

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS**  
**Pre-Decision Question - Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 1<sup>st</sup> Sept. 2016**

Cabinet Report	Question / Response																																
<b>Item 5.1 Medium Term Financial Strategy 2017-2020</b>	<p>1. Has the MTFFS assumed budget deficit of £60 million by 2019/20 been revised in light of the under-spend identified in the Budget Out-turn Report for 2015/16 agreed by the Mayor in Cabinet on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2016?</p> <p><b>Response:</b> Whilst the current working assumptions are that the budget gap is £60m, all assumptions are currently being reviewed and the October Cabinet report will set out any revised assumptions over the MTFFS planning period (2017 – 2020).</p> <p>To the extent that the issues which contributed to the 2015/16 underspend position are on-going, they may contribute towards reducing the budget gap; this will also be reflected in the October report.</p> <p>2. What has been the (a) General Fund budget agreed by Full Council in each year since 2010 and (b) the General Fund expenditure presented in the Budget Out-turn report presented to the Mayor in Cabinet in each of those years?</p> <p><b>Response:</b> The table below shows the information requested from 2010/11 to 2015/16</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><b>a) Full Council Approved Budget</b></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><b>b) Actual Spend</b></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><b>c) Underspend(-) /Overspends</b></th> </tr> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;"><b>Financial Year</b></th> <th style="text-align: center;">£m</th> <th style="text-align: center;">£m</th> <th style="text-align: center;">£m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2010-11</td> <td style="text-align: center;">310.369</td> <td style="text-align: center;">320.912</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10.543</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2011-12</td> <td style="text-align: center;">310.960</td> <td style="text-align: center;">294.424</td> <td style="text-align: center;">(16.536)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2012-13</td> <td style="text-align: center;">292.265</td> <td style="text-align: center;">266.743</td> <td style="text-align: center;">(25.522)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2013-14</td> <td style="text-align: center;">297.806</td> <td style="text-align: center;">270.621</td> <td style="text-align: center;">(27.185)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2014-15</td> <td style="text-align: center;">293.933</td> <td style="text-align: center;">275.703</td> <td style="text-align: center;">(18.230)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2015-16</td> <td style="text-align: center;">291.362</td> <td style="text-align: center;">279.249</td> <td style="text-align: center;">(12.113)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<b>a) Full Council Approved Budget</b>	<b>b) Actual Spend</b>	<b>c) Underspend(-) /Overspends</b>	<b>Financial Year</b>	£m	£m	£m	2010-11	310.369	320.912	10.543	2011-12	310.960	294.424	(16.536)	2012-13	292.265	266.743	(25.522)	2013-14	297.806	270.621	(27.185)	2014-15	293.933	275.703	(18.230)	2015-16	291.362	279.249	(12.113)
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	<p>3. In relation to the MTFS 2017-2020 report (Page 27 on the agenda papers); the Committee queried what is the budget for strategic support? Plus does this include scrutiny support, which can further the Council's goals around promoting greater openness and transparency?</p> <p><b>Response:</b> The estimated budget for strategic support over the MTFS period is around £750k to £1.2M. The budget does not cover any specific support for scrutiny. However, budget scrutiny training has been separately procured and the date for this is currently being re-arranged following the cancellation of the originally agreed date (12 Sept.) due to Eid.</p>