



Brighton & Hove  
City Council

# Overview & Scrutiny

Title:	<b>Overview &amp; Scrutiny Commission</b>
Date:	<b>22 February 2011</b>
Time:	<b>4.00pm</b>
Venue	<b>Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall</b>
Members:	<b>Councillors:</b> Mitchell (Chairman), Pidgeon (Deputy Chairman), Bennett, Cobb, Elgood, Kennedy, Morgan, Older, Peltzer Dunn, Wakefield-Jarrett and Meadows
Contact:	<b>Tom Hook</b> <b>Head of Overview &amp; Scrutiny</b> 29-1110 tom.hook@brighton-hove.gov.uk

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AGENDA

Part One Page

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66. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS 1 - 2

67. CHAIRS COMMUNICATIONS

68. BUDGET SCRUTINY; REPORTS TO 17 FEBRUARY CABINET 3 - 6

Report of the Strategic Director Resources.

Scrutiny of decisions at 17 February 2011 Cabinet as follows:

Cabinet Agenda item 164 - General Fund Revenue Budget and Council Tax 2011/2012

165 - Capital Resources and Capital Investment programme 2011/2012

166 - Housing Revenue Account Budget 2011/2012

167 - Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme 2011-2014

All reports circulated separately.

(Please note the page numbers are those used at Cabinet.)

Contact Officer: Tom Hook

Tel: 29-1110

Ward Affected: All Wards

The City Council actively welcomes members of the public and the press to attend its meetings and holds as many of its meetings as possible in public. Provision is also made on the agendas for public questions to committees and details of how questions can be raised can be found on the website and/or on agendas for the meetings.

The closing date for receipt of public questions and deputations for the next meeting is 12 noon on the fifth working day before the meeting.

Agendas and minutes are published on the council's website [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk). Agendas are available to view five working days prior to the meeting date.

Meeting papers can be provided, on request, in large print, in Braille, on audio tape or on disc, or translated into any other language as requested.

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## OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMISSION

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If you have any queries regarding this, please contact the Head of Scrutiny or the designated Scrutiny Support Officer listed on the agenda.

For further details and general enquiries about this meeting contact Mary van Beinum, Overview & Scrutiny Support Officer, (29-1062, email [mary.vanbeinum@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:mary.vanbeinum@brighton-hove.gov.uk)) or email [scrutiny@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:scrutiny@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

Date of Publication - Monday, 14 February 2011



## PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

### A. Declaration of Substitutes

Where a Member of the Commission is unable to attend a meeting for whatever reason, a substitute Member (who is not a Cabinet Member) may attend and speak and vote in their place for that meeting. Substitutes are not allowed on Scrutiny Select Committees or Scrutiny Panels.

The substitute Member shall be a Member of the Council drawn from the same political group as the Member who is unable to attend the meeting, and must not already be a Member of the Commission. The substitute Member must declare themselves as a substitute, and be minuted as such, at the beginning of the meeting or as soon as they arrive.

### B. Declarations of Interest

- (1) To seek declarations of any personal or personal & prejudicial interests under Part 2 of the Code of Conduct for Members in relation to matters on the Agenda. Members who do declare such interests are required to clearly describe the nature of the interest.
- (2) A Member of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission, an Overview and Scrutiny Committee or a Select Committee has a prejudicial interest in any business at meeting of that Committee where –
  - (a) that business relates to a decision made (whether implemented or not) or action taken by the Executive or another of the Council's committees, sub-committees, joint committees or joint sub-committees; and
  - (b) at the time the decision was made or action was taken the Member was
    - (i) a Member of the Executive or that committee, sub-committee, joint committee or joint sub-committee and
    - (ii) was present when the decision was made or action taken.
- (3) If the interest is a prejudicial interest, the Code requires the Member concerned:-
  - (a) to leave the room or chamber where the meeting takes place while the item in respect of which the declaration is made is under consideration. [There are three exceptions to this rule which are set out at paragraph (4) below].
  - (b) not to exercise executive functions in relation to that business and
  - (c) not to seek improperly to influence a decision about that business.

