

**REFERENCE FROM CABINET – 15 JANUARY, 2014**

**REVENUE BUDGET 2014/2015 PROPOSALS AND PROVISIONAL REVENUE SUPPORT SETTLEMENT 2014/2015**

**Report of the Head of Law and Governance**

**1. Purpose of this Report**

- 1.1 To set out for advice and consideration of this Committee a report which will be considered by Cabinet on the 15 January, 2014 on the provisional budget proposals 2014/2015 and provisional Revenue Support Settlement, as a basis for consultation, prior to the receipt of the final Local Government Finance Settlement.
- 1.2 Members' views are requested in accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules.

**2. Background and Current Position**

- 2.1 The Cabinet, at its meeting held on 15 January, 2014, will give consideration to a joint report of the Chief Executive and the Head of Financial Resources on the Revenue Budget 2014/2015 Proposals and Provisional Revenue Support Settlement 2014/2015 (attached at Appendix A). The report advises of the provisional budget proposals for 2014/2015 including the impact of the Provisional Revenue Support Settlement, as a basis for the continuation of budget consultation, prior to the receipt of the final Local Government Finance Settlement 2014/2015.
- 2.2 The report contains a number of issues for Cabinet to consider and approve and it is passed to this Committee in accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules.
- 2.3 Attached, for information to assist this Committee in providing advice and consideration to Council on the provisional budget proposals are the following reports:
  - Council Tax Base 2014/2015 (Appendix B) - Calculation of the Council Tax Base 2014/2015 in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended by the Local Authorities (Calculations of Council Tax Base) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2012 as reported to Cabinet on 15 January 2014;
  - Business Rates Income Forecast 2014/2015 and Projected Business Rates Income Outturn 2013/2014 (Appendix C) as reported to Cabinet on 15 January 2014 which sets out arrangements for estimating:
    - the forecast outturn for business rates income for 2013/2014 and
    - the business rates income for 2014/2015

to be included in the NNDR 1 return which must be submitted to Government by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2014 in accordance with the Non Domestic Rating (Rates Retention) Regulations 2013, following approval by Council.

It will be noted from the report that in the event that there is a delay in receiving the NNDR 1 form for completion from government, as a result of which the form is to be completed or amended after the date of the Cabinet meeting, Cabinet is asked to provide delegated authority to the Head of Financial Resources, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Secretary, to approve the version of the NNDR1 form to be submitted to Council for approval.

- 2.4 Copies of 15 January, 2014 Cabinet agenda have been circulated to all Members of the Council. The decisions and recommendations of the Cabinet will be reported orally to the Scrutiny Committee.

### **3. Conclusion**

- 3.1 The report is referred to this Committee for advice and consideration. The comments of this Committee will be reported to the Council meeting on 29 January 2014.

### **4. Recommendation**

- 4.1 The Scrutiny Committee is invited to give advice and consideration on the attached joint report of the Chief Executive and the Head of Financial Resources.

### **5. Background Papers**

- 5.1 Cabinet Agenda, 15 January, 2014.
- 5.2 A copy of the Agenda is available for inspection from the Head of Law and Governance or can be viewed on-line at:-

<http://www.sunderland.gov.uk/committees/cm5/Meetings/tabid/73/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/410/Meeting/8009/Committee/1636/Default.aspx>

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