

**2016/17 Budget Consultation**

**Corporate Resources Overview &Scrutiny Committee – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2016  
(All Member session)**

<b>Member Comment/Question</b>	<b>Response</b>
Are the proposals still the same?	There are minor variations in the figures but the scale and complications are different this year. Members were referred to the chronology in the report which outlined the structure.
Could a table with two columns - one with the original figures and the other with the new figures with a footnote explaining the changes be prepared?	Details will be distributed. The Chief Executive referred Members to the Appendices to the Report and to the Fact Sheets which had been prepared to assist Members. Further explanations will be sent to Members to clarify.
Clarification was requested on the variations in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lighting Resources</li> <li>• HRC site efficiencies</li> <li>• Bus routes</li> <li>• Cleansing stand</li> <li>• Zero tolerance on littering</li> </ul>	It was emphasised that the complexity and scale was difficult to follow and the figures presented were an indication of the current position. Some of the figures presented to the December meeting had been overstated and some figures were determined too late for that meeting. There had also been a number of versions of the business plans shared with Members which may have caused confusion.
Is there confidence in the figures provided to make savings with the figures?	There is nothing else to be found, based on reasonable risk.
What in capital terms will affect revenue in future year's 17/18 budget – can you point to additional pressures?	21 <sup>st</sup> Century Schools was a 70/30 split but is now a 50/50 split which is not sustainable by Councils.
At a recent Treasury Management Training session the borrowing requirements of Flintshire were shown to be going up alarmingly in the next few years: will this impact on other services?	This is a housing revenue account issue, not an impact on the general fund budget. Assurance may need to be given on the Council House Subsidy buy out and WHQS delivery. Flintshire is investing in its communities and is confident.
On table 6, new emerging pressures and Leisure income, what is the position for Deeside Ice Rink?	Deeside Ice Rink is within the Community Asset Transfer Programme.
Clarification on the difference between earmarked reserves and un-earmarked reserves is requested	Levels of reserves are reported through Cabinet and CRO&SC on a quarterly basis

<p>Levels of reserves: a town council had been advised to have a minimum of 3 months running costs to be kept in reserves, which is a large amount.</p>	<p>Our levels of reserves are recommended by the Wales Audit Office but are around 2 not 25% of revenue.</p>
<p>There is a concern that efficiencies for Flintshire could result in costs being passed on to town/community council which haven't budgeted for them.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>Will further efficiencies still be looked at ahead of the budget</p>	<p>There isn't anything else to be identified at the moment.</p>