

# Maidstone Borough Council

## Corporate Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday 5 August 2008

### Budget Strategy 2009-10 Onwards

**Report of:** Senior Overview and Scrutiny Officer

#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Corporate Services Overview and Scrutiny has within its terms of reference the scrutiny of the Council's budget.
- 1.2 The report of Management Team was considered by the Cabinet at its meeting on 9 July 2008; the relevant Record of Decision is attached to this agenda for information. Overview and Scrutiny is being asked to consider the Budget Strategy and Cabinet's decision with a view to making recommendations to be fed into the final budget strategy proposal later this year.

#### 2. Budget Strategy 2009-10 Onwards

- 2.1 The following additional documents have been provided to the Committee to assist in the scrutiny of the budget strategy:

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Appendix A	2008/09 Budget Summary	27
Appendix B	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2008/09 Onwards	29
Appendix C	Statement of Balances	31
Appendix D	Capital Programme	33
Appendix E	Projection for Use of Capital Receipts	39
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- 2.2 The Chief Finance Officer, Derek Williamson, will attend the meeting of the Committee to give a presentation on the Budget Strategy to Members; Mr Williamson and the Leader of the Council will then discuss the Budget Strategy with the Committee.

#### 3. Recommendation

- 3.1 Potential areas for discussion include, but are not limited to:
- The Medium Term Financial Strategy – is this suitably robust?;
  - Use of LABGI resources, both unallocated and unspent;
  - Potential areas for savings;
  - The impact of the 'credit crunch';
  - The potential review of the medium term capital programme, as agreed by Cabinet; and

- Potential Council Tax increases for 2009/10.

3.2 The Committee is recommended to consider the Budget Strategy 2009/10 Onwards and make recommendations to Cabinet to be fed into the final budget strategy later this year.