

Policy and Budget Framework Process

The Policy and Budget Framework for 2004/05 is set out below and reflects the election of a new council in May 2003. The detailed process involved:-

{PRIVATE}Date	Meeting	Objective
2003		
29 May	Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Determine work programme for the year. · Identify strategic policy or resource issues for examination by the O&S Committees.
10 & 17 June	O&S (Stewardship and Community Services)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Identify main issues from Performance Plan and Service Plans for 2003/04. · Consider approach to any strategic policy or resource issues referred for examination by Strategy Committee. · Decide on involvement/consultation arrangements with the public, partners and others on priorities/funding.
To be determined	O&S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Meet with public to discuss priorities/funding (if that is the involvement/consultation approach decided on in June).
To be determined	Political Leaders Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Give initial consideration to the strategic direction for the next 4 years.
To be determined	Political Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Consider the outcome of discussion at the Political Leaders Group. · Discuss group's views on strategic direction and priorities/funding.
17 July	Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Provide initial guidance on strategic direction, a Corporate Plan and Policy and Budget Framework.
29 July & 5 August	O&S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · In the light of Strategy Committee's initial guidance and O&S's public consultation, make recommendations on:- · New service priorities (with Business Cases from Heads of Service) · Savings and redirection of resources from lesser priorities. · Charging for services.
21 August	Members Seminar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Discuss the strategic direction and O&S proposals.
To be determined	Political Leaders Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Consider strategic direction before Strategy on 11 September.
11 September	Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Consider recommendations from O&S. · Review Council's Vision, Purpose and Aims. · Recommend the strategic direction for the next four years in the light of consultation and advice from O&S and a four-year financial projection.
14 October	Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · "State of the District" debate on strategic direction and Corporate Plan (to include public involvement at meeting). · Agree framework for further consultation with public and

		others.
2004		
8 January	Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Consider outcome of consultation on Corporate Plan. · Make Corporate Plan and Budget proposals.
20 & 27 January	O&S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Scrutinise Corporate Plan and Budget proposals.
27 January	Business Ratepayers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Statutory consultation on Budget proposals.
29 January	Members Seminar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Discuss Strategy Committee's proposals for Corporate Plan and Budget.
10 February	Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Consider O&S views and those of Business Ratepayers. · Recommend Corporate Plan and Budget to Council.
26 February	Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Decide on Corporate Plan and Budget for 2004/05. · Set Council Tax levels for 2004/05.