

**AD HOC SCRUTINY PANEL
COUNCIL BUDGET 2018-2019 AND PROPOSED SAVINGS – ACTION PLAN**

4 SEPTEMBER 2018

SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION	PROPOSED ACTION	POST TITLE	BUDGET COST	TIMESCALE
<p>1. To engage more residents in future budget consultation activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council should utilise contemporary social media applications, where viable; • Youth Participation Officers should develop a consultation plan linked to relevant budget proposals; • All community buildings, particularly Community Hubs, must be used to their full potential. For example: hosting of roadshow events (which have previously been undertaken successfully across Middlesbrough), with relevant Ward Councillor(s) and Councillors from surrounding Wards in attendance; • Consideration should be given to monitoring stakeholder engagement e.g. adding e-mail read-receipts onto electronic invitations; • Councillors should be provided with posters, business cards and other publicity materials for distribution, as appropriate, which could include Ward/Street Surgery sessions and Community Council meetings; and • Contact be made with local media outlets to engage them in promoting budget consultation activity. 	<p>That the Scrutiny Panel's proposals are welcomed and that the Council explores how they could be delivered within the resources available for consultation. It is proposed that a consultation plan will be developed for consideration by the Mayor for the 19/20 budget proposals, which will include, in addition to arrangements for consultation already in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Budget consultation has previously and will again be promoted on the Council's social media platforms (Twitter and Facebook). These are the two platforms felt most appropriate for the Council at present and therefore there are no current plans to expand on them, however members may wish to expand awareness of the consultation to their constituents by sharing on their own social media. - The recommendation to consider involving 'youth participation officers' will be explored with Children's Services to identify whether there are options to increase engagement with young people that could be delivered with resources and an update will be provided as part of the October update to OSB requested below. - Promotional material will be provided within the hubs to signpost people to the online consultation. <p>In relation to the recommendation that 'roadshow' events should be considered, meetings which took place before the current more effective and comprehensive way of consulting online was in place and at a time when there was greater resources to arrange such meetings were often poorly attended. It is not proposed that these be reintroduced.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Read-receipts will be used for communications to for example Community Councils and members will be copied into 	<p>Head of Strategy, Information and Governance</p>	<p>To be absorbed within current resources if possible. Actions over the three set out would result in additional resource implications</p>	<p>December 2018</p>

	<p>such emails so they are aware when they have been sent and may also wish themselves to make their Community Councils aware at their meetings of the budget consultation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provision of promotional material will be made available for members to use to promote the online consultation to their constituents, within budgets available - Press releases are already issued to accompany publication of the budget proposals report, in previous years this has resulted in local newspaper, radio and TV coverage. 			
2. That an update be provided to the Overview and Scrutiny Board in October 2018 in respect of the 2019-2020 budget consultation arrangements.	An indicative update will be provided on the overarching approach to the 2019/20 budget setting process will be provided in October 2018, supplemented by further communications as the Mayor determines his consultation plans.	Head of Strategy, Information and Governance	N/a	October 2018