



Council

Budget Meeting

Town Hall
Wallasey

22 February, 2012

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council to be held at **6.15 pm on Thursday, 1 March 2012** in the Council Chamber, within the Town Hall, Wallasey, to take into consideration and determine upon the following subjects :

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AGENDA

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The members of the Council are invited to consider whether they have a personal or prejudicial interest in connection with any matter to be debated or determined at this meeting and, if so, to declare it and state the nature of such interest.

2. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

To receive the Mayor's announcements and any apologies for absence.

3. PETITIONS

To receive petitions submitted in accordance with Standing Order 21.

4. MINUTES (Pages 1 - 36)

To receive as a correct record the minutes of the meeting(s) of the Council held on 13 February, 2012.

5. MATTERS FOR NOTING (Pages 37 - 40)

The Budget Council Procedure, approved by Cabinet on 21 February, 2012, is attached.

6. MATTERS REQUIRING APPROVAL BY THE COUNCIL

6a COUNCIL BUDGET 2012/13 (Pages 41 – 94)

On a motion by the Leader of the Council, to approve recommendations from the Cabinet meeting held on 21 February 2012 (attached), subject to consideration of any amendments received in accordance with Standing Order 7(2) or Standing Order 13 (Budget Council Procedure) - see item 5 above and 8 below.

If the proposed budget is amended, wholly or partly, that will be regarded as an in-principle decision, which will automatically come into effect five working days from the date of that decision, unless the Leader of the Council informs the Director of Law, H.R. and Asset Management in writing within that time that he objects to the decision becoming effective and provides reasons why.

In such circumstances, the Budget and Policy Framework provides for the Director to call another meeting of the Council within a further five days. The Council will then be required to reconsider its decision, and the Leader's written submission, within a further five working days. The actual position is that a reserve date (Wednesday 7 March) has been set aside for considering any objection by the Leader. At that second meeting the Council can:

- (i) accept the Cabinet's recommendation, without amendment or objection; or
- (ii) approve a different decision which does not accord with the recommendation of the Cabinet

by a simple majority of votes cast at the meeting.

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting on 21 February will be circulated separately. The following reports to Cabinet are attached, unless stated otherwise:

- Council Budget 2012/13
- Schools Budget 2012/13
(Copies of the Estimates 2012/13 (Blue Book) have been circulated separately to all Members)
- Treasury Management and Investment Strategy 2012/15 (Report attached)
- Carbon Budget 2012/13 (Report attached)

6b PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2012/13 (Pages 95 – 114)

The following matter will also be referred to the Council by the Employment and Appointments Committee at its meeting on 28 February, 2012:

- Pay Policy Statement 2012/13 (Report attached)

The Localism Act 2011 requires the Council to approve a Pay Policy by 31 March, 2012.

**6c CHANGING GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS -
PROPOSAL TO RETURN TO A COMMITTEE SYSTEM**

The Council will consider a report from the Director of Law, HR and Asset Management, on a proposal to return to a Committee system of governance (Report to follow).

7. MATTERS REFERRED FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

To consider and determine any references from overview and scrutiny committees, in particular any referrals from the special meeting of the Council Excellence O&S Committee at its meeting on 28 February, 2012.

8. MATTERS FOR DEBATE

Pursuant to Standing Order 5(2)(n), and in accordance with Standing Order 5(4), to consider written comments, objections or amendments to minutes submitted under Standing Order 7(2) and 13.

The Cabinet has agreed the procedure for this Council meeting which envisages one debate on the Budget.

9. VACANCIES

To receive nominations, in accordance with Standing Order 25(6), in respect of any proposed changes in the membership of the Cabinet and committees, and to approve nominations for appointments to outside organisations.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

To consider any other items of business that the Mayor accepts as being urgent.



Director of Law, HR and Asset Management