

## **ESTABLISHMENT OF A MEMBER BUDGET WORKING GROUP**

### **Scrutiny Committee – 26 September 2013**

Report of                      Chief Finance Officer

Status:                        For Decision

Key Decision:              No

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**Executive Summary:** This report requests Members to consider the establishment of a Member Working Group for the budget as requested by this committee on 18 July 2013.

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**This report supports the Key Aim of** effective management of Council resources.

**Portfolio Holder**        Cllr. Ramsay

**Contact Officer(s)**      Adrian Rowbotham Ext. 7153

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**Recommendation to Scrutiny Committee:** That Members agree terms of reference and membership of a Budget Working Group to report to the Scrutiny Committee on the following area:

- a) The draft budget presented to Cabinet on 5 December 2013.
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**Reason for recommendation:** to enable a small working group of Members to meet more frequently and report back to the Scrutiny Committee on it's findings for consideration.

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### **Introduction**

1. Members are asked to consider setting up a Budget Working Group to report back its findings to the Scrutiny Committee in accordance with the Scrutiny Committee Work plan. Members should note that any working group will last no longer than the municipal year it is set up unless reconstituted the following year.
2. Members need to consider and agree the number and membership of the Budget Working Group.

### **Draft Terms of Reference**

3. Draft terms of reference have been drawn up below for Members consideration.
  - a. The membership of the Working Group to consist of 5 Councillors who do not sit on the Finance & Resources Advisory Committee
  - b. The Working Group to be set up for the consideration of the following only:

- i. The draft budget presented to Cabinet on 5 December 2013.
- c. The Working Group to regularly report back in line with the Scrutiny Committee Work Plan.

## **Key Implications**

### Financial

Financial implications are contained in the 'Financial Prospects and Budget Strategy 2014/15 and Beyond' report to Cabinet on 12 September 2013.

### Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement.

There are no legal implications.

### Equality Impacts

Consideration of impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty:		
Question	Answer	Explanation / Evidence
a. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have potential to disadvantage or discriminate against different groups in the community?	Not at this stage	Individual equalities assessments will be completed for all of the Service Change Impact Assessments (SCIAs) to ensure the decision making process is fair and transparent.
b. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have the potential to promote equality of opportunity?	No	
c. What steps can be taken to mitigate, reduce, avoid or minimise the impacts identified above?		

## **Appendices**

None

## **Background Papers:**

Financial Prospects and Budget Strategy 2014/15 and Beyond – Cabinet – 12 September 2013.

**Adrian Rowbotham**  
**Chief Finance Officer**