

Finance & Enterprise Scrutiny Committee

Response to the Service & Financial Planning 2018/19-2019/20

The Finance & Enterprise Scrutiny Committee is a politically balanced committee of seven non-Executive elected members and two co-opted members. The Committee is the main mechanism by which Cabinet consults annually with scrutiny on the budget proposals.

The Committee held two meetings on 15 January and 23 January 2018 to scrutinise the Service & Financial Planning Strategy 2018/19-2019/20 agreed by Cabinet for consultation on 4 January 2018. An alternative budget was not put forward by the main opposition group.

The Committee agreed that there was nothing contentious in the budget this year as it was a two-year budget, which had been scrutinised thoroughly in 2016/17 and that the Committee's recommendation at the time, that the Adult Social Care precept should be implemented at a rate of 2% a year for three years (2017/18-2019/20) had been accepted and implemented.

The Committee agreed to the Council's proposal to invest in Adult Social Care and safeguarding only and not in anything else. The Council's approach to savings was supported and the use of one-off balances was felt to be appropriate. The Committee have sought additional information to understand the current position on Single Status.