

# North Tyneside Council Report to Cabinet Date: 23 February 2015

## ITEM 3

Title: 2015-2018 Financial  
Planning and Budget  
Process: Consideration of  
any Objections to the  
Cabinet's Proposals

Portfolio(s): Elected Mayor  
Finance and Resources

Cabinet Member(s): N Redfearn  
Councillor R  
Glindon

Report from Service  
Area:

Law and Governance

Responsible Officer:

Ms V Geary, Head of Law and  
Governance

(Tel: (0191) 5339 )

Wards affected:

All

### PART 1

#### 1.1 Purpose:

This report summarises the next stage in the process for approving the 2015/16 Council Tax requirement and Council Tax level for 2015/16, in relation to the General Fund Revenue Budget (including the Dedicated Schools Grant), the 2015-2019 Investment Plan and the Treasury Management Statement and Annual Investment Strategy for 2015/16 in the event that the Council has any objections to the Cabinet's proposals.

#### 1.2 Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- (1) Notes the guidance set out in this report; and,
- (2) Considers any Objections to the Cabinet's proposals that are agreed by the Council at its meeting on 19 February 2015.

#### 1.3 Forward Plan:

Twenty eight days notice of this report has been given and it first appeared on the Forward Plan that was published on 5 January 2015.

#### 1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework

- 1.4.1 The Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules are set out in Part 4.7 of the Authority's Constitution. The Budget is guided by paragraph 4.7.3 covering the process for the preparation, consideration and final approval of the Authority's budget. The statutory and

constitutional requirements for preparing, considering and approving the Budget drive the timetable for the Financial Planning and Budget process.

- 1.4.2 The development of the Financial Plan and Budget has followed the same timetable as in previous years. The priorities in the 2014-2018 Council Plan - 'Our North Tyneside' provides the strategic framework within which budget resources are allocated.
- 1.4.3 The Financial Planning and Budget process is a fundamental part of the overall governance and assurance framework of the Authority. This in turn provides assurance that is considered as part of preparing the Annual Governance Statement each year.
- 1.4.4 Feedback through the Annual Governance Statement and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's report into the 2014-2018 Financial Planning and Budget process has been used to inform this year's process.

## **1.5 Information:**

- 1.5.1 The Council, at its meeting on 19 February 2015, will consider the General Fund budget proposals of the Cabinet (including the overall funding of the Investment Plan) and may instruct the Mayor to reconsider the whole or any part of those proposals.
- 1.5.2 In the event that the Council objects and instructs the Mayor to reconsider the Cabinet's proposals, the Mayor must consult with the Cabinet and may either:
  - Revise the Cabinet's proposals to take account of any objection and instructions proposed by the Council identifying reasons for such variations; or
  - Determine any disagreement to any objections and instructions proposed by the Council and identify the reasons for such disagreement.
- 1.5.3 This meeting has been called to enable the Mayor to formally consult the Cabinet, as outlined in 1.5.2 above, in the event that the Council objects to the Cabinet's proposals.
- 1.5.4 If the Mayor submits any revisions / disagreements following consultation with the Cabinet, the Council, at a meeting to be held on 3 March 2015, will be requested to consider its decision taken on 19 February 2015, in the light of the Mayor's response, and to finally determine the Authority's Council Tax requirement for 2015/16.

## **1.6 Decision options:**

In the event that the Council objects and instructs the Mayor to reconsider the Cabinet's proposals, the Mayor must consult with the Cabinet and may either:

- Revise the Cabinet's proposals to take account of any objection and instructions proposed by the Council identifying reasons for such variations; or
- Determine any disagreement to any objections and instructions proposed by the Council and identify the reasons for such disagreement.

## **1.7 Reasons for recommended option:**

In order to comply with the Authority's constitution, statutory requirements and government guidance.

## **1.8 Appendices:**

None

## **1.9 Contact officers:**

Dave Brown, Law and Governance (Tel. 6435358)  
Janice Gillespie, Strategic Manager Finance (Tel. 6435701)

## **1.10 Background information:**

[North Tyneside Council Constitution](#)

## **PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING**

### **2.1 Finance and other resources**

There are no financial implications arising from this report. The Council must calculate its Council Tax requirement for 2015/16 by 11 March 2015.

### **2.2 Legal**

The process to be followed for the setting of the budget is set out in the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules in the Authority's Constitution. The rules are based upon statutory requirements and government guidance.

### **2.3 Consultation/community engagement**

In accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules contained in the Authority's Constitution, all Cabinet members will be consulted in the event that the Council objects and instructs the Mayor to reconsider the Cabinet's proposals.

### **2.4 Human rights**

Any human rights issues will be included in the main report to Council on 19 February 2015.

### **2.5 Equalities and diversity**

Any equalities and diversity issues will be included in the main report to Council on 19 February 2015.

### **2.6 Risk management**

Any risk management issues will be included in the main report to Council on 19 February 2015.

### **2.7 Crime and disorder**

Any crime and disorder issues will be included in the main report to Council on 19 February 2015.

## 2.8 Environment and sustainability

Any environment and sustainability issues will be included in the main report to Council on 19 February 2015.

### PART 3 - SIGN OFF

- Deputy Chief Executive  X
- Head(s) of Service  X
- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s)  X
- Chief Finance Officer  X
- Monitoring Officer  X
- Head of Corporate Strategy  X