STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

QUESTION PERIOD

Minute No. 184
Councillor Gerbasi inquired about the time lines for the Operating Budget, in order to plan schedules, travels and various things, and noted that they just heard today about a public meeting at the Convention Centre next week.

Councillor Fielding confirmed that there was a public consultation session scheduled for January 31 and further stated that the budget was traditionally tabled around the third or fourth week of February and standard practice was to aim to have an Operating Budget meeting the Tuesday before the March Council meeting; he added that no final dates had been established, encouraged everyone to come out to the public consultation session and stated that they were going to try to do a bit more outreach by making phone calls to groups and agencies to come and make presentations.

Councillor Mayes requested confirmation that the draft would be tabled roughly the third week of February.

Councillor Fielding confirmed that generally the Executive Policy Committee tables the budget somewhere around February 27 or 28 and then it would then proceed to the Committee process. Presentations were made, delegations were heard at the Committee stage and then decisions were made regarding amendments and finally it was debated, traditionally the Tuesday before the March Council meeting.