

# Cherwell District Council

## Executive

7 September 2015

### Asset Management Strategy Action Plan Update

#### Report of Commercial Director (Bicester) and Head of Housing and Regeneration

This report is public

Appendices 1, 2, 3a and 3b are exempt from publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972

#### Purpose of report

To update the Executive on the progress of the priority actions arising from the Asset Management Strategy Review as reported in December 2014 and as part of the 2015/16 budget process.

#### 1.0 Recommendations

The meeting is recommended to:

- 1.1 Note the updates on the priority actions arising from the Asset Management Plan set out in exempt Appendix 1.
- 1.2 Approve the allocation of up to £120k from earmarked reserves, which will allow the progression of the key activities which focus on the priority actions arising from the Asset Management Strategy Review (exempt Appendix 2) and detailed in Section 1-4 of exempt Appendix 1.
- 1.3 Approve the use of £80k of the approved The Hill Youth and Community Centre capital budget to progress the Hill project to the next stage as outlined in section 4 of exempt Appendix 1
- 1.4 Note that a comprehensive project plan is being monitored through the Accommodation Asset Strategy Board to ensure the vision set out in exempt Appendix 2 will be delivered by 2019. Progress against this action plan will be presented to the Executive in March 2016.

#### 2.0 Introduction

- 2.1 At the December 2014 Executive it was agreed that the following would be priority actions arising out of the Asset Review & Strategy work.

- 1) Asset Strategy Resource Plan
- 2) Operational Offices Plan
- 3) Car Parks Plan
- 4) Community Buildings Plan including the proposals for The Hill as per the 2015/16 capital budget proposals

2.2 Action plans and revenue funding was allocated to each of these focus areas and project teams were established to deliver outcomes. This report will provide an update on the work to date.

### **3.0 Report details**

3.1 Exempt Appendix 1 contains an overview of each of the focus areas together with an indication of timescales, additional funding required or approvals needed.

3.2 The Accommodation Asset Strategy Board provides a forum for debate and discussion about property matters. The Board comprises the Lead Members for Finance and Estates/Economy. The officer support is made up of representatives of Estates, Regeneration, Housing, Finance, and Bicester. The board is monitoring the actions and priorities arising out of the Asset Strategy.

3.3 A detailed action / resource plan is being monitored and will be presented to the Executive as part of the 2016/17 budget process together with detailed revenue and capital bids.

3.4 In the meantime to continue to progress the key priorities requires additional revenue budgets of up to £120k and capital budget of £80k in 2015/16 to fund:

- 1) Resources
- 2) Consultancy
- 3) Stage 1 of a 2 stage procurement activity for The Hill

3.5 Any use of specialist consultants will be subject to demonstrating VFM and will be subject to the Council's procurement process.

### **4.0 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations**

4.1 It is important that adequate resource and a number of specialist reviews are available during this financial year in order to inform the work programme, capital programme and current strategic development projects. It has been estimated that the resources required in 2015/16 can be met from windfall income or earmarked capital receipts subject to Executive approval.

### **5.0 Consultation**

- Accommodation Asset Strategy Board (whole report)
- Banbury Developments Board (priority focus 2 and 3)
- Bolton Road Project Team (priority focus 3)
- Community Centre Project Team (priority focus 4)

- The Hill Project Team (priority focus 4)

## 6.0 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 6.1 There is an option not to provide funding during 2015/16 and submit bids for the 2016/17 budget process. This is not recommended as a number of priority actions require resources now as they impact on other Council projects and priorities.

## 7.0 Implications

### Financial and Resource Implications

- 7.1 There is a requirement to provide revenue budget of up to £120k and capital funding of £80k for priority actions detailed in exempt Appendix 1.
- 7.2 These funds can be met from earmarked reserves and existing capital budgets. Any further capital or revenue expenditure will need to be considered as part of the 2016/17 budget process.

Comments checked by: Paul Sutton, Head of Finance and Procurement,  
0300 0030106, paul.sutton@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

### Legal Implications

- 7.3 There are no legal implications as a result of this report.

Comments checked by: Kevin Lane, Head of Law and Governance Tel: 0300  
0030107, Email: kevin.lane@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

### Risk Implications

- 7.4 There are no direct risks as a result of this report. In preparing a comprehensive action list for implementing the Asset Management Strategy a risk and mitigation register will be compiled and monitored.

Comments checked by: Paul Sutton, Head of Finance and Procurement,  
0300 0030106 paul.sutton@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

## 8.0 Decision Information

<b>Key Decision</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Financial Threshold Met:</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Community Impact Threshold Met:</b>	<b>Yes</b>

## Wards Affected

All

## Links to Corporate Plan and Policy Framework

Most people use public assets, such as council buildings, leisure centres, car parks and community facilities. They help shape the character of local areas and influence the quality of life for local people. They make an important contribution to local priorities. This proposal will enable the Council to deliver its vision for asset management which will meet the objectives of all of the Council's Strategic Objectives:

- District of Opportunity
- Thriving Communities
- Safe, Green and Clean
- Sound Budgets and Customer Focused Council

## Lead Member

**Councillor Norman Bolster**

Lead Member for Estates and the Economy

## Document Information

Appendix No	Title
One	Update on priority actions (exempt)
Two	2014 – 2019 Asset Review and Strategy (exempt)
Three	Leisure Centres (exempt)
Background Papers	
None	
Report Author	Karen Curtin, Commercial Director (Bicester) Chris Stratford, Head of Housing and Regeneration
Contact Information	<a href="mailto:Karen.curtin@cherwell-dc.gov.uk">Karen.curtin@cherwell-dc.gov.uk</a> 0300 0030202 Chris Stratford, Head of Housing and Regeneration <a href="mailto:Chris.stratford@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk">Chris.stratford@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk</a> 0300 0030111