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то	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
DATE	Thursday, 22 October 2020	
EXECUTIVE MEMBER	Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee	

KEY DECISION REQUIRED	N
WARDS AFFECTED	(All Wards);

SUBJECT	Constitution of Budget Scrutiny Review Panel 2020/21

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1. To agree the membership of the Budget Scrutiny Review Panel and the timetable for scrutiny of the Budget for 2020/21 as set out in the report;
- 2. To agree the scope of the Budget Scrutiny Review Panel's work during 2020/21.

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

To consider the membership, timetable and scope of work of the Budget Scrutiny Review Panel during 2020/21.

## **BACKGROUND**

- 1. The Executive at its meeting on 27 February 2020 supported the Committee's request in the Committee's work programme 2020/21 for the Budget Scrutiny Review Panel to be re-established for 2020/21.
- 2. The Committee is therefore requested to agree activity for the Panel for the year 2020/21. This will focus on consideration of the draft budget proposals for 2021/22.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

3. The Budget Scrutiny Review Panel is a 7 Member panel. The political proportionality requirements do not apply to scrutiny panels. However, the Committee has always sought to apply the principles. Therefore, this year's membership is as follows:

Conservative 4
Residents' Association 1
Green 1
Liberal Democrat 1

- 4. Meetings of the Panel are open to any Councillor to attend.
- 5. The Committee is asked to consider the nominations for Membership of the Panel, and the following have been received:

Conservative Party: Nominations to be confirmed.

Residents' Association: Cllr N. Harrison
Green Party: Cllr J. Essex

Liberal Democrats: Nomination to be confirmed.

The remaining nominations will be confirmed at the meeting.

6. The Committee is requested to approve the nominations made.

#### **TIMETABLE**

7. The indicative timetable for development of budget proposals for 2021/22 is as follows:

Event	Date
Executive: To approve the draft budget proposals for 2021/22 for formal consultation.	19 November 2020
Budget Scrutiny Review Panel: To consider and review the draft budget proposal.	3 December 2020
Overview and Scrutiny Committee: To receive the Panel's feedback and provide recommendations to the Executive on the draft budget.	9 December 2020
Executive: To consider the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the Budget for 2021/22	17 December 2020
Executive: To approve the Proposed Budget for 2021/22, after considering Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommendations, and make a recommendation on the 2021/22 Council Tax to Full Council.	28 January 2021
Full Council: To consider the Council Tax for 2021/22.	11 February 2021

#### ROLE OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

- 8. The Panel's activity will therefore focus on considering and responding to the draft budget proposals for the municipal year 2021/22 published by the Executive. As in previous years this is expected to focus on providing an opportunity for Panel members to review the draft budget proposals, raise questions, receive written responses and have an opportunity to meet to discuss them.
- 9. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee will consider the report of the Budget Scrutiny Review Panel at its meeting on 9 December and make any comments on the draft budget for 2021/22, for consideration by the Executive in line with the Council's Policy Framework and Budget Procedure Rules.

#### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

10. There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

11. There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations set out in this report. Should any of the work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny generate recommendations with financial implications then these will be highlighted at that time.

## **EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 12. The Council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:
  - Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act;
  - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not;
  - Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.
- 13. The three parts of the duty applies to the following protected characteristics: age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy/maternity; race; religion/faith; sex and sexual orientation. In addition, marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty.
- 14. The Committee, and the Review Panel, should ensure regard is given to these duties by considering them through the course of its work. This should include considering:
  - How budget proposals impact on different groups within the community, particularly those that share the protected characteristics;
  - Whether the impact on particular groups is fair and proportionate;
  - Whether there is equality of access to services and fair representation of all groups within the Borough;
  - Whether any positive opportunities to advance equality of opportunity and/or good relations between people, are being realised.

# **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2020/21