

**SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL  
FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE  
MONDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024**

**Officer:** Andy Watkin -Head of Resources (RFO)

**2025/26 Budget**

**Purpose of Report**

To inform members on the procedure and dates for setting the 2025/26 budget

**Background**

The Council has to set its 2025/26 budget which must be agreed no later than the end of January 2025. The precept request to Shropshire Council has the same deadlines.

The F&GP committee sets the budget and recommends it to Full Council to accept. During the preceding months a series of meetings and committees discuss various elements, such as inflationary pressures, wage increases, general assumptions on expenditure and also looking at income streams and setting the Band D rate for the precept in arriving at draft and final budgets.

**Timetable**

- *9<sup>th</sup> September 2024 – F&GP*  
Following meeting Head of Resources to email all councillors to request any changes to current service delivery and ideas for inclusion in next year's budget and further discussion in conjunction with the visioning exercise and Shropshire Council issues.
- *WC 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024– SMT & Group Leaders -*  
Provisional date to discuss APSE report and implications.
- *WC 14<sup>th</sup> October 2024– SMT & Group Leaders*  
Provisional date to discuss APSE report and implications.
- *WC 11<sup>th</sup> November 2024– SMT*  
Meeting to consider budget and operational factors to be considered in budget.
- *WC 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024– F&GP*  
Set budget principles and assumptions and look at forecasted outturn on 24/25 budget.  
Consider impact of inflation on future budget and pay settlement.  
Consider submissions from councillors.  
Set fees and charges.
- *WC 9<sup>th</sup> December 2024 – SMT & Group leaders*  
Meeting to consider draft budget to be submitted to F&GP
- *WC 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025 – F&GP*  
Review and recommend 2025/26 budget to Full Council

- *27<sup>th</sup> January 2025 – Full Council*  
Approve the budget and submit precept request to Shropshire Council

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- (i) **That the Report be noted, and dates made in diary with provision for 2 additional dates to consider finding of APSE report in late September / October.**