

# OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION

26 January 2010

## Agenda Item 70

Brighton & Hove City Council

**Subject:** Scrutiny of Budget Strategies  
**Date of Meeting:** 26 January 2010  
**Report of:** Director of Strategy and Governance  
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**Wards Affected:** All

### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

Note: The special circumstances for non-compliance with Council Procedure Rule 7, Access to Information Rule 5 and Section 100B (4) of the Local Government Act as amended (items not considered unless the agenda is open to inspection at least five days in advance of the meeting) was the information contained within the report was not available in time to meet dispatch deadlines.

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:

1.1 As part of the budget scrutiny process five committee meetings were held at which directorate budget strategies were reviewed. This report presents to the Overview and Scrutiny Commission (OSC) the draft minutes from these meetings and provides an opportunity for members to comment upon the budget proposals and the scrutiny process itself.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.1 That the Overview and Scrutiny Commission:

- a) Notes the draft minutes from each of the budget scrutiny meetings
- b) Provides further comments on the budget proposals to Cabinet
- c) Reflects and comments on the budget scrutiny process

#### 3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

3.1 At its meeting of September 8<sup>th</sup> 2009 the Overview and Scrutiny Commission agreed new arrangements for the scrutiny of budget proposals. This involved consideration of the draft budget strategy of each directorate by the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

3.2 Minutes from each Committee are attached to this report as appendices 1-4.

- Appendix 1 – Draft Minutes from the CTEOSC budget scrutiny meeting
- Appendix 2 – Draft Minutes from the CYPOSC budget scrutiny meeting
- Appendix 3 – Draft Minutes from the ECSOSC budget scrutiny meeting
- Appendix 4 – Draft Minutes from the ASCHOSC budget scrutiny meeting

3.3 OSC has the opportunity to agree a response to the budget strategies to be presented to Cabinet on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

#### **4. CONSULTATION**

4.1 There has been no formal consultation in relation to this report.

#### **5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

##### Financial Implications:

5.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

##### Legal Implications:

5.2 Scrutinising Executive decisions on finance matters, including those relating to annual budget, is one of the main functions of the Overview & Scrutiny Commission.

##### Equalities Implications:

5.4 Equality impact assessments have been undertaken on budget proposals. Members will want to take this into account when commenting upon budget proposals.

##### Sustainability Implications:

5.5 There are no direct sustainability implications arising from this report. However in scrutinising the budget proposals members will want to be mindful of the sustainability issues.

##### Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.9 There are no direct crime and disorder implications arising from this report. However in scrutinising the budget proposals members will want to be mindful of the crime and disorder issues.

##### Risk & Opportunity Management Implications:

5.10 Risk management is considered as part of the budget setting process. Information on risk management is available as part of the budget proposals.

##### Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.11 The budget agreed will impact across the whole of the Council and the City.

### **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

Appendix 1 – Draft Minutes from the CTEOSC budget scrutiny meeting  
Appendix 2 – Draft Minutes from the CYPOSC budget scrutiny meeting  
Appendix 3 – Draft Minutes from the ECSOSC budget scrutiny meeting  
Appendix 4 – Draft Minutes from the ASCHOSC budget scrutiny meeting

#### **Documents in Members' Rooms**

None

#### **Background Documents**

1. Directorate Budget Strategies.