

MEETING:	AUDIT COMMITTEE
DATE:	20 FEBRUARY 2014
TITLE:	2014/15 BUDGET AND THE FINANCIAL STRATEGY FOR 2014/15 - 2017/18
PURPOSE:	TO SUBMIT THE BUDGET WHICH THE CABINET INTENDS TO RECOMMEND TO THE COUNCIL FOR SCRUTINY BY THE AUDIT COMMITTEE IN RELATION TO ITS FINANCIAL PROPRIETY
ACTION REQUIRED:	TO SCRUTINISE THE INFORMATION BEFORE THE COUNCIL CONSIDERS THE RECOMMENDATION TO BE MADE BY THE CABINET.
CONTACT OFFICER:	DILWYN WILLIAMS, CORPORATE DIRECTOR.
CABINET MEMBER:	COUCILLOR PEREDUR JENKINS

At its meeting on the 18 February, the Cabinet will be considering the attached report and coming to a conclusion on the budget to be proposed to the Council for 2014/15 which will include a recommendation on the proposed Council Tax increase.

Bearing in mind that it is best practice to set the budget in the context of the longer term position it is also proposed that they will consult with the Council on the medium term financial plan which they propose for the coming period (2014/15 - 2017/18).

This continues the practice we have now been following for some years - a practice which is praised by the external auditors and which has paid dividends in terms of the circumstances we face and planning to deal with the situation.

The Cabinet will have given consideration to the attached report by the time the Audit Committee considers the matter and we will report on their conclusions.

The Audit Committee is given the opportunity to consider the financial propriety of the proposals so that its viewpoint can be reported to the Council at the same time as the Cabinet's recommendations are made.