

**2013/14 BUDGET ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY**

**Summary of Information Giving and Consultation to be undertaken as part of the 2013/14 Budget Engagement Process and Feedback Arrangements**

<b>Forums / Groups to be used for Information Giving / Consultation</b>	<b>Outline of the Consultation that will be undertaken</b>	<b>How Feedback will be Provided</b>
<p><b>Residents</b></p> <p>North Tyneside Council is committed to ensuring it puts residents at the heart of everything we do. Community engagement on the budget will give residents an opportunity to express views. Community engagement on the budget will also ensure that residents with any of the protected characteristics as set out in the 2010 Equality Act are able to participate. More detail can be found in the Equality Impact Assessment for the Budget Engagement Strategy which is available on request.</p>		
<p><b>Children and young people</b> including the Young Mayor and her cabinet, Youth Council, Schools and Colleges</p>	<p>Members of the Young Cabinet and Youth Council will be invited to a series of themed events in October to provide opportunities for residents and interested parties to consider information and influence the proposals in the Budget 2013/14.</p> <p>We will also ensure that information is available on the Council's website and through other social media.</p>	<p>The outcomes of the initial engagement exercise will feed into the Budget Proposals that Cabinet consider on 26 November 2012.</p> <p>A report will also be placed on the Council website in advance of the final Budget and Council Tax setting meeting for 2013/14 on the outcomes of the engagement exercise for the Budget Proposals for 2013/14.</p>
<p><b>Adults and families</b></p>	<p>Budget consultation for adults and families will include themed events at different times of the day and opportunities in, for example, libraries, customer service centres, shopping centres etc. to get involved. We will also ensure that information is available on the Council's website and through other social media.</p>	<p>We will ensure that feedback is available on the Council's website. As people give their views we will be asking them to identify if they would like some feedback and if so how they would like to receive this.</p>

<b>Forums / Groups to be used for Information Giving / Consultation</b>	<b>Outline of the Consultation that will be undertaken</b>	<b>How Feedback will be Provided</b>
<b>Older People</b> including events held as part of age takes centre stage	This year we will include opportunities for older people to engage in the budget discussion as part of a month of activities for “age takes centre stage”. We will also ensure that specific events on the budget are promoted through older people’s networks.	The outcomes of the engagement initial exercise will feed into the Budget Proposals that Cabinet consider on 26 November 2012.  A report will also be placed on the Council website in advance of the final Budget and Council Tax setting meeting for 2013/14 on the outcomes of the engagement exercise for the Budget Proposals for 2013/14.
<p><b>Strategic Partners</b></p> <p>The Council works with many different partners. The umbrella structure that brings together all of the key partners is the North Tyneside Strategic Partnership. Whilst all of the key partners are represented on the partnership there are some key areas where a more focused approach is needed.</p>		
<b>North Tyneside Strategic Partnership (NTSP)</b>	Members of the NTSP Executive will be invited to a series of themed events in October to provide opportunities for residents and interested parties to consider information and influence the proposals in the Budget 2013/14.	The outcomes of the initial engagement exercise will feed into the Budget Proposals that Cabinet consider on 26 November 2012.  A report will also be placed on the Council website in advance of the final Budget and Council Tax setting meeting for 2013/14 on the outcomes of the engagement exercise for the Budget Proposals for 2013/14.
<b>Business Community</b>	Representatives of the business community will be invited to attend the themed stakeholder events, and invitations will be sent to the Business Forum membership, as well as to other local business groups (the 3 Chambers of Trade, Cobalt & Silverlink Business Association, the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB), and the	The outcomes of the initial engagement exercise will feed into the Budget Proposals that Cabinet consider on 26 November 2012. Subsequent engagement with the Business Community will be considered by Cabinet on 16 January 2013.

