

ITEM 6
BWP 250706

BUDGET PROCESS 2007/08 – CONSULTATION
Discussion paper

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1 Background:

- 1.1 Consultation for the 2006/07 budget was carried out through the Joint neighbourhood forums with individual members of the Budget Working Party making the presentations.
- 1.2 This process worked very well and we received some good feed back and suggestions for changes.

2 Proposed consultation process:

- 2.1 It is recommended that we use the same basis of consultation in the form of a questionnaire, sent out to parish Councils, attend neighbourhood forums and also use the website and press release to ensure we consult as widely as possible. It is also proposed that we also approach CEN to see how we can engage them.
- 2.2 It is proposed that the questionnaire is revised based on suggestions from the neighbourhood forums last year and the input of the communications manager - draft attached at appendix 1.
- 2.3 A press release would be issued a week before the start of the neighbourhood forums alerting the public to the chance of taking part in the consultation and if they can't make the meetings informing them they can use the web form or alternatively request a questionnaire – draft attached at appendix 2.
- 2.4 Information received from this process will then be used in the final prioritisation of the bids submitted.

Appendix 1 Draft Questionnaire for comment
Appendix 2 Draft press release