



Borough of Oadby & Wigston

Services Committee

13th January 2009

Financial Plans 2009/10 – General Fund

Report of: Interim Director of Resources Report Number: 6 (a)

Author: Principal Accountant

NON-EXEMPT

This report is likely to be considered while the meeting is open to press & public

Summary:

This report contains the draft revenue budget estimates and the capital programme.

Recommendations:

- (1) That members note the revised budget position for 2008/09 of the committee
- (2) That members consider the draft revenue budget estimates for 2009/10 and make such amendments as they feel may be necessary.
- (3) That the revenue budgets together with any amendments be approved.
- (4) That members approve the draft capital programme for 2009/10.

Level of delegation: Committee

Wards affected: All

Comments of Statutory Officers:

Head of Paid Service: None.

Proper Officer for Financial Affairs: His report.

Monitoring Officer: None.

Appendices Attached: Two appendices attached.

Impact Assessments:

Health:)

Environment:)

Community Safety:) The service planning and budgetary process affects all Council services and policies.

Human Rights:)

Equal Opportunities:)

Risk Assessment:)

Commentary:

1. The Council's financial planning framework is one of identifying key service and spending pressures and prioritising resources accordingly, taking into account national and local priorities.
2. The financial year 2009/10 will be particularly challenging not only from the pressure to find and then make cashable efficiency savings but also from the general economic downturn, which has seen the authority's traditional income streams eroded. At the present time, officers are still investigating the optimum balance of measures that will result in the additional efficiency savings that are required. Any further financial implications for this committee's 2009/10 budgets will be reported on the night to reflect this work.
3. In previous years, Service Development Plans have been presented alongside these financial plans so that the linkages between service priorities, spending proposals and targets are clear. This year because of the ongoing consultation being undertaken through the "Bigger Borough", which will assist determine the Council's priorities, it is not possible to present completed Service Development Plans until this prioritisation has been completed in early February.
4. As part of the Council's integrated performance management arrangements, financial plans for both capital and revenue expenditure for the Services Committee are brought together in one report so that the linkages between the two are clear.
5. In order to compile the attached financial plans draft Service Development Plans have been developed which in the present challenging financial circumstances focus on "no growth" and "core services" in order to keep Council Tax increases to a minimum and are in line with the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy. These will then be combined with the results of the prioritisation coming out of the "Bigger Borough" process and reported on 26th February 2009.
6. The following reports are submitted for consideration:
 - Appendix 1 – Revenue budget 2009/10
 - Appendix 2 – Capital programme 2009/14

The appendices are inter-related and, as such, need to be considered together.

Background Papers referred to in compiling this report: Budget working papers