

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 22 NOVEMBER 2016

FUTUREFIT – PROPOSALS FOR CHANGE AND REFORM TO SUPPORT THE MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN: CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Summary

1. As part of the Council's development of the 2017/18 budget, the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Children and Families and the Director of Children, Families and Communities have been invited to discuss the budget challenges facing services in 2017/18 and how these are being addressed.

Background

2. The Council needs to ensure that it can continue to deliver services within a tight financial settlement and find solutions to deliver the necessary savings. The Council is continuing to work to do things differently through the FutureFit programme, with a combination of efficiencies and savings proposals.
3. On 17 November 2016 Cabinet will be considering progress since the last FutureFit update, proposals to support the delivery of the Corporate Plan (including the delivery of savings to 2020), and the development of the Medium Term Financial Plan and budget setting.
4. The report to Cabinet will set out the context for the budget, as well as the Council's Corporate Plan Priorities and a financial summary. The Cabinet report, including savings proposals, can be accessed on the Council's website [here](#)

2017/18 Budget Scrutiny Task Group

5. On 13 September, the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board agreed to set up a scrutiny task group to undertake in-depth scrutiny of the 2017/18 budget. Chairmen of Overview and Scrutiny Panels and the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be invited to attend a meeting of the task group in early December to feedback the views of their Panels/Committee on the outcomes of Corporate Strategy Planning discussions and the savings proposals outlined in the Cabinet report.

Equality and Diversity Implications

6. Last year's budget scrutiny task group gave a "light touch" consideration to equalities issues raised by savings proposals and suggested that the Diversity Manager should be invited to the Panel to help members consider the Equalities Impact of each Corporate Strategy proposal.

Purpose of the meeting

7. The Panel is asked to consider and agree comments on the savings proposals for Children and Families, which the Chairman will feed back to the 2017/18 Budget Scrutiny Task Group.

Supporting Information

- Report to Cabinet on 17 November 2016 – circulated to Members of the Panel and available electronically on the Council's website [here](#)

Contact Point for the Report

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Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

- Agenda and Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board on 13 September 2016
- Agenda and Minutes of the Adult Care and Well-being Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 17 November 2015

All council agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website [here](#)