

Service Planning 2011-12

Service: Finance (SFIN)

2.1 Service Overview

The Finance service works with partners internally and externally, to enable the delivery of responsive and innovative financial planning, decision making and operations, underpinned by robust and efficient systems and processes, and the highest standards of public stewardship and reporting. Core activities include collection of council tax and business rates, administration of housing and council tax benefits, production of statutory accounts, financial planning and forecasting, corporate and service budgeting, out-turn management and reporting and the provision of financial advice. In addition, the service manages the Council's banking, treasury management and insurance arrangements and acts as corporate client' in respect of services provided jointly with Cheshire West & Chester through the HR & Finance Shared Service. The service also provides support to Cheshire East schools on a 'buy back' basis. The service employs just over 200 full time equivalent staff, of which around 50% are professionally qualified or part qualified. In 2011/12 the service has an approved gross expenditure budget of £110m, an income budget (excluding government grant) of £3.5m and a nett revenue budget of £106.5m.

2.2 Service Objectives (NB: Maximum of 10)

Service Objective Reference	Service Objective Description	Link to Directorate Objective
SFIN001	Maintain and improve Financial Management policies, processes and practice across Cheshire East.	DTRE004
SFIN002	Deliver responsive and efficient services to customers and clients.	DTRE004
SFIN003	Maximise the Council's income and funding.	DTRE004
SFIN004	Support and develop the Finance workforce.	DTRE004
SFIN005	Deliver Value for Money in all that we do	DTRE004