

To: **COUNCIL**
11 September 2019

EXECUTIVE REPORT TO COUNCIL
The Leader

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 Since the Council meeting on 17 July 2019, the Executive met on the 23 July 2019. This report summarises decisions taken by reference to the relevant portfolio within which they fall.
- 1.2 Updated Forward Plans are published every Friday and can be viewed online at www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk. Full details on the decisions taken by individual portfolio holders can also be accessed online through the Council's website.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **Council is asked to consider the recommendations set out at paragraphs 5.6.2 and 5.6.3.**

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The reasons for recommendations are set out in the supporting information and in the reports considered by the Executive.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 Alternative options are discussed in the relevant individual reports considered by the Executive.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Children, Young People and Learning

5.1 Town Centre Youth Centre

- 5.1.1 The Executive noted the next steps of the project to create a town centre youth facility on Braccan Walk, agreed that a financial plan to fund the additional revenue costs of running the new centre needs to be part of the 2021/22 budget and that a working group should be set up to involve young people in the design of the new facility at an appropriate stage.
- 5.1.2 Further to the completion of feasibility work, a property on Braccan Walk has been identified as a viable option to accommodate a new town centre youth facility. Creation of a town centre youth facility has been a long-standing objective for the Council and will provide a place for young people to go, where they can socialise and receive advice and guidance from youth workers and other professionals whose remit is to provide early help to young people.

5.2 Safeguarding Partnership Arrangements

- 5.2.1 The Executive agreed the new model for combined children and adults multi-agency safeguarding arrangements for Bracknell Forest.
- 5.2.2 In line with Children and Social Work Act and statutory guidance the new multiagency safeguarding arrangements must be jointly agreed by the local authority, Thames valley police and East Berkshire CCG. Previously, the Council had decided to end the joint Bracknell Forest and Windsor & Maidenhead Safeguarding Adult Board on 30 June 2019 in order to focus on local safeguarding arrangements in each local authority area from 1 July 2019.
- 5.2.3 Following detailed consultation with the existing Bracknell Forest Local Safeguarding Children's board members, Bracknell Forest based Safeguarding Adult Board members, all statutory partners with responsibility for decision making agreed a future model for combined children and adult's multi-agency safeguarding arrangements that should improve the local focus.

Planning and Transport

5.3 Enforcement & Parking Management Strategy

- 5.3.1 That Executive endorsed the Enforcement & Parking Management Strategy 2019 – 2024 and approved the Parking Procurement plan.
- 5.3.2 The Council is responsible for parking enforcement on street and in its car parks as well as the management and operation of a number of council owned car parks including those in the town centre. These functions are undertaken by contractors on the Council's behalf. The existing contract is due to expire in June 2020 and as such the procurement and retender process is underway. The parking strategy is fundamental to the direction and delivery of the new contract.
- 5.3.3 The parking strategy has been developed to provide a holistic overview of the Councils approach to parking and is integral to the delivery of the new contract. With the existing 10-year contract due to expire at the end of June 2020, there is real opportunity to change, particularly with the use of technology and new opportunities. The strategy covers a 5-year period to include the remainder of the current parking management contract and the first stage of the new contract tender.

Council Strategy & Community Cohesion

5.4 Council Plan Overview Report

- 5.4.1 The Executive noted the performance of the Council over the fourth quarter of the 2018/19 financial year (January - March 2019). At the end of the quarter, 101 actions (77.7%) were green (36 complete, 64 in progress) 28 actions (21.5%) were amber (4 complete, 24 in progress) whilst only 1 action (0.8%) was red and not started.
- 5.4.2 Progress against key performance indicators across the Council was also very positive, with 49 (76.5%) green – i.e. on, above or within 5% of target; 4 (6.3%) were amber – i.e. between 5% and 10% of target; and 11 (17.2%) were red – i.e. more than 10% from target. 28 further indicators had no set target.

- 5.4.3 Highlights of the fourth quarter included the progress on the procurement of a joint venture partner to re-develop sites in and around Bracknell town centre, as approved by the Executive in February. Potential partners had been alerted to the opportunity, in advance of a formal launch event that took place in May. In addition, following detailed negotiations, progress has also been made with BRP with regard to the confirmation that the refurbishment of Princess Square would commence in June 2019.

