

Subject:	Report of the Budget Scrutiny Panel		
Date of Meeting:	28 January 2013		
Report of:	Monitoring Officer/Head of Law		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Tom Hook	Tel: 29-1110
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Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report details the findings of the Scrutiny Panel established to examine the 2013-2014 Budget Proposals.
- 1.2 The Scrutiny Panel's report is re-printed as **Appendix 1** to this report.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That members:

Endorse the Budget Scrutiny Panel report and agree to refer the report recommendations to the council's Policy and Resources Committee.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The scrutiny panel was chaired by Cllr Ken Norman and comprised Councillors Deane, Fitch, Pissaridou, Sykes and Wealls, with Jo Martindale representing the community and voluntary sector and Julia Chanteray from the Chamber of Commerce.
- 3.2 The panel agreed that it would seek:
 - To provide constructive challenge to the budget proposals brought forward by the administration
 - To understand the cumulative effect of budget proposals across the council and city, for service users and providers
 - To make recommendations as to how to improve the budget
 - To highlight areas of concern to panel members
- 3.3 The panel heard from each Committee Chair and lead member supported by senior officers.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 No formal consultation was undertaken in preparing this report, although some of the witnesses who gave evidence to the panel were asked for their comments on

drafts of the report, and these comments have been used to inform the final version.

4.2 The list of witnesses and timetable of meetings is included in the report.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

5.1 OSC's decisions in relation to this report (i.e. whether to endorse the Scrutiny Panel report and refer its recommendations to the Policy & Resources Committee for consideration) have no direct financial implications.
Finance Officer Consulted: James Hengeveld Date:15 January 2013

Legal Implications:

5.2 If OSC endorses the Panel's report and accepts its recommendations, it is required to prepare a formal report and submit it to the Chief Executive for consideration by the relevant Committee.
If OSC cannot agree on one single final report, up to one minority report may be prepared and submitted, alongside the majority report, for consideration by the Cabinet or Cabinet Member.

Equalities Implications:

5.3 None directly in relation to this report.

Sustainability Implications:

5.4 None directly in relation to this report.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 None directly in relation to this report.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 None directly in relation to this report.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 None directly in relation to this report.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Scrutiny Panel report

Documents in Members' Rooms:

None

Background Documents:

1. None (other than those listed in the Scrutiny Panel report)