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**REPORT TO:** FULL COUNCIL

**DATE:** 7 JULY 2016

**SUBJECT:** PART 'B' REFERRALS FROM POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE ON 16 JUNE 2016

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## **9 Budget Strategy 2017/18 and Efficiency Statement**

Considered - Report of the Finance Manager (s151)

### **Recommendation to Council**

1. That Council be recommended to approve the following strategy for the preparation of the 2017/18 budget:

(i) Proposals to be brought forward for a £5 increase in Council tax;

(ii) Increases in fees and charges to be to a maximum of 4.5% on a cost centre heading basis excluding VAT and only those charges officers recommend above this figure to be considered by the relevant policy committee;

(iii) Efficiencies to be maximised; and

(iv) The use of New Homes Bonus in line with the medium term financial plan.

(v) Options for service cuts to be provided if necessary. These proposals to be considered by the Resources Working Party and brought to the Policy and Resources Committee and Council.

2. That Council be recommended to approve the Annual Efficiency Plan and that delegated authority be given to the Finance Manager, in conjunction with the Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee, to accept the 4 year funding offer should they deem that it is in the best interests of the Council to accept the offer.

#### **Voting record**

For 6

Against 2

Abstentions 1