

# PLACE AND CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Budget Scrutiny - Draft Recommendations



## 1. Context

- 1.1. On the 26 January 2017 the Place and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee was convened to consider the draft budget.
- 1.2. The Committee considered the draft budget report that was supported by a number of background papers. These included the Medium Term Financial Strategy, Corporate Plan monitoring report, staff survey and establishment figures.
- 1.3. Following debate members of the Select Committee agreed the following recommendations.

## Draft recommendations

### Agreed -

1. to thank the Executive, Senior Management Team and Scrutiny Councillors for their patience and contribution to the process;
2. that the Committee considered that the budget documentation presented was not sufficiently detailed and as such the Committee was unable to judge whether the Draft Budget was effective and in line within the Corporate Plan;
3. to recommend to Cabinet that the budget, when presented to council, should include a breakdown of proposed 2017/18 budget levels across departments/service areas and show variation from 2016/17 budget. Transformation stretch savings and efficiencies in 2017/18 must be presented with some comment on how those savings are likely to be made;
4. to establish, with the Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee, a standing Select Committee on the Budget;
5. to note that a four year settlement has now been accepted by the city council and recommend to the Cabinet Member for Finance that the draft budget for 2018/19 is presented to Cabinet in September to enable scrutiny of the draft budget to be completed by the standing Select Committee by January 2018;
6. to recommend to the Cabinet Member for Finance that, working with the Shadow Cabinet Member for Finance and the standing Select Committee, a Budget template is developed for clear and consistent annual reporting of proposed budgets which is accessible by members of the public and provides a sufficiently detailed budget and savings proposals for meaningful scrutiny.