

REFERENCE FROM CABINET – 7 DECEMBER 2023

**BUDGET PLANNING FRAMEWORK AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN
2024/2025 – 2027/2028**

Report of the Assistant Director of Law and Governance

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 To seek the views of this Committee on a report of the Director of Finance to be considered by Cabinet on 7 December 2023 which:

- Provides an update, since the Budget Planning Framework and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) report to Cabinet in October 2023, on the key factors influencing the development of the Council's financial plans into the medium term;
- Sets out the updated headlines and context for the MTFP 2024/2025 to 2027/2028;
- Sets out provisional budget savings proposals for 2024/2025 to assist in meeting the current budget gap, as a basis for budget consultation, prior to the receipt of the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2024/2025; and
- Sets out the consultation / communication strategy for the budget 2024/2025.

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 Agenda for 7 December 2023 is available online to all Members of the Council.

2.2 The Cabinet is recommended to agree: -

- To note the summary MTFP set out at section 3 of the report and note that the full MTFP 2024/2025 to 2027/2028 will be presented to Cabinet in February 2024; and
- To approve the provisional additional budget savings proposals, as a basis for budget consultation, prior to the receipt of the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2024/2025.

2.3 Recommendations from the Cabinet meeting on 7 December will be reported verbally to the meeting.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 The report is referred to the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee for its comments, in the context of the approved consultation arrangements for the Council's Budget. Comments from the Scrutiny Committee will be reported back to Cabinet.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 The Scrutiny Coordinating Committee is invited to give its comments to Cabinet on the attached report of the Director of Finance.

5. Background Papers

- 5.1 Cabinet Agenda, 7 December 2023.
- 5.2 A copy of the Agenda is available for inspection from the Assistant Director of Law and Governance or can be viewed on-line at: -

<https://committees.sunderland.gov.uk/committees/cm5/Meetings/tabid/73/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/410/Meeting/11095/Committee/1953/Default.aspx>

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