

City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Wednesday, 10 July 2019

Title	Capital Budget Outturn 2018-2019 including Quarter One Capital Monitoring 2019-2020
Status	Recommend Forward to Council
Record of Decision	<p>Council is recommended to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the revised City of Wolverhampton Council Capital Strategy. 2. Approve the revised medium term General Revenue Account capital programme of £334.2 million, a reduction of £7.9 million from the previously approved programme and the change in associated resources. 3. Approve the revised Housing Revenue Account capital programme of £441.9 million, a reduction of £609,000 from the previously approved programme and the change in associated resources. <p>Cabinet resolved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the virements for the General Revenue Account capital programme be approved as detailed at Appendix 5 to the report for: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Existing projects totalling £11.1 million; ii. New projects totalling £6.8 million. 2. That the virements for the Housing Revenue Account capital programme be approved as detailed at Appendix 5 to the report for: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Existing projects totalling £3.8 million. 3. That the General Revenue Account outturn position for 2018-2019 which stands at 76.1% of the approved capital budget be noted. 4. That the Housing Revenue Account outturn position for 2018-2019 which stands at 86.1% of the approved capital budget be noted.
Options Considered	This report provides an update on progress of capital projects during 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 and anticipated budget requirements for future years. The evaluation of alternative project options is detailed in individual investment proposals.

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Reasons for Decision	To seek Cabinet’s recommendation to Council to approve the revised capital budgets. This will ensure that the capital programme budget reflects the latest forecasts and requirements.
Record of Conflicts of Interest	None
Dispensation Granted	N/A
Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)	N/A

Title	Treasury Management-Annual Report 2018-2019 and Activity Monitoring Quarter One 2019-2020
Status	Recommend Forward to Council
Record of Decision	<p>Council is recommended to note:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council operated within the approved Prudential and Treasury Management Indicators, and also within the requirements set out in the Council’s approved Treasury Management Policy Statement during 2018-2019. 2. That a revenue net overspend of £2.2 million for the General Revenue Account and an underspend of £195,000 for the Housing Revenue Account were generated from treasury management activities in 2018-2019. 3. A break even position for the General Revenue Account and an underspend of £910,000 for the Housing Revenue Account are forecast from treasury management activities in 2019-2020. <p>Cabinet resolved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That it be noted that £1.4 million was drawn down from the Treasury Management Equalisation Reserve in 2018-2019 in line with the approved budget. 2. That it be noted that during 2018-2019, it was projected that there would be an overspend against the General Revenue Account Treasury Management budget in the region of £2.0 million, primarily as a result of an increase in Minimum Revenue Provision charges following a

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	review. Cabinet (Resources) Panel approved that the overspend could be met by a further draw down from the Treasury Management Equalisation Reserve, however, due to other underspends across the Corporate Directorate this was not required.
Options Considered	As this is a monitoring report of treasury management activities undertaken in line with the approved Treasury Management Strategy for 2018-2019 and 2019-2020, there are no alternative options available.
Reasons for Decision	This report provides an update on treasury management activities undertaken in line with the approved Treasury Management Strategy for 2018-2019 and 2019-2020.
Record of Conflicts of Interest	None
Dispensation Granted	N/A
Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)	N/A

Title	Wolverhampton Youth Justice Plan 2019-2020
Status	Recommend Forward to Council
Record of Decision	Council is recommended to: Approve the adoption of the Youth Justice Plan 2019-2020.
Options Considered	The local authority has a statutory duty to submit an annual youth justice plan relating to their provision of youth offending services. The Youth Justice Plan 2019-2020 has been developed following consultation with partner agencies.
Reasons for Decision	The local priorities that have been identified for Wolverhampton not only respond to the local areas of need but also represent an alignment with the strategic priorities identified by the Youth Justice Board (YJB).

