



# Bristol Scrutiny 2017/18

## (DRAFT) Scoping of Scrutiny Topic

Title

Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) TBC

### 1. Reasons for Undertaking this Work

Main reasons for undertaking the piece of work (and any Background information if relevant)

The Council is currently facing unprecedented financial pressures. In line with good governance measures, this scrutiny (*task and finish group / working group??*) will ensure that Members are fully informed and engaged in the Council's financial management and planning arrangements.

The MTFP is a key part of the Council's Policy and Budget Framework and is intended to set out the Council's strategic approach to the management of its finances and provide a framework within which delivery of the Council's priorities will be progressed.

The MTFP is comprised of two parts:

Part 1 takes into account the impact of the measures implemented in the past year, considers the financial outlook for the Council over the next five years and builds on the five year outlook included in the 17/18 budget report.

In Part 2 the Council sets out its plans and strategies for managing resources and delivering the corporate priorities against this financial outlook.

Members of the Task and Finish - Scoping Group have met three times with finance officers during July for in-depth discussions on the aforementioned MTFP approach and principles, prior to the report going to OSMB (25/7/17) for comment and to Cabinet (27/7/17) for endorsement.

The group will continue with a view to gain clear oversight of the Council's financial governance processes and budgets.

Key question that you are seeking to answer

The Scoping Group Members and Finance Officers agree that further engagement and feedback at key stages of the budget cycle should continue to take place throughout the year.

Main objectives/main areas of investigation	Throughout July officers have taken the scoping group Members through a series of briefings and in-depth discussions to scope the high level proposals during development. This has allowed officers to present the evidence gathered and formulate proposals in an iterative manner.
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Draft Terms of Reference and possible outcomes	OSMB and group members to discuss and agree if this group should have a broader remit e.g. a watching brief on Council finances in general, that regularly reports to OSMB.
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## 2. Member Involvement

Members involved	Initial Scoping Group: Cllrs G Gollop, G Morris and D Alexander. Longer-term membership to be agreed at OSMB
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Key Executive Member	Cabinet Member - Cllr Craig Cheney
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Other Executive Member Portfolios covered, if any	
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## 3. Officer Support

Lead Directorate Officer(s)	Denise Murray – Service Director – Finance and Business Change Michael Pilcher – Finance Business Partner Rory MacDonald - Finance Project Associate Chris Holme - Interim Service Manager - Corporate Finance
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Scrutiny Advisor	TBC
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List of possible internal and external witnesses/contributors and key information required	
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**Time Frame**

TBC – it has however been agreed that Members and Officers will meet at key stages of the budget cycle throughout the year.	

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Decision-making/path  
for recommendations:

The group will regularly report back to OSMB
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**Costs**

Specific costs identified

None identified
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Date: .....

