

This report is public	
Developing a Kidlington Infrastructure and Community Asset Strategy	
Committee	Executive
Date of Committee	5 February 2024
Portfolio Holder presenting the report	Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Councillor Donna Ford
Date Portfolio Holder agreed report	22 January 2024
Report of	Corporate Director Communities Ian Boll

Purpose of report

To respond to the question raised at council in December 2023 to provide resource and budget to enable the development of a new vision for Kidlington cognisant of the growth allocated in the 2020 Local Plan Partial Review and to provide ongoing oversight of development.

1. Recommendations

The Executive recommends:

- 1.1 To develop a Kidlington Infrastructure Strategy in 2024/25 and resource to provide oversight to its ongoing delivery.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 To develop an infrastructure and community asset strategy for the Kidlington area cognisant of the Local Plan Partial Review sites and expected delivery as the sites develop out, providing coordination and oversight to the delivery of programme as it is developed.

Implications & Impact Assessments

Implications	Commentary
Finance	Funding of £115k has been built into the 2024/25 budget that Executive is recommended to recommend to Council elsewhere on the agenda. The MTFs has not assumed any additional income streams as outlined below in future years in order to be prudent. When they are identified they will improve the Council's MTFs position. Michael Furness, Assistant Director of Finance (S151 Officer), 16.01.24

Legal	At this time no input is required from Legal as it is too early in the process, however, as the matter progresses engagement with Legal will be required to ensure compliance with relevant statutory requirements. Kim Maher, Solicitor, 23.01.24			
Risk Management	There are no risk implications as a direct consequence of this report. Any arising risks will be managed as part of the service operational risk register and escalated to the leadership risk register as and when necessary Celia Prado-Teeling, Performance Team Leader, 16.01.24			
Impact Assessments	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Commentary
Equality Impact		X		N/A
A Are there any aspects of the proposed decision, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could impact on inequality?		X		N/A
B Will the proposed decision have an impact upon the lives of people with protected characteristics, including employees and service users?		X		N/A
Climate & Environmental Impact		X		N/A
ICT & Digital Impact		X		N/A
Data Impact		X		N/A
Procurement & subsidy		X		N/A
Council Priorities	<p>Through effective coordination and prioritisation of infrastructure and community assets, this strategy will support the achievement of the following Council priorities:</p> <p>Enterprising economy with strong & vibrant local centres</p> <p>Supporting environmental sustainability</p> <p>Healthy, resilient and engaged communities</p> <p>Housing that meets your needs</p>			

Human Resources	Assistant Director Human Resources Claire Cox 23 January 2024 It is proposed to create a new post to develop and coordinate the delivery of the strategy. This does not present an impact.
Property	N/A
Consultation & Engagement	Ongoing engagement and the establishment of a delivery oversight board will be part of the approach to monitoring delivery of the strategy. Details will be confirmed in a subsequent update to Executive.

Supporting Information

3. Background

3.1 At the December Council meeting, a Question was asked to the Leader on whether a holistic strategy for Kidlington’s Infrastructure could be prepared, mindful of the committed development arising from the 2011-2031 Cherwell Local Plan Partial Review adopted in 2020.

Area	Policy / Site	No. of Homes
North Oxford	Policy PR6a – Land East of Oxford Rd	690
	Policy PR6b – Land West of Oxford Rd	670
	Policy PR6c – Land at Frieze Farm (reserved site for replacement golf course)	-
Kidlington	Policy PR7a – Land South East of Kidlington	430
	Policy PR7b – Land at Stratfield Farm	120
Begbroke	Policy PR8 – Land East of the A44	1950
Yarnton	Policy PR9 – Land West of Yarnton	540
Total		4400

3.2 The Plan seeks to ensure that the developments will be supported by necessary infrastructure through a coordinated and planned approach (Policy PR11). This will be assisted by a requirement for development briefs for each site and by working with service providers such as the County Council and the Integrated Care Board on matters including highways, education, health infrastructure and on necessary financial contributions for other supporting infrastructure. There is an extensive

schedule of infrastructure requirements within the Partial Review document comprising 113 individual infrastructure projects.

