

Budget setting scrutiny at local neighbours

Authority	Approach
Birmingham	TBC
Coventry	<p>Finance Board (OSC) considers the Medium Term Financial Outlook.</p> <p>No specific scrutiny of draft budget proposals. These are picked up through the formal public consultation.</p>
Dudley	<p>The Future Council Scrutiny Committee leads in scrutinising the Council's overall financial position and budget process. Reports are taken to the 5 Scrutiny Committees. All Scrutiny Committee comments are collated and included in the report to the Cabinet/Council in February/March.</p>
Sandwell	<p>The Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board, the overarching board for scrutiny that is made up of all scrutiny chairs, vice chairs and opposition representatives, receive all budget reports including proposals around December. Directors are invited to the meeting to provide context/answer questions.</p> <p>The Board's comments are submitted to Cabinet to consider.</p>
Solihull	<p>A Budget Strategy Group (BSG) is established in the autumn with Councillors from all parties invited to participate. They meet with each Director. Information from the BSG is pulled together. In December all Members are invited to a Budget Seminar where they are briefed on the emerging picture.</p> <p>January sees each of the Scrutiny Boards consider their specific budgets, with recommendations/observations being considered by the main Scrutiny Board in February, with the main Board making a recommendations to Cabinet.</p>