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**OVERVIEW OF EFFICIENCY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

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In view of the work which Scrutiny need to do in relation to the Medium Term Financial Plan 2012/12- 2015/16, and the role of the Efficiency and Resources Scrutiny Committee in considering the overall proposals included within that Plan as well as the specific proposals under its remit, we cancelled our formal Scrutiny Committee meeting which was scheduled to be held on the 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2011, and took the opportunity to use that time to hold a Task and Finish Review Group meeting.

At this first meeting, Officers reiterated the significant financial challenges facing the Council and referred to the objectives of the new Business Model which is framed on the three questions about WHAT services the Council will provide in the future, HOW those services will be delivered and WHO will provide them. We were also advised about the ‘Zero Based Council’, the new approach taken to ascertain what services the Council would provide if it was starting afresh, with the focus being on achieving the Sustainable Community Strategy outcomes and then building up services which contribute to these outcomes to the financial limit the Council can afford.

In addition to gaining an understanding of the overall Plan and the proposals, there are six specific proposals which fall under the remit of the Efficiency and Resources Scrutiny Committee and we held a further meeting of the Task and Finish Review Group on the 17th January, 2012, to consider these proposals in detail.

As in 2011, all Scrutiny Committees have considered those proposals within the Medium Term Financial Plan which are under their specific remits, and a special meeting of the Efficiency and Resources Scrutiny Committee was held earlier today and each of the Scrutiny Chairs presented their Scrutiny Committee’s findings and recommendations. All of those recommendations, along with those from our Scrutiny Committee, will now be forwarded to Cabinet for consideration at its meeting scheduled for 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2012.

**Councillor Ian Haszeldine**  
**Chair Efficiency and Resources Scrutiny Committee**