

COMMITTEE	Urgent Business
DATE	1 February 2018
REPORT TITLE	Budget Setting 2018/19 – Change of Date
REPORT NUMBER	CG/18/028
DIRECTOR	Steven Whyte
REPORT AUTHOR	Sandra Buthlay

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT:-

- 1.1 To request a change in date for the 2018/19 Council Budget meeting.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 That the Committee agree to change the date of the Council Budget meeting from 19 February 2018 to 6 March 2018.

3. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

- 3.1 As the Scottish Government moves the 2018/19 budget through the parliamentary process we have been advised that whilst the budget will be presented to parliament on 21 February 2018 as previously announced, it is likely the revised settlement letter will not be available until 1 March 2018.
- 3.2 The Council's Budget meeting is currently set for 19 February 2018.
- 3.3 The current budget meeting date is such that Council will be faced with making decisions and setting its 2018/19 budget without the Scottish Government budget having been passed through the parliamentary process and without being in receipt of final settlement figures.
- 3.3 With this in mind it is proposed that the date of the Council Budget meeting be changed to 6 March 2018. This date should provide sufficient time to incorporate the detail of the revised settlement whilst ensuring the Council remains within statutory timescales for setting its budget.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations of this report although it should be noted that failure to set a budget will have financial implications.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendations of this report although it should be noted that there is a statutory requirement for the Council to set its Council Tax.

6. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

Financial

- 6.1 Without full detail of the financial settlement from the Scottish Government there is a risk the Council will set its budget and Council Tax at levels which may prove inappropriate once the detail becomes available. This risk is mitigated by changing the date of the budget meeting.

Other

- 6.2 Consideration has also been given to Employee, Customer / Citizen, Environmental, Technological, Legal and Reputational risks, and no risks were identified.

7. IMPACT SECTION

Economy

- 7.1 There are no direct implications on economy arising from the recommendations of this report.

People

- 7.2 There are no direct implications on people arising from the recommendations of this report.

Place

- 7.3 There are no direct implications on place arising from the recommendations of this report.

Technology

- 7.4 There are no direct implications on technology arising from the recommendations of this report.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

9. APPENDICES

None

10. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Sandra Buthlay
Senior Accountant
sbuthlay@aberdeencity.gov.uk
01224 522565

HEAD OF SERVICE DETAILS

Steven Whyte
Head of Finance
swhyte@aberdeencity.gov.uk
01224 523566