

**CABINET**

**10 MAY 2022**

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**FUTURE PROCUREMENT PLAN**

**1. Decision:**

The Cabinet:

- 1.1. Noted the Future Procurement Plan including the forthcoming contracts that will require sign off by individual Cabinet Members.

**2. Statement of Reasons:**

The Procurement Strategy provides a number of guiding principles and actions to help develop our approach to procurement. The development and publication of a Future Procurement Plan is one of these actions.

The Procurement Team has worked across the Council to map out the proposed procurement activities due in the next 12-18 months that fall above the Key Decision level based on existing requirements and Approved Budgets.

The estimated overall contract value for the detailed procurement activities is circa £15m of the planned procurement value over the coming 12-18 months.

The Contract Procedure Rules that came into force on 01 January 2022, require a Procurement Initiation Plan (PIP) to be completed at the commencement for each procurement activity. The PIP stage provides the opportunity for the requirement to be reviewed and considered in light of the Being a Better Council programme. It is also at this stage where the strategic delivery options of 'stop doing', 'deliver in house', 'outsource', 'third party delivery' are considered.

The Contract Procedure Rules also delegate the responsibility to individual Cabinet Members to agree to contracts up to a value of £400,000 providing they are within existing Approved budgets. Therefore this report provides Cabinet with visibility of current planned procurement activity.

**3. Any Alternative Options:**

Procurements could be undertaken on a case by case basis as they arise without forward planning and visibility of the overall level of procurement across the Council.

**LOCAL PLAN 2040 - SUBMISSION**

**1. Decision:**

The Cabinet:

- 1.1. Agreed that the Local Plan 2040 and accompanying Proposals Map should be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, together with the summary comments and officer responses at Appendix A, the list of suggested modifications at Appendix B and the updated Local Development Scheme (LDS) attached at Appendix G of the Cabinet report.
- 1.2. Delegated authority to the Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Leisure & Local Plan, in consultation with the Interim Director of Regeneration and the Leader of the Council, to agree the finalised Regulation 22 – Statement of Consultation, the overall Duty to Cooperate Statement and individual Statements of Common Ground (SoCG).

**2. Statement of Reasons:**

Members of Cabinet considered the Submission of the Local Plan 2040 at a meeting on 7th December 2021 and decided to defer submission to allow the Local Plan to be reviewed against the Council's stated climate change aspirations.

The Council has undertaken a review and also taken informal soundings from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC), the Planning Inspectorate and the Council's advisers as part of this review. In summary, the views taken suggest the Council should now proceed with the Submission of the Local Plan, and also prepare a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for Climate Change, ready for submission after the Examination in Public (EIP).

The version of the Local Plan 2040 to be submitted was initially approved at the Cabinet meeting on 9th February 2021 and the current version is now accompanied by the responses from the consultation that took place between 5th July 2021 and 30th August 2021, as all representations need to be passed to the Inspector for consideration as part of the Examination in Public.

This report also includes (at Appendix B of the Cabinet report) a list of suggested modifications to be submitted alongside the plan, in the interests of ensuring clarity and accuracy.

Finally, the Local Plan has to be submitted with an up to date Local Development Scheme (LDS) which sets out the updated anticipated timescales for Local Plan preparation and other Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) and Development Plan Documents (DPDs). An updated draft LDS is at Appendix G of the Cabinet report.

**3. Any Alternative Options:**

1. To not submit the plan. This would result in the plan going back to an earlier stage of progress and would delay the plan making process. The Council would not be in accordance with its published Local Development Scheme and will not have addressed the commitment made when the Local Plan Allocations document was adopted. The decision could lead to a significant amount of the evidence base work becoming out of date with additional financial implications for subsequent updating of the evidence. There is an increased risk that planning proposals will be submitted and would be approved on appeal if refused as time progressed and the existing adopted Development Plan was found to be time expired. The government has indicated it may intervene where plans will not be prepared by December 2023.

2. To delay submission. The Council would not be in accordance with its published Local Development Scheme and will not have addressed the commitment made when the Local Plan Allocations document was adopted. The decision could lead to a significant amount of the evidence base work becoming out of date with additional financial implications for subsequent updating of the evidence. There is an increased risk that planning proposals will be submitted and would be approved on appeal if refused as time progressed and the existing adopted Development Plan was found to be time expired.

**APPROPRIATION OF STYCHBROOK PARK**

**1. Decision:**

The Cabinet:

- 1.1. Recommended to Council the appropriation of the Public Open Space (POS) at Stychbrook Park under Section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972 for the purposes of building the new Lichfield Leisure Centre.

**2. Statement of Reasons:**

Stychbrook Park has been identified as the preferred site for the proposed new Lichfield Leisure Centre. In accordance with Section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972 Lichfield District Council is required to appropriate the public open space before any development can proceed.

**3. Any Alternative Options:**

The Council could choose not to appropriate the site but that would mean its use for a leisure centre couldn't be progressed in this location.

**SECOND UPDATE -DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT SERVICE REVIEW & IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

**1. Decision:**

The Cabinet:

- 1.1. Noted the performance of, and the progress being made by the Development Management Service in terms of implementing the revised structure and with regard to its improvement programme.

**2. Statement of Reasons:**

A report was considered by Cabinet on the 7th September 2021 setting out issues facing the Council's Planning Development Management Service and seeking approval to restructure the service and invest in additional resources to support its improvement. Cabinet duly agreed the proposals and asked that updates be brought back to it in due course to show progress on the changes to be implemented and their impact. The first progress update was considered by Cabinet 6th December 2021; which looked at the period September to December 2021. This second update paper looks at further progress made January to April 2022.

**3. Any Alternative Options:**

1. Stop Service- as it is a statutory function of Council to determine applications submitted under the Planning Acts this cannot be done.
2. Shared service or staffing - opportunities to share staff have been previously explored on a county-wide basis but overall lack of capacity and appetite from many Council's. Problems of recruiting are affecting other neighbouring authorities so sharing staff unlikely to be workable or viable.
3. Continue to engage consultants - not a cost-effective option plus this does not ensure consistency of approach nor service/team development, significant resource required to train interims, interims are less reliable and can cause instability in teams.
4. Reduce performance & quality of work – an option, however not one to be recommended as this could mean the Council is designated as non-performing and potentially have decision making powers removed from it. Also, important Council projects could be delayed and there would be reduced income and loss of reputation.

**PERFORMANCE REPORT 2022**

**1. Decision:**

The Cabinet:

- 1.1. Noted the outturn report and available data sets as set out in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 of the Cabinet report.
- 1.2. Approved the revised actions and additional key performance indicators set out in Appendix 3 of the Cabinet report for the revised delivery plan.

**2. Statement of Reasons:**

The purpose of this report is to update on progress towards the performance targets set out in our Delivery Plan, which reflects the commitments and priorities set out in the council's Strategic Plan developed in 2020.

The report provides a snapshot of the council's performance as of the end of March 2022, which represents the end of year position at year two of the four year delivery plan as set out in Appendix 1 of the Cabinet report. Appendix 2 of the report provides an update on key data sets where these are available.

Overall there are 15 commitments and 37 actions within the plan.

**3. Any Alternative Options:**

This report details performance against the council's delivery plan 2020 – 2024, which has been previously agreed by Cabinet as the most appropriate method for managing and monitoring council performance. It also sets out a revised delivery plan for the remaining two years of the strategic plan period.



