

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair to welcome councillors, officers of the Council, witnesses and the public to the meeting and introduce councillors, officers and witnesses who are present.

2. Apologies

3. Disclosures of Interest

Councillors to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests, or personal interests (including other pecuniary interests), they may have in the business to be transacted, and officers to disclose any interests they may have in any contract to be considered.

4. Scrutiny of Milton Keynes Council's Draft Budget Proposals for 2019/20

During October 2018 the Budget and Resources Scrutiny Committee held a series of focussed meetings where it met with and received presentations from Cabinet Members and the Council's senior budget holders to review, scrutinise, and form judgements on the financial pressures facing the Council which had been identified as part of the development of the 2018/19 draft budget. The Committee presented its recommendations to Cabinet on 6 November 2018 and Cabinet's response to the report was circulated to the Committee on 3 December 2018.

The Committee considered the draft 2019/20 budget proposals for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) at its meeting on 11 December 2018, making a number of recommendations which will be presented to Cabinet on 9 January 2019.

Cabinet considered the full list of draft 2019/20 budget proposals on 4 December 2018 and made the following decisions:

1. That the draft Revenue Budget 2019/20 and latest Medium Term Financial Plan forecast for 2019/20 to 2022/23 be approved as a basis for consultation with the public and stakeholders.
2. That the provisional Council Tax at Band D of £1,381.66 for the Milton Keynes element of the Council Tax be agreed for consultation, a 2.99% increase on the previous year.
3. That the Council's current estimate of the 2019/20 Business Rates Baseline be noted, retaining the delegation to the Corporate Director Resources to finalise this Baseline, based on the latest data for submission to Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government in January 2019.
4. That the estimated position for the Dedicated Schools Grant and the planned consultation with schools and the Schools Forum for 2019/20 be noted.
5. That the draft Housing Revenue Account budget, including the required 1% rent decrease, be approved as a basis for consultation.
6. That it be noted that in line with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2003 it be noted that the Corporate Director Resources is of the view that the draft General Fund Budget and Housing Revenue Account is robust, subject to a further review of risks and the forecast reserves are adequate.

7. That the proposed fees and charges for 2019/20, which are exceptions to the Income and Collection Policy, be noted.
8. That the equalities impact assessments for the draft Revenue Budget 2019/20 be noted.
9. That the draft forecast parking surplus be noted.
10. That the Capital Strategy be approved.
11. That the draft Capital Programme for 2019/20 to 2022/23 be approved with the following amendments:
 - a) Great Linford Highway Safety Improvements of £26,000:

The inclusion of an additional item to the capital programme of £26k in 2019/20 only to deliver Highway improvements to improve safety on St Leger Drive, Great Linford.
 - b) Eastern Expansion Area (EEA) - City Street (Capital) of £230,000:

An increase in the provision in the Capital Programme for EEA Highway and Safety Improvements works from the current £250k to £480k.

These will be funded from within the existing resources within the Capital programme and have been confirmed as affordable by the Corporate Director Resources
12. That the resource allocation for the draft Tariff Programme be noted.
13. That clarification of the wording for the £1 Bus concession for over 65's before 09.30am at Row 24 Annex C1 be included.

The report considered by Cabinet explaining the draft budget proposals for 2019/20, is attached as Item 4 (**Pages 9 to 164**).

The purpose of the January meetings is to enable the Budget and Resources Scrutiny Committee to review and comment on the proposed reductions in Council spending and its plans for income growth in 2018/19. The Committee will scrutinise the proposals as follows:

- **03 January 2019:** Place Directorate (excluding Public Realm) and Capital Programme;
- **09 January 2019:** Public Realm, Resources Directorate and Corporate Core;
- **15 January 2019:** People Directorate;
- **22 January 2019:** Review and Preparation of Report

At these sessions, Cabinet Members have been asked to present to the Committee for scrutiny:

- What the proposed reduction involves;
- Why this particular reduction has been proposed;
- The robustness of any plans for income growth; and
- Implementation strategy (risks, mitigation etc)

The following Annexes to the report on the *Draft Council Budget 2019/209 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019/209 to 2022/23* are included in this agenda pack:

Annexes C1 and C2	2019/20 Budget Reductions and Income
Annex C3	Business Cases in Support of Reductions and Income Generation Proposals
Annex E	GF Reserves Assessment
Annex F	Earmarked Reserves
Annex G	Fees and Charges: Exemptions to the Income Policy Additional Concessions
Annex H	2019/20 – 2022/23 Forecasting Model
Annex I	2019/20 GF Budget Summary
Annex J	2019/20 Draft Parking Account
Annex K	Capital Strategy
Annex L	Draft Medium Term Capital Programme
Annex M	Draft Tariff Resource Allocation
Annex N	2019/20 Draft Budget Risk Register
Annex S	Legal Framework

Please note that Annexes A and B (Pressures), Annex D (Cabinet Response to October Report, Annexes, O, P, Q & R (Housing Revenue Account) are not included as part of this agenda pack as they relate to work already covered by the Budget and Resources Scrutiny Committee at previous meetings.

The full report and all associated documents can be viewed on the Council's website at:

<http://milton-keynes.cmis.uk.com/milton-keynes/Calendar/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/5926/Committee/1210/Default.aspx>

The Committee may need to consider excluding the public and press in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, should it wish to discuss specific proposals which would identify individual members of staff.