

COUNCIL MEETING – 20 FEBRUARY 2014

Recommendation to Council from the Executive meeting held on 4 February 2014

E/13/123 Budget 2014/15 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2014 to 2018

The Executive considered a report from the Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Corporate Resources that proposed the Council's spending plans for the medium term and Council Tax rate for 2014-15, with indicative figures for future years. There had not been any changes to the budget since the draft had been considered at the Executive meeting on 14 January 2014. Members welcomed the proposal for a 0% increase in the Council's element of the Council Tax.

On a point of clarification, it was pointed out that a further £17 million of savings were proposed for 2014/15 and not £16 million as mentioned on page 71 of the report.

In response to questions, the Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Corporate Resources explained that Executive Members would consider the results from the public consultation.

Reason for decision: To enable the Council to agree a balanced budget for 2014/15 and identify resource requirements for the medium term.

RECOMMENDED to Council

- 1. that the responses from consultation with Overview and Scrutiny as set out in Appendix K to the report and the response to consultation with the public and stakeholders as set out in Appendix A to the report be noted;***
- 2. that the Revenue Budget for 2014/15 and the Medium Term Financial Plan for 2014/15 to 2017/18 be approved;***
- 3. that there were no adjustments to the draft Budget as described in paragraph 52 of the report;***
- 4. that the Council Tax Base as set out in Appendix G be noted;***
- 5. that a Band D Council Tax (CBC element) of £1,308.33 for residents of Central Bedfordshire, representing a 0% increase on the charge for 2013/14 be approved;***

6. ***that the fees and charges set out in Appendix J to the report be approved; and***
7. ***that certain efficiency proposals identified in Appendix I to the report be noted and that they will be subject to formal consultation and Equality Impact Assessment in the coming months and that the Corporate Management Team be instructed to propose alternative compensatory savings if it appears, following a review of the outcome of the Equality Impact Assessment, that any specific proposal cannot be delivered.***