

REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

CABINET DECISIONS – 12 MARCH 2019

1. FUTURE RE-DEVELOPMENT OF BIRMINGHAM ROAD SITE, LICHFIELD – COMMISSIONING BRIEF

The Cabinet:

- 1.1 Approved the draft brief for the purposes of engaging consultants to undertake a planning exercise in respect of Birmingham Road, Lichfield and the wider city centre.
- 1.2 Delegated to the Cabinet Member for Economic Growth, Environment and Development Services, in consultation with the Head of Economic Growth, the authority to appoint consultants to carry out the commission following a procurement exercise and subject to the costs being within agreed budgets.

2. MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK REFURBISHMENT PROJECT

The Cabinet:

- 2.1 Approved the procurement of works to undertake a refurbishment of the Multi Storey car park.
- 2.2 Delegated to the Cabinet Member for Economic Growth, Environment and Development Services, in consultation with the Head of Economic Growth, the authority to appoint contractors following a procurement exercise and subject to the costs being within agreed budgets.
- 2.3 Recommended to Full Council:
 - The inclusion of a new project in the Capital Programme with a total cost of up to £300,000 (including £50,000 of contingency) funded by the restricted earmarked reserve entitled 'Birmingham Road Car Park Repairs and Renewals'.
 - A change to the revenue budget to reflect the savings identified in the revenue implications section of the Cabinet report

3. HIGH SPEED RAIL 2 – ADDITIONAL PROVISION (PHASE 2A) AND ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT CONSULTATION

The Cabinet agreed:

- 3.1 That the portfolio holder for Economic Growth, Environment & Development Services in consultation with the Head of Economic Growth be given delegated authority to agree to a joint response with Staffordshire County Council and other local authorities.
- 3.2 Table 1 of the Cabinet report be submitted to Staffordshire County Council to assist in developing the joint response.
- 3.3 To continue with petitioning the Hybrid Bill in relation to the Common Lane issue.

4. EXPENDITURE FOR PLANNING SUPPORT

- 4.1 The Cabinet approved, over a 4-year period (2018/19 to 2021/22), the extension of procurement limits, up to a limit of £150,000 of expenditure from existing budgets, for any of the following recruitment agencies, to allow procurement of temporary planning officer resources:

Matchtech Group Ltd, Oyster Partnership, Vivid Resourcing, Park Avenue Recruitment, Carrington West, Macdonald and Company and G2 Recruitment.

5. ALLOCATION OF STRATEGIC COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) FUNDING

The Cabinet:

- 5.1 Approved the allocation of £300,000 of Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding to the projects set out within Table 2 of the Cabinet report.
- 5.2 Noted the evaluation and development being completed by Strategic Infrastructure Group, following the recommendation by the Joint Members and Officers Group, regarding the process of allocating Strategic CIL funding in the future.

6. HOMELESSNESS AND ROUGH SLEEPER PATHWAY PROPOSALS AND POTENTIAL USE OF S106 COMMUTED SUMS

The Cabinet:

- 6.1 Approved and delegated to the Head of Regulatory Services and Cabinet Member for Regulatory Services, Housing and Wellbeing the award of the procurement exercise for a partner to deliver the homelessness and rough sleeper housing pathway service costing up to £125,000 for an initial 2 year period, with possible extension of 2 years, subject to the success of the project and availability of funds.
- 6.2 Approved the alternative use for the Approved Capital Programme projects funded by commuted sum monies and potentially from existing external grant to purchase properties to provide accommodation as part of the proposed housing pathway model.

- 6.3 Approved the delegation of next steps to the Head of Service and Cabinet Member, to acquire property for this project from a minimum approved budget of £400,000 up to a maximum of £809,000 of additional housing reserves with oversight by the s151 officer and monitoring officer. Additional expenditure will only occur if the project proves successful and further capacity is required.
- 6.4 Approved the creation of a sinking fund to provide funding for upgrades to the properties and an earmarked reserve for the transfer of any surplus between income and spend to enable reinvestment in future options to alleviate homelessness and rough sleeping

7. PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS

The Cabinet:

- 7.1 Approved that the contribution strategy is based on the Pension Fund Actuary's preferred strategy.
- 7.2 Approved the upfront payment of the three year past service element in advance in April 2020 subject to the final level being within the approved Medium Term Financial Strategy.

**MICHAEL J WILCOX
LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**