

North Tyneside Council Report to Cabinet Date: 22 February 2016

ITEM 3

Title: 2016-2019 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 Executive Summary:

This report summarises the next stage in the process for approving the 2016/17 Council Tax requirement and Council Tax level for 2016/17, in relation to the General Fund Revenue Budget (including the Dedicated Schools Grant), the 2016-2019 Investment Plan and the Treasury Management Statement and Annual Investment Strategy for 2016/17 and also the refreshed Our North Tyneside Plan for 2016 -19 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 18 February 2016.

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 18 December 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 Council Tax requirement and

Council Tax level. The statutory and constitutional requirements for preparing, considering and approving these issues drive the timetable for the Financial Planning and Council Tax setting process of the Authority.

1.4.2 The priorities in the refreshed 2016-2019 Council Plan - 'Our North Tyneside' form the Policy Framework for the Financial Planning and Budget process for 2016-19. The process for the preparation, consideration and final approval of the Our North Tyneside Plan is covered by paragraph 4.7.4 of the Authority's Constitution.

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.

1.5 Information:

1.5.1 The Council, at its meeting on 18 February 2016, will consider the Cabinet's proposals for the General Fund budget (including the overall funding of the Investment Plan) and the refreshed Our North Tyneside 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 1 March 2016, will be requested to consider its decision taken on 18 February 2016, in the light of the Mayor's response, and to finally determine the Authority's Council Tax requirement and Council Tax level for 2016/17 and/or the refreshed Our North Tyneside Plan, as appropriate.

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, Head of 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 2016/17 by 11 March 2016.

2.2 Legal

The process to be followed for the setting of the budget and approving the Our North Tyneside Plan 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 18 February 2016.

2.5 Equalities and diversity

Any equalities and diversity issues will be included in the main report to Council on 18 February 2016.

2.6 Risk management

Any risk management issues will be included in the main report to Council on 18 February 2016.

2.7 Crime and disorder

Any crime and disorder issues will be included in the main report to Council on 18 February 2016.

2.8 Environment and sustainability

Any environment and sustainability issues will be included in the main report to Council on 18 February 2016.