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	<p>The core vision of the YJB as set out in the YJB Strategic Plan 2019-2022 is: “A youth justice system that sees children as children, treats them fairly and helps them to build on their strengths so they can make a constructive contribution to society. This will prevent offending and create safer communities with fewer victims.”</p> <p>The YJB 2019-2020 seeks to achieve this vision and some of the key areas that will be given significant priority include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The implementation of trauma informed practice to develop attachment and trauma informed assessments, case formulation and integrated packages of support and interventions.• Development of a minimum offer for families and carers whose children are involved in the criminal justice system in order to develop therapeutic approaches with parents• A clear emphasis on outcomes and the ‘Child First offender Second’ agenda.• Increased victim contact and engagement with the Restorative Justice process• Strengthened links with the Early Intervention service to promote a focus on crime prevention to reduce the number of first-time entrants and embed the prevention offer• Reduction in the criminalisation of young people in care and/or care leavers by increasing the out of court offer and diversionary options at the point of arrest• Close working with Education in order to contribute to a reduction in permanent exclusions from school through the development of a diversion offer• Increased engagement of YOT young people in education training and employment with specific focus on the post 16 and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities• Development of strong operational links with St Giles Trust (A&E Intervention Service for young victims of violence) to ensure early intervention work is undertaken with young people at risk of gangs/ youth violence• Continued multi-agency response to the identification and work with young people at risk of gang association, youth violence and weapon related offending• Increased participation of YOT young people by ensuring their views are heard and used to shape future service provision• Development of practice and intervention to reduce levels of Black Asian Minority Ethnic
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	<p>(BAME) disproportionality identified within the youth justice system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved resettlement outcomes for young people being released from the secure estate.
Record of Conflicts of Interest	None
Dispensation Granted	N/A
Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)	N/A

Title	Wolverhampton's Tackling Violence and Exploitation Strategy
Status	Recommendations Approved
Record of Decision	That the implementation of Wolverhampton's Tackling Violence and Exploitation Strategy, as approved by the Safer Wolverhampton Partnership Board, Safeguarding Children Board and Safeguarding Adults Board, be endorsed and supported.
Options Considered	A refreshed Preventing Gangs and Youth Violence Strategy could have been developed, however, in light to the changing landscape around this agenda; focusing more on a public health approach and the evident links between exploitation of adults/young people with county lines, some of which is linked to drugs, but not all linked to gangs. A decision was made to develop a more encompassing strategy which recognised the links between violence and exploitation to enable a more robust and holistic response. Section 3.2 of this report details the benefits of taking a joint governance approach.
Reasons for Decision	There is a statutory requirement for Council's and other responsible authorities to formulate and implement strategies to reduce crime and disorder in the area; Section 17 places a duty on the Council to do all it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in the area. Implementation of the strategy contributes to fulfilling the Council's duties in this regard.

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Record of Conflicts of Interest	None
Dispensation Granted	N/A
Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)	N/A

Title	Safer Wolverhampton Partnership Annual Report 2018-2019
Status	Recommendations Approved
Record of Decision	That the Safer Wolverhampton Partnership Annual Report 2018 - 2019, as approved by the Safer Wolverhampton Partnership Board, be endorsed.
Options Considered	The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a statutory requirement on all Community Safety Partnerships to publish an annual report. There are no alternative options available to consider.
Reasons for Decision	There is a statutory requirement under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 for the all Community Safety Partnerships to publish and annual report detailing their annual delivery against priorities.
Record of Conflicts of Interest	None
Dispensation Granted	N/A
Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)	N/A

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Title	The House Project
Status	Recommendations Approved
Record of Decision	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That it be approved that the City of Wolverhampton Council, in partnership with the National House Project and Reconomy, delivers a local House Project for young people in care and care leavers. 2. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Resources, in consultation with the Director of Finance, to approve contributions from Reconomy towards the costs of the National House project.
Options Considered	<p>Option one would be to continue with the housing support options already in place in Wolverhampton and not consider developing a local House Project. These services can work well and the service run by the Children and Young People’s service, in particular, has positive outcomes for young people. However, given the projected number of young people who are going to be in need of supported accommodation in the next four years an expansion of options would be beneficial, to avoid young people remaining in residential care too long, and entering adulthood unprepared for living independently.</p> <p>Option two would be to develop a local House Project as detailed in the report. This would expand the range of offers available to our young people in care and care leavers, support our sufficiency of accommodation options reducing reliance on providers, and be a more cost-effective offer of care and support.</p>
Reasons for Decision	<p>The proposal is to implement option two. This gives greater placement choice for young people to be supported into independence. It gives the additionality of peer support contributing to reducing feeling of loneliness and isolation and offers opportunities via the potential funder for training and employment options for Wolverhampton young people in care and care leavers. Although our</p>

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	current housing support programme works well and has positive outcomes for young people, to not develop alternative complimentary services would reduce options available to young people. This option is also financially cost effective given the potential savings outlined in paragraph 6.5 of the report.
Record of Conflicts of Interest	None
Dispensation Granted	N/A
Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)	17 July 2019

Title	Local Lettings Plan - New Build Properties
Status	Recommendations Approved
Record of Decision	That the Local Lettings Plan for new build properties, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.
Options Considered	<p>If new build properties were all let in accordance with the Council’s Allocations Policy, the majority of properties would be let to the Emergency band.</p> <p>Emergency band includes cases where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • applicants who are homeless and are owed the main duty including when they have become homeless or the Relief Duty has come to an end and they have been assessed as being in priority need and unintentionally homeless; • there has been a Multi-Agency Panel review and immediate rehousing is required; • a substantially adapted or purpose-built property is required. This category includes those applicants covered by regulations which apply to members and former members of the Armed Forces and having particular regard for those injured or disabled in action; • a substantially adapted (two or more adaptations in the property) or purpose-built property is being freed; or

