

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD

26 JULY 2023

BUDGET SCRUTINY 2024/25

Summary

1. The Leader, Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer have been invited to the meeting to discuss the role of Scrutiny in the 2024/25 budget setting process.

Background

2. Overview and Scrutiny Panels carry out regular budget and performance monitoring throughout the year and have the opportunity to review how resources are allocated, monitor how they are used, examine their impact and if needed carry out additional Scrutiny as required. The outcomes of this monitoring are fed back regularly to the Board.
3. The draft Council Budget is usually presented to Cabinet in January, following which the proposals are available for Overview and Scrutiny Panels to consider. The Board then has the opportunity to feed its comments on the Budget Proposals to Cabinet in February before being considered by Council at its February meeting.

Budget Scrutiny 2024/25

4. During the 2023/24 Budget Scrutiny process last year, Members of the Board were keen to emphasise the policy development role of Scrutiny and for 2024/25 would like the opportunity to feed into the Corporate Strategy Planning process and would therefore wish to get involved in the budget setting process earlier in the year in order to have a more meaningful role.
5. Accordingly, the Leader, Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer have been invited to the meeting to discuss how this suggestion can be progressed.

Purpose of the Meeting

6. Following the discussion, the Board is asked to discuss and agree the process for Scrutiny of the 2024/25 Budget.

Contact Points

Samantha Morris, Interim Democratic Governance and Scrutiny Manager,
Tel: 01905 844963 Email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance) the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report are:

[Agenda for Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board on Monday, 30th January, 2023, 2.00 pm - Worcestershire County Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

[Agenda for Cabinet on Thursday, 2nd February, 2023, 10.00 am - Worcestershire County Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

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