(4) The circumstances in which a Member who has declared a prejudicial interest is permitted to remain while the item in respect of which the interest has been declared is under consideration are:-

(a) for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the item, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, whether under a statutory right or otherwise, BUT the Member must leave immediately after he/she has made the representations, answered the questions, or given the evidence,

(b) if the Member has obtained a dispensation from the Standards Committee, or

(c) if the Member is the Leader or a Cabinet Member and has been required to attend before an Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Sub-Committee to answer questions.

#### C. Declaration of party whip

To seek declarations of the existence and nature of any party whip in relation to any matter on the Agenda as set out at paragraph 8 of the Overview and Scrutiny Ways of Working.

#### D. Exclusion of press and public

To consider whether, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, or the nature of the proceedings, the press and public should be excluded from the meeting when any of the following items are under consideration.

*NOTE: Any item appearing in Part 2 of the Agenda states in its heading the category under which the information disclosed in the report is confidential and therefore not available to the public.*

*A list and description of the exempt categories is available for public inspection at Brighton and Hove Town Halls.*

# OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION

## Agenda Item 68

Brighton & Hove City Council

**Subject:** Budget Scrutiny: Reports to 17 February Cabinet  
**Date of Meeting:** 22 February 2011  
**Report of:** Strategic Director, Resources  
**Contact Officer:** Name: Tom Hook Tel: 29-1110  
E-mail: tom.hook@brighton-hove.gov.uk  
**Wards Affected:** All

### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

#### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission has been convened to review the budget proposals agreed at Cabinet on the 17 February 2011.
- 1.2 Members are being invited to scrutinise the budget papers attached and present to Budget Council any comments on what is proposed.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATION:

- 2.1 That the Commission informs Budget Council of any comments on the budget proposals agreed at 17 February Cabinet.

#### 3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 Members will be aware that the full budget proposals were not available for scrutiny at the last meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission and as agreed an extra meeting has been convened.
- 3.2 The attached papers are those that went to Cabinet on the 17 February, namely:
  - Cabinet Agenda Item 164 – General Fund Revenue Budget and Council Tax 2011/12
  - Cabinet Agenda Item 165 – Capital Resources and Capital Investment programme 2011/12
  - Cabinet Agenda Item 166 – Housing Revenue Account Budget 2011/12
  - Cabinet Agenda Item 167 – Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme 2011-2014
- 3.3 Relevant draft extracts from the minutes of the Cabinet meeting will be distributed to OSC Members when they become available.

3.4 The role of overview and scrutiny is to ensure that the budget is set in an accountable manner and that it supports the Council's priorities.

#### **4. CONSULTATION**

4.1 Consultation undertaken in developing the budget is set out in the attached reports.

#### **5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

##### Financial Implications:

5.1 The financial implications to the budget proposals can be found in the appended reports from Cabinet.

##### Legal Implications:

5.2 The legal implications to the budget proposals can be found in the appended reports from Cabinet.

##### Equalities Implications:

5.3 There are no direct implications arising from this report, however major changes to service provision as a result of budget proposals should be subject to Equality Impact Assessment.

##### Sustainability Implications:

5.4 There are no direct implications arising from this report, however sustainability implications should be taken into account when developing budget proposals.

##### Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 There are no direct implications arising from this report, however crime and disorder implications should be considered when developing budget proposals.

##### Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 There are no direct implications arising from this report, however risk and opportunity management should be central to budget considerations.

##### Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 Robust scrutiny of the budget helps to improve final decision making. The corporate and citywide implications of the various budget proposals can be found in the appended reports.

### **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**



**Appendices:**

- Cabinet Agenda Item 164 – General Fund Revenue Budget and Council Tax 2011/12
- Cabinet Agenda Item 165 – Capital Resources and Capital Investment programme 2011/12
- Cabinet Agenda Item 166 – Housing Revenue Account Budget 2011/12
- Cabinet Agenda Item 167 – Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme 2011-2014

**Documents In Members' Rooms**

None

**Background Documents**

None

