## Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Corporate and Strategic Framework)

Report of the meeting held on 6th June 2006

**Matter for Information** 

## 1. BUDGET AND MTP PROCESS 2007 - 2012

The Panel has considered details of the process and timetable for the review and approval of the Financial Strategy, the 2007/08 Budget and the 2008/12 Medium Term Plan (MTP). In discussing the process involved, Members have queried the format of the report to be submitted to their meeting in September and in so doing have been informed that they will be presented with overall forecasts of the Council's position. In response to concerns expressed regarding the length of time the review would take under the proposed timetable, Members have been advised of the key components of the review and how these relate to the timescale proposed. In addition, the Panel has been informed of the reasons why the review process cannot be completed in advance of the timetable.

The Panel also has considered a suggested procedure for the identification of savings that will be required in the period to 2016/17. In response to a question on Members' roles in the process, the Panel has been informed that it will be presented with prioritised potential savings from which they will be expected to consider and comment on at their meeting in November. The Panel has emphasised the need for the timetable to be adhered to for the identification of prioritised potential savings.

The Panel has recommended the Cabinet to approve the timetable and stages for considering the Financial Strategy, Budget and MTP.

J A Gray Chairman