

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL: 6TH DECEMBER 2004

UPDATE OF THE COUNCIL'S CAPITAL STRATEGY

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To consider the update of the Council's Capital Strategy following consideration by Select Committees.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Capital Strategy forms part of the Council's Budget and Policy Framework, and can therefore be amended only by the full Council following consideration by the Select Committees.
- 2.2 The draft Capital Strategy was approved by the Executive on 5th July and has now been considered by each Select Committee.
- 2.3 The Select Committee on Good Health at its meeting on 23rd September recommended in particular:
- That the priorities for meeting housing needs should be clarified and linked to those of Social Services relating to people with disabilities and older people and clearly identified in the Housing Strategy, with the addition of the wording to paragraph 2.1.2 of the Capital Strategy to the effect that homes should also be compatible with people's needs.

This recommendation has been incorporated into the updated draft Strategy attached.

- 2.4 A number of specific concerns and comments arising from consideration of the draft Strategy at the various Committees have now been forwarded to the appropriate persons.
- 2.5 The draft Strategy has also been updated to reflect a number of minor necessary amendments, together with recent Social Services developments as follows:
- work to develop a Disability Living Centre;
 - development of integrated Children's services;
 - development of a Children's Resource Centre;
 - the need for increased capacity for more specialist Children's settings;
 - ICT development to enhance service delivery;
 - and:
 - details of the Sure Start partnership.

- 2.6 On consideration of the above, the Executive at its meeting held on 27th October 2004 resolved to recommend the Council to approve the proposals set out in Section 3 below.

3. PROPOSAL

- 3.1 That the updated draft Capital Strategy attached to this report, be approved.

4. FINANCE

- 4.1 The Capital Strategy forms an integral part of strategic financial and service planning and supports decisions on the Councils' Capital Programme, subject to the identification of necessary resources.

5. LAW

- 5.1 Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 enables the Council to do anything which is calculated to facilitate or which is conducive or incidental to the discharge of any of its statutory functions.

6. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

- 6.1 The Capital Strategy complies fully with the Council's policies on equal opportunities. In particular, through this Strategy and the Asset Management Plan the Council will be seeking to comply with its responsibilities with regard to access for disabled people to its buildings.

7. RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 That the proposals in Section 3 above be approved.

8. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 8.1 Government guidance on Capital Strategies.
Community Plan and Council Plan.

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LEADER OF THE COUNCIL