

BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE PANEL

Capital Investment Strategy 10 November 2020

Report of Chief Finance Officer

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Budget and Performance Panel with details of the draft Capital Investment Strategy and its accompanying appendices as presented to Cabinet 27th October 2020. This will enable the panel to consider and comment on the draft proposal ahead of formal presentation to Council in accordance with the Council's constitution.

This report is public.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) **That the panel considers the draft Capital Investment Strategy presented to Cabinet 27th October 2020, making any comments and recommendations considered necessary for Cabinet to consider in line with the Council's constitution.**

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The Council recognises the longer term need to balance the use of its capital resources to contribute to wider investments that deliver against its Priorities such as regeneration of the local economy and projects that deliver wider social returns such as housing and green energy. The Council is moving towards a more commercial way of operating and recognises the need to invest on a commercial basis to achieve its aim of being more financially independent.

1.2 The Council's Constitution (Part 3 Section 5 – Budget & Policy Framework) requires that when a new or existing strategy is being considered, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Budget and Performance Panel have an opportunity to comment. If it considers it appropriate, Cabinet may then amend its proposals before submitting them to Council for consideration.

2.0 Proposal Details

2.1 The Capital Investment Strategy has been developed to include all Capital Investments made by the Council particularly around Economic Regeneration, those which deliver a Social Return such as housing, those which generate an income including property investment, support the Council's Carbon Zero + strategy, or provide for Operational Service Delivery. It covers the period 2020 to 2024 and reflects both the aspirations of Funding the Future and the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).

2.2 The Strategy will form a key part of the Council's overall Corporate Budget Planning and will provide a framework for the Council to consider a wide range of capital

investments which support the Council's stated Priorities and Outcomes. Key to the strategy is ensuring that robust governance processes are in place, full business case assessments are made and that the associated risks are minimised and so maintains links to other key strategic documents.

- 2.3 The draft Capital Investment Strategy and supporting appendices are included at Appendix A of this report.

3.0 Details of Consultation

- 3.1 Following consultation with this Panel, and with the agreement of Cabinet, Officers aim to provide a series of briefing sessions with open invitations to both Officers and Members in November.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT (including Health & Safety, Equality & Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing): None.	
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS Legal Services has been consulted on this report and has no further comments.	
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. However, the proposed levels and areas of capital investments will require borrowing and other associated costs. Financial due diligence and assessment will ensure that all the appropriate costs are considered for each proposal.	
OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS, such as Human Resources, Information Services, Property, Open Spaces None directly from this report, although dependent on the nature and area of investment additional resources may be required.	
SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS The s151 Officer has written this report in his capacity as Chief Finance Officer.	
MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS The Monitoring Officer has been consulted on this report and has no further comments.	
BACKGROUND PAPERS Capital Programme and Capital Strategy 2020/21 – 2023/24 http://modgov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=305&MId=7290&Ver=4	Contact Officer: Paul Thompson Telephone: 01524 582603 Email: pthompson@lancaster.gov.uk