- 5.2 As previously indicated, a savings proposals consultation pack was prepared and distributed to all councillors at the end of December 2015 with a request that it be brought to all Scrutiny and Cabinet meetings from 7 January 2016 onwards and to Budget Council. This should be an improvement for both councillors and officers - more manageable for councillors and it will ensure that only one version of those documents is available so referring to page numbers at meetings will be easier. It will also considerably reduce printing costs and reduce the amount of printing that needs to take place immediately prior to Budget Council.
- 5.3 The consultation pack includes:
- Savings proposals
  - Equality impact assessment for each saving proposal
  - Service plans (these will also be printed in A3 to lay round at scrutiny meetings)

#### **6. Timetable**

- 6.1 The timetable for the Business Plan 2016-20 including the revenue budget 2016/17, the MTFS 2016-20 and the Capital Programme for 2016-20 was agreed by Cabinet on 14 September 2015.

#### **7. Financial, resource and property implications**

- 7.1 These are set out in the Cabinet report for 7 December 2015. (Appendix 1)

#### **8. Legal and statutory implications**

- 8.1 All relevant implications have been addressed in the Cabinet reports. Further work will be carried out as the budget and planning proceeds and will be included in the budget report to Cabinet on the 7 December 2015.
- 8.2 Detailed legal advice will be provided throughout the budget setting process further to any proposals identified and prior to any final decisions.

9. **Human Rights, Equalities and Community Cohesion Implications**

9.1 All relevant implications will be addressed in Cabinet reports on the business planning process.

9.2 A draft equalities assessment has been carried out with respect to the proposed budget savings and is included in the Business Plan Consultation Pack circulated to all Members.

10. **Crime and Disorder implications**

10.1 All relevant implications will be addressed in Cabinet reports on the business planning process.

11. **Risk Management and Health and Safety Implications**

11.1 All relevant implications will be addressed in Cabinet reports on the business planning process.

**Appendices – the following documents are to be published with this report and form part of the report**

Appendix 1 - Cabinet report 7 December 2015: Draft Business Plan Update 2016-20 (NB: This excludes Savings and Equalities Assessments which are included in the Business Plan Consultation Pack)

Appendix 2 - Cabinet report 18 January 2016: Draft Business Plan 2016-20

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

12.1 The following documents have been relied on in drawing up this report but do not form part of the report:

Budget files held in the Corporate Services department.

2015/16 Budgetary Control and 2014/15 Final Accounts Working Papers in the Corporate Services Department.

Budget Monitoring working papers

MTFS working papers

13. **REPORT AUTHOR**

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**email:** [paul.dale@merton.gov.uk](mailto:paul.dale@merton.gov.uk) Budget files held in the Corporate Services department.