

Central Bedfordshire Council

CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

25 January 2018

Draft Budget 2018/19 and Medium Term Financial Plan

Report of Cllr Richard Wenham, Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Corporate Resources (cllr.richard.wenham@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

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This report relates to a non-Key Decision

Purpose of this report

1. The report allows Members the opportunity to review the Council's draft Budget for 2018/19 and Medium Term Financial Plan, which was presented to Executive on 9 January 2018.
2. The report proposes the draft Budget for 2018/19 and updates the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) approved by Council in February 2017.
3. The Financial Settlement for local government was released on 19 December 2017. The announcement covers many complex areas of funding and in the short time available before publishing this report, it has not been possible to reflect this. The Financial Settlement has provided Councils the option to raise General Fund Council tax by up to 3% for 2018/19. There are no changes to the assumptions for a Adult Social Care (ASC) Precept.
4. This Draft MTFP currently assumes a General Fund Council Tax increase of 1.494% and ASC Precept of 3.0%.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to:

1. **consider the Council's Draft Budget for 2018/19 and Medium Term Financial Plan; and**
2. **submit its comments, observations and recommendations in respect of the Executive's proposals to the meeting of the Executive on 6 February 2018.**

Executive Summary

Members are requested to bring along the following papers issued for the meeting of the Executive on 9 January 2018 to this Committee meeting:

1. Draft Budget 2018/19 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2018/19 – 2021/22.

Council Priorities

5. The Council approved the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for 2017/18 to 2020/21 in February 2017. The MTFP has been updated and extended to 2021/22 and an initial draft Budget for 2018/19.

6. The Council's priorities are:

- Enhancing Central Bedfordshire.
- Great Resident Services.
- Improving education and skills.
- Protecting the vulnerable; improving wellbeing.
- Creating stronger communities.
- A more efficient and responsive Council.

These priorities are reflected in the budget proposals included in this report.

Corporate Implications

Legal Implications

7. See Executive papers.

Risk

8. See Executive papers.

Financial Implications

9. See Executive papers.

Equalities Implications

10. See Executive papers.

Timetable Milestones

11. The key milestones in the timetable for Council to agree its budget in February 2018 are set out in the below:

Timetable Milestones

Date	Body	Outcome
Early January 2018	Public	Budget papers made available to Public and Public Consultation commences
9 th January 2018	Executive	Considers Draft Budget
25 th January 2018	Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny	Consideration of efficiencies and savings and draft budget proposals
6 th February 2018	Executive	Recommends Final Budget
22 nd February 2018	Council	Approves Budget
1 st March 2018	Council	Reserve Council Meeting in case of delay in receiving notification of other precepts.