

BUDGET STRATEGY 2006/07

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report relates to the Government Grant aspect of the Budget Strategy 2006/07.

2 INTRODUCTION

For General Fund services the distribution of Government Grant is a key part of the budget process. It has a major effect on the Council in terms of expenditure plans and the level of Council Tax.

3 GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR 2006/07

- 3.1 The Government are proposing to announce the draft determination on the 5 December 2005. Therefore, this Committee meeting represents the first opportunity for the Council to assess the proposed grant distribution. In view of timescale, the Corporate Director (Finance and External Services) will report verbally on the Government announcements relating to Revenue Support Grant.
- 3.2 Members have already had the opportunity of looking at Council priorities and non-priorities at the away-day held on the 26 November. The financial projections that follow from the announcement will have to be considered at future meetings to produce an agreed strategy for 2006/07.

4 RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Failure to set a balanced budget is a key risk for the Authority

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 All of the services of the Council rely on resource allocation determined by the Budget Strategy.

6 RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**
- (1) To consider the information provided
 - (2) To recommend to Council any appropriate action in relation to the Budget Strategy

Roger Crofts

Corporate Director (Finance and External Services)

Background Papers:-

None

For further information please contact Dave Deeks on:-

Tel:- 01702 318029

E-Mail:- dave.deeks@rochford.gov.uk