

Meeting of the Cabinet on 13th December 2006

Report of the Director of Finance

Update of the Council's Capital Strategy

Purpose of Report

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

Background

2. 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.
3. The draft Capital Strategy (attached) was approved by the Cabinet on 13th September and has now been considered by each Select Committee.
4. Specific concerns and comments arising from consideration of the draft Strategy at the various Committees have been forwarded to the appropriate persons.
5. The Select Committee on Health and Adult Social Care resolved that the following issues be taken into account when the Strategy was considered by full Council:
 - *That Leisure and Culture facilities for the family group and to reflect the health impact on the ageing population be included;*
 - *That the Archives be moved as a matter of urgency to a place of storage for preservation and that when the review of the Quadrant building is undertaken, a specifically designed room to house the Archives be considered.*

Finance

6. As described above, the Capital Strategy forms an integral part of the Council's strategic financial and service planning and supports decisions on capital investment under the "Prudential" system.

Law

7. 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.

Equality Impact

8. The proposed Capital Strategy complies with the Council's policy 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.
9. With regard to Children and Young People:
 - The Capital Investment Priorities for Children's Services wholly relate to improving services for children and young people. Other Directorates' investment priorities will also have a significant impact on this group.
 - Consultation is undertaken with children and young people, if appropriate, when developing individual Capital projects.
 - There has been no direct involvement of children and young people in developing the proposals in this report.

Recommendation

10. That the Cabinet:
 - considers whether the draft Strategy be amended to reflect the resolution of the Select Committee on Health and Adult Social Care as set out in paragraph 5 above;
 - recommends the draft Capital Strategy attached (subject to any such amendments) for approval by the Council.



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Mike Williams
Director of Finance

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Background Papers

Community Strategy
Council Plan