

---

**Environment Scrutiny Committee – 7<sup>th</sup> November 2011**

**Report of the Chief Executive and Treasurer**

**Update of the Council's Capital Strategy**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To consider the update of the Council's Capital Strategy.

**Background**

2. The Strategy describes how the deployment of capital resources contributes to the achievement of the Council's goals, and to help ensure that assets - and the resources tied up in them - are efficiently and effectively used.
3. It forms an integral part of the strategic financial and service planning within the annual budget setting process and supports decisions on the Council's capital investment.
4. The Capital Strategy also forms part of the Council's Budget and Policy Framework, and can therefore be amended only by the full Council following consideration by the Scrutiny Committees. The attached draft was approved by Cabinet on 26<sup>th</sup> October as the basis for consultation.
5. It sets out the key Capital Investment Priorities for each Directorate over the next five years, linked to the relevant Council Plan theme(s).
6. The paragraphs within the draft Strategy covering services falling within the terms of reference of each Scrutiny Committee are:

**Regeneration, Culture and Adult Education Scrutiny Committee**

*Para 15: Urban Environment – Culture and Leisure*

*Para 17: Adult, Community & Housing - Libraries, Archives and Adult Learning*

*Para 18: Urban Environment – Transport*

*Para 19: Urban Environment – Regeneration*

*Para 21: Chief Executive's – Other Services*

*Para 22: Corporate Resources*

**Community Safety and Community Services Scrutiny Committee**

*Para 20: Chief Executive's – Community Safety*

**Environment Scrutiny Committee**

*Para 13: Adult, Community and Housing – Housing*

*Para 14: Urban Environment – Environment*

## **Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee**

*Para 12: Adult, Community and Housing - Adult & Community*

## **Children's Services Scrutiny Committee**

*Para 16: Children's Services*

### **Finance**

7. 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.

### **Law**

10. 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.

The production of the strategy is incidental to the Council's various functions outlined in the strategy which are undertaken by the Council pursuant to a range of Local Government related legislation.

### **Equality Impact**

11. The proposed Capital Strategy complies with the Council's policy on equal opportunities.
12. 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**

13. It is recommended that the Scrutiny Committees consider the attached draft Capital Strategy and raise any issues they wish to be taken into account when the Strategy is re-considered by Cabinet, and full Council.

John Polychronakis

.....  
**John Polychronakis**  
**Chief Executive**



.....  
**Iain Newman**  
**Treasurer**

Contact Officer: John Everson  
Telephone: 01384 814806  
Email: [john.everson@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:john.everson@dudley.gov.uk)

**List of Background Papers**  
Community Strategy  
Council Plan