

2019-20 BUDGET - covering report

Finance, Budget and Performance
Scrutiny Panel

24 January 2019

Report Author

Tim Willis, Deputy Chief Executive and S151 Officer

Portfolio Holder

Cllr Ian Gregory, Cabinet Member for Financial Services & Estates

Status

For Recommendation

Classification:

Unrestricted

Key Decision

Budget and Policy Framework

Ward:

All

Executive Summary:

Cabinet considered the Budget for 2019-20 at its meeting of 15 January. The Panel is asked to consider the report and determine whether it wishes to provide feedback and or recommendations to Cabinet on the budget prior to Council on 7 February.

Recommendation(s):

1. That Finance, Budget and Performance Scrutiny Panel consider the 2019-20 Budget as shown in Annex 1 and make any recommendations or provide feedback to Cabinet.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money	The financial implications are reflected within the annex to the report.
Legal	Section 151 of the 1972 Local Government Act requires a suitably qualified named officer to keep control of the council's finances. For this council, it is the Deputy Chief Executive (S151 Officer), and this report is helping to carry out that function.
Corporate	Corporate priorities can only be delivered with robust finances.
Equalities Act 2010 & Public Sector Equality Duty	Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to the aims of the Duty at the time the decision is taken. The aims of the Duty are: (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it, and (iii) foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

	Protected characteristics: age, gender, disability, race, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief and pregnancy & maternity. Only aim (i) of the Duty applies to Marriage & civil partnership.	
	Please indicate which aim is relevant to the report.	
	Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act,	
	Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it	
	Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.	
<p>The Equality Act 2010 (the “Act”) came into force on 1 October 2010 and brings together over 116 separate pieces of legislation in order to create a framework to protect the rights of individuals and advance equality of opportunity for all.</p> <p>The Equality and Human Rights Commission recognises that with major reductions in public spending, local government has to make difficult and often unpopular decisions regarding funding and service provision. Thanet District Council has statutory public sector equality duties concerned with eliminating unlawful discrimination, advancing equality of opportunity and fostering good relations on the basis of protected characteristics such as gender, race, disability or age. These duties do not prevent the council reducing services or charging where necessary - provided that decisions are taken in accordance with the Act.</p> <p>An Equality Impact Assessment (“EIA”) is not a legal requirement in England, but it is an established and credible tool for demonstrating due regard to the public sector equality duty, which is required by law. Thanet District Council, taking its obligations as seriously as it does, had the Policy Owner for each proposed fee and charge, complete an EIA.</p> <p>The council recognises that EIAs are not an end in themselves. They are, of course, a way of showing that due regard has been paid to the general duties; but the council will continue, all-the-time, engaging with the equality considerations, accepting comments and opinions from stakeholders and maintain a positive relationship with the Equality and Human Rights Commission.</p>		

CORPORATE PRIORITIES (tick those relevant) ✓	
A clean and welcoming Environment	
Promoting inward investment and job creation	
Supporting neighbourhoods	

CORPORATE VALUES (tick those relevant) ✓	
Delivering value for money	
Supporting the Workforce	
Promoting open communications	

1. Introduction and Background

- 1.1 Cabinet considered the Budget for 2019-20 at its meeting of 15 January. The Panel is now asked to consider the Budget report and determine whether it wishes to provide feedback and/or recommendations to Cabinet on its budget proposals, prior to the Council meeting on 7 February.
- 1.2 Cabinet's formal decision on the budget will be communicated to the Panel.

2. Options

- 2.1 Finance, Budget and Performance Scrutiny Panel has the option to receive the budget proposals as put or to make recommendations or provide feedback to Cabinet for consideration.

3. Next Steps

- 3.1 Subject to any feedback required for Cabinet, these proposals will be considered by Council on 7 February 2019.

Contact Officer:	Tim Willis, Deputy Chief Executive and S151 Officer
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Annex List

Annex 1	2019-20 Budget report to Cabinet 15 January 2019
Annex 2	GF Capital Programme - Annex 1 to the Cabinet report
Annex 3	Flexible Use of Capital Receipts - Annex 2 to the Cabinet report
Annex 4	Treasury Management Strategic Statement - Annex 3 to the Cabinet report

Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
None	N/A

Corporate Consultation

Finance	n/a
Legal	n/a
Communications	n/a