

Performance and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee Scoping Paper Draft

Subject of Review	Medium Term Financial Planning Process (MTFP)
Purpose of the Review	To find out if the 06/07 financial settlement delivered the outcomes it set out to achieve and what lessons can be learnt and recommendations made for 07/08 and 08/09?
Anticipated Outcome of the Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ The key questions outlined below are addressed➤ An evidence based report is produced with recommendations for improvement (s)/and/or validation of the current processes in place.
Reasons for undertaking the project	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ The County Council agreed to the formation of the Performance and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee in September 2007. Budget scrutiny is a key element within the Committees Terms of Reference.➤ This review will act as a 'check and balance' on current MTFP processes and will make recommendations intended to inform these processes in 07/08 and 08/09.
What is the potential impact of the review on: Residents Helping the Council achieve its main priorities Adding value to the Organisation Equality Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Assurance that the MTFP planning process is robust, that a planned approach is adopted which accords with the achievement of the Councils priorities.➤ As an inward facing review no equality and diversity issues have been identified.
Key Issues for the review to address	<p>Financial Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ How well is the MTFP integrated with the Corporate Plan➤ How does the MTFP contribute to the allocation of resources to priority services and issues➤ How well does the MTFP link to the budget setting process <p>Budget Setting Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Is the budget setting process linked to the overall financial plan or is it an annual process of trimming➤ How have individual budgets been constructed➤ How well does the budget link with the expected demand for services in the next financial year

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- What processes are in place to identify risks with regard to the budget and what identified risks are there
- What processes are in place to ensure that the Council is providing value for money

Methodology

- Written and oral evidence provided at Committee meetings
- Desktop examination of financial plans, reports etc. between meetings

Press and Publicity

Press Release of nature of review.

Written/Oral evidence to be provided by

Portfolio Holders &
Senior Officers within the Council

Key Background papers/other sources of information

- Corporate Plan
- Medium Term Financial Plan
- Previous Budgets
- Budget Outturn
- Revenue Provisions and Reserves
- External Audit

Potential partners

None identified.

Resources required

Policy Officer/Democratic Services support

Timetable

Start date: to commence October 2007

Reporting Mechanism

Recommendations made to Cabinet or to Council in February 2008