

Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny
Committee

6 February 2014

Directorate of Probity Law and Governance
Democratic Services , Committee Services
Team

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Dear Councillor Uz-Zaman,

RE: REFERRAL OF BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK REPORT

The 2014/15 Budget is part of the Council's Budget and Policy Framework, as defined by Article 4 of the Authority's Constitution.

Changes to the initial 2014/15 Budget were agreed, both for public consultation and referral to the OSC for consultation in accordance with the requirements of the Budget and Policy Framework, by the Mayor in Cabinet on the 5th February 2014.

The Authority's Constitution details the process for the development of Budget and Policy Framework matters. This requires that the Executive be informed of/ take into account the views of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee (OSC) on the Budget proposals before final Budget proposals are submitted to full Council for consideration and decision (the matter being reserved to full Council for decision). The budget proposals originally circulated to all Members on 24 January 2014 were agreed; however two additional proposals were put forward by the Mayor at Cabinet on the 5th February 2014.

1. An initiative to fund an additional police officer for each ward in the Borough
2. Provide support to low income households and those entitled to partial council tax support, by way of a further £25 reduction to their council tax bill in 2014/15

Accordingly I write to confirm that a copy of the Updated report on 2014/15 Budget Proposals have been circulated to all members of the Authority in a Cabinet Agenda "Budget 2014/2015 Document Pack".

The OSC should give consideration to the Executive's 2014/15 Budget proposals at its meeting to be held on 11 February 2014 at 7pm, in C1 at the Town Hall. **Any response of the OSC to the Executive's 2014/15 Budget proposals must be submitted to the Executive (Mayor) by Noon on Tuesday 18 February 2014.**

Please note that:

- Final 2014/15 Budget proposals will be considered (taking into account any responses of the OSC to the revised Budget proposals) by the Mayor prior to submission to Budget Council (meeting to be held 26 February 2014).
- Material changes to the initial budget report and new budget proposals have been summarised in the attached document for consultation by the OSC in accordance with the requirements of the Budget and Policy Framework.

Yours sincerely

Chris Holme
Interim Corporate Director, Resources

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