



COUNCIL MEETING

22 September 2016

MULTI YEAR SETTLEMENT AND EFFICIENCY PLAN

Mike Barker, Acting Chief Executive

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this report is to accept the Government offer of a multi-year financial settlement to 2019/20 and the approval of the proposed efficiency plan submission to Government.
2. The need for effective medium term financial planning in local government has never been more important. The Government's response to concerns from the sector has been to make an offer of a guaranteed minimum grant envelope, paid to councils for a four year period from April 2016 covering Revenue Support Grant, Transitional Funding and Rural Services Delivery Grant.
3. To take advantage of this offer each authority has until 14 October 2016 to accept the offer and publish an efficiency plan which is to be locally owned and driven. The attached report sets out the Council's proposed efficiency plan for submission to government in support of a recommendation to accept the four year financial settlement to 2019/20.
4. The Cabinet has considered the facts and issues arising from the report including alternative options and took all relevant advice before formulating their recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION

5. It is recommended that Council accept the Government's offer to Gateshead of a multi-year settlement to 2019/20 to support financial planning over the period and also approve the submission of the Council's proposed efficiency plan as outline in Appendix 2 of the attached report.