

**BUDGET SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE 8<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2013**

**MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL  
PLAN 2013/14 to 2015/16**

# OVERVIEW

- Council 13<sup>th</sup> February
- Council Tax (inc precepts) 1<sup>st</sup> March
- Covers General Fund, HRA and Capital Programme
- Supported by Treasury Management Strategy
- Includes assurances re robustness of estimates / figures used, etc.

# GENERAL FUND SUMMARY

	2013/14 £000's	2014/15 £000's	2015/16 £000's
Budget Shortfall	884- 615=269	724	118
Budget Savings	1,259+975 +884=	3,118+724 =3,842	3,842+118 =3,960
Total	3,118		

# The Settlement

- Expenditure Reductions across MTFP and beyond
- A 'Roll Forward' Budget
- Have minimised all existing budgets
- Savings target of £0.615m in progress
- Inc Vacancy Mgt, Secondments, Fees and Charges, Property Rationalisation, Street Scene.

# 2013/14 GENERAL FUND RESERVES

- Efficiency Grant £1.226m (potentially continued into 2014/15) £1m p.a.
- Balance of Transition Grant Left £1m
- General Fund Financial Reserves – increase from £1.389m to £1.5m.
- Match level of financial risk (£1.570m) and protect services

# Key Budget Issues

- Importance of securing savings targets on an ongoing basis.
- Easy Options now gone.
- Need to avoid budget crisis to protect services
- Greater level of uncertainty, changes to Gov Funding, welfare reform, economic background.

# 2013/14 Budget Issues

- Accept Government Grant or Council Tax increase
- Advantage of C Tax increase is only an additional £30k in 13/14, but promotes longer term financial sustainability
- Impact on local residents
- Government Policy

# HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

- Now operating the localised HRA
- Importance of a 30 Year Business Plan
- Average Rent Increase of 5.8%  
(Convergence)
- A 'roll forward' budget
- Support for a programme of house building / house acquisition
- Maintain homes at 'Decent Homes' Standard



# CAPITAL PROGRAMME

- Housing Capital Programme reasonably well funded
- Again a roll forward programme to maintain Decency Standard
- General Fund Programme is dependent upon Capital Receipts
- Will have a very limited General Fund Programme going forward.