

Annex 2 - Budget Setting Process 2015/16 ~ Timetable

Event	Comments
Council - 27 th February 2014	Identified potential net budget deficit of £6.6m in 2015/16 and £15.4m in 2016/17
Corporate Leadership Board – April 2014	Confirmed potential deficit and the outline process to set the Budget
Corporate Leadership Board and Cabinet Members – May / June 2014	Developed high level proposals
Cabinet - 1 st July 2014	Receive 2013/14 Final Outturn
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 21st July 2014	Receive details of final outturn and broad Budget process / proposals
All Member Briefing - 5 th August 2014	The Chief Operating Officer updated Members on the Budget process and broad proposals to vary budgets.
Cheshire East Council website – 4 th September 2014	Pre-Budget Report and animation placed on Council's website and Centranet to launch consultation exercise. Social media used.
TeamTalk – 4 th September 2014	Issued to all staff and Members to headline Pre-Budget Report.
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 11th September 2014	Received Pre-Budget Report and First Quarter Review of Performance and agreed comments for Cabinet on FQR.
Schools Forum – 2 nd October 2014	<p>The meeting noted the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The total Cheshire East budget is approximately £750m. - The Council is continuing to move towards a strategic commissioning model. - The Dedicated Schools Grant is the largest slice of the budget at £184m. - The General Grant from the government is being reduced, year

Event	Comments
	<p>on year, so the Council is having to control costs to maintain services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forum members can contribute ideas for closing the budget deficit via shapingourservices@cheshireeast.gov.uk.
Trades Unions – 8 th October 2014	The meeting noted the risks associated with further transfers of service to ASDVs
Access to Finance Business Event – 23 rd October 2014	Over 100 businesses attended the event and welcomed the chance to feedback on the proposals. Cllr Raynes chaired the event and briefed on the Pre-Budget Report. Further details of the event are provided here .
Staffing Committee – 23 rd October 2014	<p>The meeting noted the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The impact of proposals on training and development budgets should be considered. - Future attendance at the meeting should only focus on the staffing elements of the budget.
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 10th November 2014	Received Mid-Year Performance Report and agreed comments for Cabinet
Cabinet – 11 th November 2014	Receive Mid-Year Performance Report
Town and Parish Councils Conference – 11 th November 2014	<p>The Leader of Cheshire East Council presented positive view of CEC Finances and the Pre-Budget Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plan for surplus at 2014/15 and give back again if necessary - The Council will target there being no NEETs (Not in Education, Employment or Training) in Cheshire East. The budget will balance and going for more savings on waste. - Q1: Why is the conference being held in Middlewich again? Will move Town and Parish Council Seminar around the Borough,

Event	Comments
	<p>starting next year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Q2: Well done on accounts, why join-up Cheshire? It is a personal view that we are better together, but this could be with anyone - Q3: What's landfill approach? Anaerobic Digestion (Food Waste) and more recycling to 2017, to reduce landfill - Q4: Recycling confusing? If in doubt recycle and let the Council sort it! - Q5: How often will food waste be collected? We'll be sensible and use most appropriate mix of weekly, fortnightly or even monthly
East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce and Enterprise Business Event – 20 th November 2014	<p>Cllr Raynes presented the Council's Pre- Budget Report to an East Cheshire Business networking event. Issues raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Q1 what is state of Congleton relief road? We are undertaking options development, and seeking funding - timing is more difficult to predict as with all road schemes. The Chamber is working with the business engagement team to help this process. - Q2 view on town centre? It should be better with less traffic and more accessible for visitors
Macclesfield Chamber of Commerce Business Event – 1 st December 2014	The notes will not be available in time for the release of papers for Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 2 nd December.
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 2 nd December 2014	Receive Budget Setting Process update report
Cabinet – 9 th December 2014	Council Taxbase
Council – 11 th December 2014	Agree Council Taxbase

Event	Comments
Funding announcements – mid December 2014	Expected from Government
All Member Briefing – 16 th December 2014	Budget proposals
Final Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) / Budget Report released – mid January 2015	
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee special meeting 20 th January 2015	Receive Draft MTFS Report including the Draft Capital Programme
Final settlement from Government – late January 2015	
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 2 nd February 2015	Receive Quarter Three Performance Report and MTFS report
Cabinet Meeting – 3rd February 2015	Receive Quarter Three Performance Report and recommend 2015/18 MTFS Report to 26th February Council
Council Meeting – 26th February 2015	Agree 2015/18 MTFS Report

Annex 3 Business Planning Process – Engagement

Cabinet and Council meetings

Leader's Report and Medium Term Financial Strategy:

- Received by Cabinet on 3rd February 2015 for recommendation to Council on 26th February 2015

Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- Received an update on in-year performance, the Budget Setting Process and potential policy and budget options on 21st July 2014
- Received the [First Quarter Review of Performance](#) and [Pre-Budget Report](#) 2015/16 on 11th September 2014 with a request for feedback on the proposals or alternative suggestions
- Received the [Mid Year Review of Performance](#) on 10th November 2014
- Received a Budget Setting Process update report on 2nd December 2014
- Receive details of the Capital Programme and draft MTFS report on 20th January 2015

Updates for staff

- Updates made available in TeamTalk, on Centranet and the Cheshire East Council website from 4th September 2014
- Staffing Committee meeting 23rd October 2014 included updates for the attention of Cheshire East Council staff

Local Engagement

Member briefings

- On 5th August 2014 and 16th December 2014, the Finance Portfolio Holder and Chief Operating Officer provided Members with an update on budget setting progress

Engagement events with other stakeholder groups

- Including businesses, Trades Unions, town and parish councils, and the Schools Forum
- These events highlighted how the Cheshire East Council budget will affect our different stakeholders and help to answer questions, address concerns they may have, and help us to develop our relationship with our stakeholders/the wider community

Residents

- Updates on the website, use of an animation to explain the process and use of social media
- Information included with Council Tax bills
- Media releases
- Citizens' Panel survey in April 2014

Group meetings

- An opportunity to discuss details of the budget with Officers
- Available upon request