<b>Forums / Groups to be used for Information Giving / Consultation</b>	<b>Outline of the Consultation that will be undertaken</b>	<b>How Feedback will be Provided</b>
	<p>North East Chamber of Commerce NECC).</p> <p>Further specific meetings will be held with Business Community representatives as part of the statutory aspects of the Budget Engagement process.</p> <p>In addition, and in accordance with previous practice, in order to maximise engagement with this section of the community, information on the consultation will be sent electronically to all the above groups, to reach those businesses who are not able to attend any of the above events or who prefer to communicate in this way .</p>	<p>A report will also be placed on the Council website in advance of the final Budget and Council Tax setting meeting for 2013/14 on the outcomes of the engagement exercise for the Budget Proposals for 2013/14.</p>
<b>Schools Forum / School Governors / Headteachers Convenors</b>	<p>Engagement meetings will be undertaken with the School Forum, School Governors and Head Teacher Convenors. The format of the engagement events will enable participants to consider the information presented and influence the priorities of the Budget.</p>	<p>A report will also be placed on the Council website in advance of the final Budget and Council Tax setting meeting for 2013/14 on the outcomes of the engagement exercise for the Budget Proposals for 2013/14.</p>
<b>Voluntary and Community Sector, including Faith Groups</b>	<p>Members of the Voluntary and Community Sector will be invited to a series of themed events in October to provide opportunities for residents and interested parties to consider information and influence the proposals in the Budget 2013/14.</p>	<p>The outcomes of the initial engagement exercise will feed into the Budget Proposals that Cabinet consider on 26 November 2012.</p> <p>A report will also be placed on the Council website in advance of the final Budget and Council Tax setting meeting for 2013/14 on the outcomes of the engagement exercise for the Budget Proposals for 2013/14.</p>
<b>North Tyneside Council</b>		

<b>Forums / Groups to be used for Information Giving / Consultation</b>	<b>Outline of the Consultation that will be undertaken</b>	<b>How Feedback will be Provided</b>
<p>66% of Council staff also live in North Tyneside. All of the Elected Members live in North Tyneside and act as community leaders in the wards they represent.</p>		
<b>Members</b>	<p>To further improve the process adopted in previous years there will be two All Member Budget Briefings held as part of the process. The first briefing to be held on 3 October 2012 will focus on the Change, Efficiency and Improvement (CEI) programme and the Financial Planning and Budget process. On 27 November 2012 the second All Members Budget Briefing will be held where Members will receive information on the consideration of the Cabinet's initial 2013/14 Financial Plan and Budget proposals.</p> <p>The involvement of Overview and Scrutiny Committee in the process will be determined by the Committee.</p> <p>Information on engagement opportunities will be included in the weekly Members briefing.</p>	<p>Feedback will be provided to Members throughout the process via regular reports to Cabinet and Council on the Financial Planning and Budget process and the provision of information on the financial proposals to Members.</p>
<b>Staff Engagement</b>	<p>This year there will be more information shared with staff and they will have a key role in sharing information with residents and collecting their feedback.</p> <p>A meeting will be held with the Staff Panel on 7 November 2012.</p>	<p>The outcomes of the initial engagement exercise will feed into the Budget Proposals that Cabinet consider on 26 November 2012.</p> <p>A report will also be placed on the Council website in advance of the final Budget and Council Tax setting meeting for 2013/14 on the outcomes of the engagement exercise for the Budget Proposals for 2013/14.</p>
<b>Trades Unions</b>	<p>Meetings will be held with the Employee Joint</p>	<p>A report will also be placed on the Council</p>

<b>Forums / Groups to be used for Information Giving / Consultation</b>	<b>Outline of the Consultation that will be undertaken</b>	<b>How Feedback will be Provided</b>
	<p>Consultative Forum (ECJF). The format of the engagement events will enable the ECJF to consider the information provided and influence the priorities of the Budget.</p>	<p>website in advance of the final Budget and Council Tax setting meeting for 2013/14 on the outcomes of the engagement exercise for the Budget Proposals for 2013/14.</p>