

Appendices

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**NORTHAMPTON**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Item No.

7

## AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

<b>Report Title</b>	<b>Risk Review of 2011/12 Budget</b>
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**AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC**

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	10 January 2011
<b>Policy Document:</b>	No
<b>Directorate:</b>	Finance and Support
<b>Accountable Cabinet Member:</b>	Cllr David Perkins

### 1. Purpose

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- 1.1 To present the risk assessment of the budget proposals to Audit Committee for consideration.

### 2. Recommendations

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- 2.1 That the Audit Committee considers issues in relation to risk within the budget proposals for 2011-12 and comments appropriately.

### 3. Issues and Choices

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#### 3.1 Report Background

- 3.1.1 The Chief Finance Officer is required to make a statement on the Robustness of Estimates when the proposed budget is brought to Council for approval.
- 3.1.2 In support of this statement the relevant Heads of Service have completed a risk assessment as part of the MTP Options budget proforma.

#### 3.2 Issues and Choices

- 3.2.1 Each Head of Service has carried out a risk assessment of their budget proposals as part of their MTP Option submissions.

- 3.2.2 Management Board have also scrutinised the risk implications in detail to ensure that the options are deliverable.
- 3.1.3 A schedule of budget options is attached at annex 1 of this report. This schedule contains more detailed information on the options put forward for consultation along with comments on risk in relation to each option.
- 3.2.3 Outside this other risk work has been/is being undertaken in relation to the budget proposals. For each proposal an Equalities Impact Assessment is being carried out to identify risks and issues that need to be addressed/considered in deciding whether or how to take a proposal forward.

### **3.3 Choices (Options)**

- 3.3.1 The Audit Committee is asked to consider the risk issues in relation to some or all of the budget options for 2011/12 and make comments or recommendations to the Chief Finance Officer.
- 3.3.2 The Audit Committee may consider the risk issues in relation to some or all of the budget options and make comment to Cabinet for consideration alongside the final budget proposals.

## **4. Implications (including financial implications)**

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### **4.1 Policy**

- 4.1.1 There are no specific policy issues arising from this report

### **4.2 Resources and Risk**

- 4.2.1 This report outlines measures taken to identify and mitigate risks in relation to the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account budget proposals.

### **4.3 Legal**

- 4.3.1 There are no specific legal issues arising from this report.

### **4.4 Equality**

- 4.4.1 Equality and Diversity are being considered as a part of the budget build process, and an equalities assessment will be completed for the budget proposals before they are brought to Council for final decision later in February 2010.

### **4.5 Consultees (Internal and External)**

- 4.5.1 Internally Heads of Service and Management Board have been consulted, and involved in the budget risk assessment process.

### **4.6 How the Proposals deliver Priority Outcomes**

4.6.1 All of the discretionary proposals in the draft budget have been assessed against the corporate priorities as set out in the Corporate Plan.

#### **4.7 Other Implications**

4.7.1 There are no other specific issues arising from this report.

### **5. Background Papers**

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5.1 Cabinet Reports:

4 January 2011 Council Wide Draft budget 2011/12 to 2013/14

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