Transformation and Finance

5.5 Capital Programme Outturn 2018/19

- 5.5.1 The Executive noted the capital expenditure outturn for 2018/19. They also approved the carry forward of £24.225m from the 2018/19 capital programme to 2019/20. In doing so, the Executive noted the financing of capital expenditure as shown in the table below:

Financing of Capital Expenditure

	£'000
Total capital expenditure	63,475
To be financed by:	
-Capital receipts	7,047
-Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	8,480
-Government Grants/contributions	11,908
-S106 monies available	3,327
-Waste PFI	89
-Capital Financing Requirement	32,651

- 5.5.2 The capital programme for 2018/19 consisted of £95.688m on projects and programmes. A significant proportion of that related to the Commercial Investment Programme. The projected outturn was £63.475m (66% of approved budget). These figures remain subject to change, pending external audit. However no significant movement was anticipated.

The capital programme is monitored on a monthly basis by officers and reported formally to the Corporate Management Team on a quarterly basis and through to Members in the Quarterly Service Reports. The following table summarises the outturn position for schemes managed by Service Departments based on the latest information available.

Capital outturn for each Service

Service	Approved budget	Estimated Outturn	Carry forward	(Under) /Over spend
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Central Departments	12,571	6,393	6,102	(76)
Delivery	51,311	40,507	6,326	(4,463)
People	31,806	16,575	17,797	(3,444)
Total Capital Programme	95,688	63,475	24,225	(7,983)
		% spent	66%	

- 5.5.3 The total carry forwards requested by service departments amounted to £24.225m. Many of the projects are either close to being completed or are contractually committed and underway.
- 5.5.4 Financial Regulations require departments to ensure that the overall department capital programme is not exceeded. The overall capital programme is contained within budget although there have been some variances which are required to be drawn to the attention of Members. These key budget variances are detailed in the Borough Treasurer's report that was submitted to the Executive on 23 July 2019: <http://democratic.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/documents/s134710/Capital%20Monitoring%20Report%20Outturn%2018-19%20-%20Exec%20July%202019%20for%20PRG.pdf>

5.6 Revenue Expenditure Outturn 2018/19

- 5.6.1 The Executive noted the outturn expenditure for 2018/19 subject to audit, of £81.127m. This represents an under spend of -£2.528m compared with the approved budget. The Executive also noted carry forwards of £0.101m and approved the earmarked reserves as set out in Annexe C, within the attached Appendix A.
- 5.6.2 The Executive approved the virements relating to the 2018/19 budget between £0.050m and £0.100m and recommend to Council that those that are over £0.100m be approved by Council as detailed in Annexe E, within the attached Appendix A.**
- 5.6.3 The Executive recommends that Council note the Treasury Management performance in 2018/19 as set out in Annexe B, within the attached Appendix A.**
- 5.6.4 At its meeting on 28 February 2018, Council approved a revenue budget for 2018/19 of £83.655m. The Borough Treasurer's report attached as Appendix A informs Members of the outturn expenditure position, subject to audit, for the financial year 2018/19, highlighting that the Council is within budget for the twenty-first successive year and under spent by -£2.528m. The Council has therefore returned £0.013m to General Balances from General Balances as opposed to a budgeted withdrawal of £2.515m.
- 5.6.5 The Accounts & Audit Regulations 2015 require the Annual Statement of Accounts to be signed by the Borough Treasurer by 31 May and approved by the Council or a specific committee by 31 July. The draft accounts were actually signed on 29 May. The Governance and Audit Committee met on 25 July and approved the Annual Statement of Accounts.

5.7 London Road Strongs Heath Former Landfill

- 5.7.1 The Executive gave authorisation that the Executive Director is authorised to conditionally accept the offer of grant funding to facilitate remediation of the former Strongs Heath landfill site from Homes England (HE), subject to feasibility and the procurement of a development partner. The Executive also agreed that the Executive Director of Delivery investigate the feasibility of delivering a scheme which complies with the terms of the grant offer from Homes England and report back to the Executive in time to procure a development partner to meet the offer of Homes England. The Borough Solicitor was also authorised to agree a new collaboration

agreement with the Berkshire authorities who share liability and responsibility for the site to enable this project to proceed.

6 NOTIFICATION OF APPOINTMENTS MADE BY THE LEADER

The Leader appointed Councillor Brunel-Walker to attend Board meetings of the BID Company.

7 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

- 7.1 The Borough Solicitor's comments have been addressed in the reports to the Executive.

Borough Treasurer

- 7.2 The Borough Treasurer's comments have been addressed in the reports to the Executive.

Equalities Impact Assessment

- 7.3 Equalities issues, where appropriate, have been addressed in the reports to the Executive.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 7.4 Any strategic risks have been identified in the reports to the Executive.

Background Papers

Executive Agenda –23 July 2019

Contact for further information

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