



# LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## SCRUTINY COMMISSION – 16<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2002

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

### ARRANGEMENTS FOR SCRUTINY OF BUDGET PROPOSALS

#### Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to advise the Commission of arrangements made for Scrutiny meetings to examine the budget proposals.

#### Timetable for determining the Budget

2. The Cabinet have indicated that the Revenue Budget and Capital Programme are to be considered simultaneously and will be determined by the County Council at its budget meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2002.
3. The provisional Revenue Budget and Capital Programme proposals will be approved for consultation by the Cabinet at its meeting on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> January 2002. The Cabinet propose to consider any comments arising from its consultation on Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> February when it will also determine the recommendations to be put to the County Council.

#### Scrutiny Arrangements

4. The programme of budget meetings for the Scrutiny Commission and Scrutiny Committees is as set out below. These dates have been agreed by the Chairman and Spokesmen of the relevant Committees.

Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> , January 2.00 p.m.	Health and Social Care
Wednesday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2.30 p.m.	Education and Heritage
Thursday, 24 <sup>th</sup> January 2.00 p.m.	Planning and Environment
Friday, 25 <sup>th</sup> January 1.30 p.m.	Finance
Thursday, 31 <sup>st</sup> January 10.30 a.m.	Scrutiny Commission

5. Each of the Scrutiny Committees will consider and comment on those areas of budget falling within their remit. Following consultation with the Chairman and Spokesmen of the Scrutiny Commission, it has been agreed that the Finance Scrutiny Committee will also consider and comment on the following: -
- Central Department Budget proposals (i.e. Chief Executive's, County Treasurer's, ISU and Property Departments)
  - Budget proposals relating to services not covered by other scrutiny committees, including Regulatory Services, 'Promoting of Economic Well Being' and 'Making Communities Safer'

The Finance Scrutiny Committee has also been asked to consider and comment on general issues such as the level of balances, inflation provision, level of council tax, etc.

6. The Commission, at its meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> January, will seek to coordinate the responses of all the Scrutiny Committees and prepare a response to the Cabinet.

### **Recommendation**

7. The Commission is asked to note the arrangements made for scrutiny of the budget.

### **Equal Opportunities Implications**

None

### **Background Papers**

Letter to all members of the Council concerning Scrutiny of the Budget dated 21<sup>st</sup> December.

### **Officer to Contact**

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