

# Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	<b>Resources Policy Development &amp; Scrutiny Panel</b>	
MEETING/ DECISION DATE:	<b>18 November 2013</b>	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE: <i>[Cabinet reports only]</i>
		<b>E</b>
TITLE:	<b>Resources – Medium Term Plan Update</b>	
WARD:	All [or list specific wards]	
<b>AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM</b>		
<b>List of attachments to this report:</b> Draft Medium Term Plan update and attachments		

## 1 THE ISSUE

1.1 The draft Resources Medium Term Service & Resource Plan (MTSRP) update is presented for consideration by the Panel:

- (1) To ensure all members of the Panel are aware of the context for Service Action Planning and budget setting.
- (2) To enable comment on the progress being made on this 3 year plan.
- (3) To enable issues to be referred to the relevant Portfolio.

## 2 RECOMMENDATION

The Panel is asked to:

- (1) Comment on the update to the 3 year medium term plan for Resources, focusing on matters affecting 2014/15, and note that will be the second year of the plan.
- (2) Identify any issues requiring further consideration and highlighting as part of the budget process for 2014/15.
- (3) Identify any issues arising from the draft plan it wishes to refer to the relevant portfolio holder for further consideration.

### **3 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL**

3.1 This medium term plan update forms the basis for the budget process for 2014/15 and all relevant statutory matters are either referred to in this update or the original plan approved last year.

### **4 THE REPORT**

4.1 This report forms part of the 2014/15 service and resource planning process. As set out in the enclosed medium term plan update (attached), the next steps include:

- (1) Panel comments considered by Portfolio Holders.
- (2) PDS Resources meeting in January/February to take overview of comments from Panels and progress on budget setting plus equalities issues.
- (3) February Cabinet budget recommendations to Council.
- (4) February Council approval of budget and Council Tax setting.

4.2 The draft Medium Term Service & Resource Plan for Resources is attached and includes its own Appendices.

### **5 RATIONALE**

5.1 Where the Panel wishes to either increase expenditure or reduce savings targets alternatives should be proposed.

5.2 The Panel should concentrate only on the parts of the plan relevant to its own remit as the PDS Resources meeting in January/February will be taking an overview.

### **6 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

6.1 This is a package of options as set out in the report and reflects the Council's corporate plan, its vision and values, the medium term plan agreed last year, changes in legislation and the Cabinet's priorities.

### **7 CONSULTATION**

7.1 The corporate implications of this report have been considered by Strategic Management Team (SMT) including the *Section 151 Finance Officer; Chief Executive & Monitoring Officer*

7.2 Further consultation has taken place as part of developing the revised Corporate Plan. Budget fairs are taking place now and feedback from these will help finalise the budget proposals for 2014/15.

7.3 Cabinet has been closely involved in the preparation of this update and in particular the relevant portfolio holder(s)

## 8 RISK MANAGEMENT

8.1 A risk assessment will be completed as part of the final budget papers and inform the Council's reserves strategy. The main risks relate in the next financial year to:

- (1) The robustness of the savings estimates.
- (2) The potential for some service levels to deteriorate as a result of the savings, some savings are from service reductions but most savings are directed at efficiencies.
- (3) The implications for staff arising from savings, albeit that the costs of severance will be budgeted for corporately and unions are being consulted together with the affected staff.
- (4) The need to maintain a planned and phased approach to savings at a time when pressures are starting to require substantial and immediate cuts.
- (5) Equalities impacts of the savings.

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<b>Background papers</b>	<i>Corporate Plan and 2013/14 budget papers plus medium term plans</i>
<b>Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format</b>	