



WEST MIDLANDS
COMBINED AUTHORITY

Briefing Note

Meeting: Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Title: Budget Task and Finish Group

Prepared by: Piggott-Smith

Email: earl.piggott-smith@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Tel No: 01902 - 551251

1.0 Recommendation

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

Note activity and planned activity of the Budget Task and Finish Group and approve the draft terms of reference.

2.0 Purpose

To brief the committee on the work Budget Task and Finish Group.

The following is a summary of the work undertaken to date and planned future activity:

- Background information has been shared with members of the group of examples of good practice to support its approach to scrutinising the WMCA budget plans.
- Members of the group attended a meeting of the GLA Budget and Performance Committee at the London Assembly on 28 September 2017. The aim of visit was to observe the working of the committee and its approach to scrutinising the London Mayor's budget proposals.
- A further visit has been planned for 22 November 2017 to observe the detailed scrutiny of the GLA Budget 2018/19 and presentation by the Mayor of the planned budget proposals.
- A draft term of reference has been prepared which sets out remit of the Budget Task and Finish Group. A copy of the draft is attached at Appendix 1.

- A briefing session has been arranged 24 November 2017 for members to give details of the WMCA budget activity and process for scrutinising the budget before it is submitted to the WMCA Board for approval. Linda Horne, Head of Finance, and Louise Cowen, Financial Services Manager will lead the presentation.
- The group will be meeting on during w/c 8 January 2018 for the group to consider the integrated plan and budget proposals. The group will agree a schedule of future meetings based on the published timetable and agenda items.