

Key Decision Required:	No	In the Forward Plan:	No
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CABINET

26 JANUARY 2011

REFERENCE FROM CORPORATE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

A.1 THE RESPONSE TO THE CABINET ON THE REVISED FINANCIAL STRATEGY FOR 2011/12 AND BEYOND AND INITIAL BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR A REVISED BUDGET 2010/11 AND ORIGINAL BUDGET FOR 2011/12 BY THE CORPORATE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

(Report prepared by Richard Walker)

PART 1 – KEY INFORMATION

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To provide feedback to the Cabinet on the views of Corporate Management Committee on the Revised Financial Strategy for 2011/12 and Beyond and the Initial Budget Proposals for a Revised Budget 2010/11 and Original Budget for 2011/12.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Corporate Management Committee considered the Revised Financial Strategy for 2011/12 and Beyond and the budget proposals for a Revised Budget 2010/11 and Original Budget for 2011/12. The Committee noted the Financial Strategy, and attached as Appendix A is the list of comments on the budget proposals for a Revised Budget 2010/11 and Original Budget for 2011/12 together with the responses from the Finance Portfolio Holder.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Cabinet agrees that responses of the Finance Portfolio Holder in relation to the comments of the Corporate Management Committee in determining its final Financial Strategy for 2011/12 and Beyond, and final Budget proposals for a Revised Budget 2010/11 and Original Budget for 2011/12.

PART 2 – IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

DELIVERING PRIORITIES

The Revised Financial Strategy for 2011/12 and Beyond, and the Initial Budget Proposals for a Revised Budget 2010/11 and Original Budget for 2011/12 enable the Council to meet its commitments and priorities as set out in the Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Plan.

FINANCE, OTHER RESOURCES AND RISK

Finance and other resources

The financial impact of any of the proposals from the Corporate Management Committee,

agreed by Cabinet, will be incorporated in the final budget proposals to be recommended to Council on 8 February 2011.

Risk

In producing a draft budget for adoption by Council it is essential that it addresses the key priorities for the area, reflects unavoidable cost pressures whilst remaining a balanced budget.

LEGAL

The action proposed is within the Council's powers.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

The proposed budgets include a number of initiatives that help in the reduction of crime and disorder, as well as funding to assist with the issues of equality and diversity.

PART 3 – SUPPORTING INFORMATION

BACKGROUND

At its meeting on 15 December 2010 the Cabinet invited the Corporate Management Committee to make comments on the Report of Management Board on the Revised Financial Strategy for 2011/12 and Beyond and the Report of the Head of Financial Services on the Initial Budget Proposals for a Revised Budget 2010/11 and Original Budget for 2011/12. The Corporate Management Committee met to consider both these items on 5 January 2011.

CURRENT POSITION

The Corporate Management Committee noted the Revised Financial Strategy for 2011/12 and Beyond at its meeting on 5 January 2011. During that day the Committee also examined the budget proposals for a Revised Budget 2010/11 and Original Budget for 2011/12 in more detail. Attached as **Appendix A** is the list of comments from the Committee together with the responses of the Finance Portfolio Holder.

BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR THE DECISION

There are none.

APPENDICES

Appendix A - CORPORATE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE COMMENTS TO CABINET ON THE INITIAL BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR A REVISED BUDGET 2010/11 AND ORIGINAL BUDGET FOR 2011/12 AND THE RESPONSE OF THE FINANCE PORTFOLIO HOLDER

CORPORATE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE COMMENTS TO CABINET ON THE INITIAL BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR A REVISED BUDGET 2010/11 AND ORIGINAL BUDGET FOR 2011/12 AND THE RESPONSE OF THE FINANCE PORTFOLIO HOLDER

	CORPORATE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE COMMENT:	FINANCE PORTFOLIO HOLDER RESPONSE:
1.	The Citizens Advice Bureau Tendring makes a valuable contribution to the community and the Committee would like the grant to the Citizens Advice Bureau to be at least maintained and, if possible, increased in due course. In the event that the Citizens Advice Bureau's difficulties continue then the Council should take steps to support an alternative service provision.	It is proposed that a grant be made to the CAB for 2011/12 of £50,000. This funding is to be held in the Council's budget together with £57,000 previously set aside for the CAB. Funding will be released to the CAB in instalments during the year subject to the advice audit being passed and the terms of the SLA being adhered to.
2.	Support to the voluntary sector is a cost efficient use of public money, which provides a valuable service to the community. The Committee therefore recommends that the ramifications of the 2011/12 "support to the voluntary sector" budget being set at £52,080 be identified and that the base budget should be increased in accordance with an identified need rather than relying on one-off increases.	It is proposed that the funding of £52,080 be removed from the budget on an ongoing basis to contribute towards the Council's savings target. However, Cabinet wishes to work with CVST to explore ways of working with the voluntary sector and to identify opportunities for the voluntary sector to assist the Council in delivering local and community services.
3.	The Council should look at rationalising the provision of public conveniences, encourage retail outlets to make their public conveniences available to the public and the Council should consider looking at the advantages/disadvantages of charging and/or manning public conveniences most especially in respect of any new public convenience facilities.	I agree that the Council needs to look at rationalisation of its provision of public conveniences. The Tendring Spending Review Delivery Plan agreed by Cabinet on 10 th November 2010 included an action for a public convenience strategy to be prepared for consideration by Cabinet. Once this is received an overarching approach for public convenience provision that is cost effective for the council can be determined.
4.	The Cabinet should think again about making a grant to the Westcliff Theatre Trust following completion of a negotiated Service Level Agreement with the Trust with a view to a grant payment being made to the Trust in the current financial year.	No further action is required as consultation is underway and a decision will be made in line with Cabinet's decision of 4 August 2010.