



## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO THE FULL COUNCIL

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**PORTFOLIO:** **RESOURCES AND PERFORMANCE  
MANAGEMENT**

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER:** **COUNCILLOR WAJID KHAN**

**DATE OF REPORT:** **12/04/2017**

### Progress against our strategic commitments

<b>Strategic commitment</b>	<b>Progress update</b>
<p><b>PF1-</b> We will embed the partnership with Liberata within the Council's budget, strategic vision and commercial strategy.</p>	<p>I am pleased to report that Liberata achieved its key performance targets in Q3, and look set to have a good first full year of performance overall. In addition to maintaining service quality, Liberata committed to bringing new jobs into the borough, and I am also pleased to report that having won a contract with a council in the south east, 23 new customer service jobs have been created, bringing the total new jobs to 42.</p>
<p><b>PF2-</b> We will adopt Medium Term Financial Strategy that will put the Council on a sustainable financial footing. This strategy will set the framework for preparing annual budgets, ensuring the annual budget strategy is set within the context of the longer term outlook.</p>	<p>The medium term financial strategy, covering the years 2018-19 through to 2020-21 was presented and approved at Full Council on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February 2017.</p> <p>This set out the scale of challenges facing the Council over this period – namely a £4m funding gap.</p> <p>The Council operates in a generally challenging environment. Given the planned significant reductions in the Council's funding from Government over the medium term there will need to be a continuing fundamental review of the core purpose of the Council. This will demand strategic and corporate leadership and it is essential that there is seen to be strategic</p>

ownership of such a review given the scope of changes which will result from this.

The Medium Term Financial Strategy provides an overarching framework which sets out the context in which future decisions on resource allocation and budgeting will be taken. The primary purpose of the strategy is to provide an indication of the future financial position of the Council and in turn inform the annual budget setting process. It quantifies the likely level of resources that are available to deliver the Council's services and achievement of its core strategic objectives as set out in the Strategic Plan, as well as setting out the risks, the key ones being-:

- Funding uncertainty – changes to the New Homes Bonus scheme and reform of the Business Rates system
- Business rate volatility including appeals

At the Full Council meeting the budget for 2017/18 was set, which underpins the MTFS.