

APPENDIX B
Agenda Item No. 5

**GENERAL FUND BUDGET PLANNING 2005/06 AND
SUBSEQUENT YEARS**

Head of Finance

1.0 Purpose

This report advises the Committee of the Cabinets initial budget proposals for the next three years and after. The attached appendices detail the budget proposals for matters falling within this committee's terms of reference as formulated by the Cabinet on 30th November. Those proposals are now formally referred to scrutiny committees for comment.

2.0 Recommendations

The Committee is requested to:

- 1.1 Formulate comments on the budget proposals that they wish the Cabinet to be aware of.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Cabinet received a report at its meeting on 30th November which brought together the various elements of the planning process that had been underway over previous months. At that meeting the Cabinet finalised the formulation of the initial budget proposals for 2005-06 and the budget planning framework for subsequent years.
- 2.2 The report considered by Cabinet was issued to all Members with the Cabinet agenda in the usual manner.
- 2.3 Those items falling within this scrutiny committee's terms of reference included in the appendices to the report considered by Cabinet under the General Fund Budget Planning item are reproduced as appendices. Timing of issue of agendas means that the meeting will be informed verbally where these need to be updated to reflect the final package of proposals adopted by Cabinet as the initial proposal for referral to scrutiny committees.
- 2.4 The Resources and Corporate Performance scrutiny committee undertakes an overview and coordinating role and passes comments on the budget proposals back to Cabinet on behalf of all scrutiny committees.
- 2.5 This scrutiny committee is requested to review those matters falling under its terms of reference and to formulate the committee's formal response to be passed to the Resources and Corporate Performance scrutiny committee for consolidation into the formal response to Cabinet.

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Background papers: Cabinet reports and Budget working papers.