- 3.3 Since the Plan was produced, the Council has set an ambitious climate action plan for reduction carbon emissions, has engaged with Energy Distribution Network Operators to develop Local Area Energy Plans and is producing a new Community Biodiversity and Nature Plan.
- 3.4 East West Rail is expected to complete the next phase of its delivery to open the line fully between Oxford and Bletchley and then onwards to Cambridge.
- 3.5 Oxford United FC had reached a land agreement with Oxfordshire County Council to pursue planning for the relocation of the OUFC football stadium land between Stratfield Brake and Oxford Parkway.
- 3.6 Begbroke Science Park and Oxford Airport have experienced strong growth and expect to continue to do so.
- 3.7 The Leader committed to the development of a holistic strategy for the Kidlington area at the Full Council meeting December 2023.
- 3.8 This follows the work undertaken to develop a vision for Banbury to 2050, to identify and set priorities for both short term and long term regeneration of the town centre, and the work in progress on Reimaging Bicester which started pre pandemic with the Garden Town programme and the work on the Market Square development and continues to be funded by Homes England Capacity funding. A new vision for Bicester is to be developed in 2024/25.
- 3.9 The development of a Kidlington Vision would complete the need for a place based vision for each of the three main urban areas of Cherwell. It would build upon the work of the Banbury Vision which has undertaken widespread and detailed stakeholder engagement to identify key themes, and on the Reimaging Bicester work which has a focus on the achievement of exemplary development as part of the Garden Town vision and the integration of new communities with existing.
- 3.10 Early development of a vision and a programme of enabling through the development of the Partial Review sites would ensure that council priorities of ensuring the early provision of enabling and mitigating infrastructure, enabling healthy, resilient and engaged communities, housing which meets residents needs, a low carbon future, and strong and vibrant local centres are met.
- 3.11 Each of the planned 4,400 housing units delivered in the area is expected to either deliver or contribute through S106/CIL approximately £20,000 - £30,000 for infrastructure. This amounts to some £88,000,000 to £132,000,000 of investment for the Kidlington area. Coordinating this efficiently is paramount.
- 3.12 In addition, developers will be investing in energy infrastructure, fabric first homes, green spaces, biodiversity, local roads etc, and employing many thousands of local trade and skilled personnel, representing some £1,000,000,000 to the Cherwell and Oxfordshire economies.

4. Details

- 4.1 To meet the requirements of developing and overseeing the delivery of the strategy the following resources are required:
- 4.2 Officer resource – 1 FTE officer to develop and lead the programme, to establish and manage a strategic oversight board for the three tiers of local government, developers and stakeholders, to engage with communities, to drive early delivery of infrastructure.
- 4.3 A small budget to commission development of the Vision and necessary studies to support the effective coordination and deliver of infrastructure across the individual sites is also required and detailed in the table below.
- 4.4 It is expected that allocating officer capacity will bring forward funding opportunities from development sites and that match funding will become available as the business case is developed.

Year	Description	Budget (£)
2024/5	Officer Resource (est Grade K)	75,000
	Commissioning budget	40,000
	Match funding/income	00,000
2025/6	Officer Resource (est Grade K)	75,000
	Commissioning budget	20,000
	Match funding/income	-50,000
2026/7	Officer Resource (est Grade K)	75,000
	Commissioning budget	20,000
	Match funding/income	-50000
2027/8	Officer Resource (est Grade K)	75,000
	Match funding/income	-50,000
Total		230,000

5. Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 5.1 The following alternative options have been identified and rejected for the reasons as set out below.

Option 1: Do Nothing. Under this option, development would come forward site by site through the planning process and infrastructure and community assets would be coordinated by existing resources in the respective tiers of Local Government and other agencies.

6 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations

- 6.1 It is recommended that the Medium Term Financial P is amended to include the allocation of resource and budget to support the development and oversight of a new Infrastructure and Community Asset Strategy for Kidlington and the surrounding area of the PR sites as per the Local Plan Partial Review adopted in 2020

Decision Information

Key Decision	No
Subject to Call in	Yes
If not, why not subject to call in	
Ward(s) Affected	[Kidlington West, Kidlington East

Document Information

Appendices	
Appendix 1	N/A
Background Papers	N/A
Reference Papers	N/A
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