

# Finance Council 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016

---

## AGENDA

### PART I – ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION IN PUBLIC

**1 Chief Executive to read the notice convening the meeting.**

**2 Prayers.**

**3 Apologies.**

**4 Minutes**

To receive and confirm the minutes of the Council Forum meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2016 (pages).

**5 Declarations of interest**

Form attached (page)

**6 Mayoral communications.**

**7 Changes to Council Tax Empty Property Discount**

Report of the Executive Member for Resources (attached pages)

For Council to approve the proposed change in discount awarded to properties in need of major repair work/structural alteration.

*Copies of Appendix G – Equality Impact Assessment, will be placed on deposit in Political Group Rooms and on the Council's website.*

**In respect of the following Items 8 and 9, technical questions on the contents of the report should be raised directly with Louise Mattinson, Director of Finance and IT tel: 01254 585600 by 12 noon Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2016.**

**8 Treasury Management Strategy, Prudential Indicators, and Minimum Revenue Provision Policy 2016/17**

Report of the Director of Finance and IT (attached pages).

Council is required to approve a Treasury Management Strategy before the start of each financial year. It must also set Treasury and Prudential Indicators, and a policy for a “prudent” level of Minimum Revenue

Provision for repayment of debt, consistent with the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy.

**9 The Robustness of the 2016/17 budget and the Recommended Level of Reserves**

Report of the Director of Finance and IT (attached pages)

This report provides statutory advice to Members when setting the budget in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003 and needs to be received by Members prior to the Council formalising the budget process and setting the Council Tax.

**In respect of Items 10 and 11 below, under the Local Government (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, which came into force on 25 February 2014, the Council is required to record in the minutes of a budget decision meeting the names of persons who cast a vote for or against the decision or who abstained from voting.**

**In respect of items 9 and 10, Council are reminded that under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 Members have a duty to have regard to the robustness report of the Director of Finance and IT the Council's Section 151 Officer. As such the Mayor will only accept amendments that have a robustness report from the Director of Finance and IT attached. The Mayor will then ask if it is the intention of any Member to put forward an amendment during the debate on the Budget. This will help allow a reasonable debate on the Budget.**

**10 Revenue Budget 2016/17, Medium Term Financial Strategy and Capital Programme 2016 - 2020**

Report of the Executive Member for Resources (attached pages)

The report recommends to Finance Council the Budget Strategy and the proposals for the Revenue Budget 2016/17, the indicative revenue budget for 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and Capital Programme for 2016-20 to underpin the priorities agreed at Policy Council on 03 December 2015.

## **11 Council Tax for 2016/17**

Report of the Director of Finance and IT (attached pages).

The report advises Council that in its role as billing authority it is required to set amounts of Council Tax before 11 March in the financial year preceding that for which it is set.

**Harry Catherall,  
Chief Executive  
19<sup>th</sup> February 2016**