

Central  
Bedfordshire  
Council  
Priory House  
Monks Walk  
Chicksands,  
Shefford SG17 5TQ



<b>CONSTITUTION ADVISORY GROUP</b>
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<b>DATE: 21 March 2011</b>
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<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Order of Business at the Council's Budget Meeting</b>
<b>REPORT OF</b>	John Atkinson, Head of Legal & Democratic Services

<b>PURPOSE</b>	The report considers whether the Constitution should make specific provision for the items included and order of the agenda at the Council's annual Budget Meeting.
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<b>ORIGIN OF PROPOSAL</b>	Request of the Chairman of the Constitution Advisory Group
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<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b>
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**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

1. The Council's Constitution prescribes the order of business at its annual meeting, at ordinary meetings and at extraordinary meetings. It makes no specific provision for the order of business at the Council's budget meeting. An extract from the Constitution setting out the order of business at ordinary meetings of the Council is attached as Appendix A.

2. The result of this is that certain reports that may be relevant to the budget (eg the report about the level of Council Tax) will be placed towards the end of the agenda and the Chairman is required to exercise his discretion and bring these reports forward to be considered alongside the recommendation of the Executive regarding the budget.
3. The Constitution Advisory Group is invited to consider whether any adjustment is required to the order of business in order to clarify the manner in which business is conducted at the budget meeting.

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<b>Contact Officer Details:</b>	<b>Key Background Papers:</b>
Mel Peaston, Committee Services Manager	None