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an appointed Occupational Therapist has decided the applicant’s property is unsuitable for the applicant or a member of their household needs and where adaptations would cost in excess of £5,000 or cannot be carried out due to the construction of the property. <p>On new build developments there is a concentration of new households settling in a compact area. Under the main Allocations Policy there is a concern that allocating primarily to the Emergency band is not the best way to create a new settled community. There is also concern that allocating primarily to the Emergency band may be detrimental to community cohesion. This option is therefore not recommended.</p>
<p>Reasons for Decision</p>	<p>Inserting a large concentration of new properties into a new or previously existing estate has the potential to destabilise a community, it is therefore important to ensure this process is well managed. By allocating a proportion of these new properties to existing members of the community it can help ensure a stable community is established.</p> <p>These transferring tenants will create void properties spread out elsewhere which will then be available for applicants on the housing register via CWC’s Allocation Policy. Implementing the LLP will therefore ensure that two applicants benefit from the development of each new build council property.</p>
<p>Record of Conflicts of Interest</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Dispensation Granted</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)</p>	<p>17 July 2019</p>

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Title	Green Park School - Significant Change Proposal
Status	Recommendations Approved
Record of Decision	<p>1. That, in accordance with statutory guidance, the outcome of Pre-publication Consultation and Representation regarding the proposed permanent expansion of Green Park School be formally considered.</p> <p>2. That the permanent expansion of Green Park School be approved.</p>
Options Considered	<p>Alternative options exist including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option one: Not uplifting the capacity of the City’s specialist estate to cater for anticipated demand. This is likely to result in both additional pressure on local settings and an increase in placements in out of city and independent settings (these placements are often more expensive than local placements and can result in pupils needing to travel long distances). • Option two: Considering the introduction of additional capacity in an alternative local specialist setting. There is a risk that this would result in additional pressure on local settings as opportunities for the timely expansion of appropriate settings are limited. • Option three: Consider the development of solutions within mainstream provision. An initial appraisal of this option suggests that it is unlikely to be cost effective nor practical to support the needs of pupils with Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD) and Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties (PMLD) within mainstream provision, at this point. <p>The proposed change aligns to the Council’s strategic aspirations to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Ensure Wolverhampton’s school estate is fit for purpose and meets the full range of more complex needs of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities now being placed.” • “Develop local provision in order to reduce the number of children needing residential and out of area education, health and care services.” (City of Wolverhampton Council 2016).
Reasons for Decision	<p>The expansion would support the Council to develop high quality educational provision for pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and ensure that community needs can be met effectively.</p>

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Record of Conflicts of Interest	None
Dispensation Granted	N/A
Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)	17 July 2019

Title	Draft All Age Travel Assistance Policy
Status	Recommendations Approved
Record of Decision	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the commencement of a 12-week formal consultation on the draft All Age Travel Assistance Policy, as attached at Appendix 2 to the report, from 2 September 2019 to 29 November 2019 be approved. 2. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, in consultation with the Director of Education and the Delivering Independent Travel – Councillor Reference Group, to approve supplementary accessible documents and summary of proposals to be made available during formal consultation aimed at individuals receiving travel assistance and their families. 3. That proposals 1 – 9, which outline the significant changes to current policy practice and are already incorporated in the draft All Age Travel Assistance Policy, attached at Appendix 2 to the report be noted. 4. That it be noted that supplementary accessible documents will be available during formal consultation aimed at individuals receiving travel assistance and their families along with a summary of proposals. 5. That it be noted that the results of the consultation commencing on 2 September 2019 and engagement with the City of Wolverhampton residents and transport stakeholders would be reported to and inform a subsequent decision by Cabinet in February 2020.

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	6. That it be noted that a summary of this document is available within the All Age Travel Assistance Policy Presentation, attached at Appendix 1 to the report.
Options Considered	<p>An alternative option would be to not consult on the All Age Travel Assistance policy and retain the existing Home to School Transport Policy, Post-16 Transport Policy and Adult Social Care Transport Policy. However, the existing policies would require significant amendment to ensure they are lawful and efficient, and to enable more choice and a personalised travel offer to people of our City. Therefore, this option is not recommended.</p> <p>Another alternative option would be to defer consultation in favour of gathering further informal engagement evidence with the public. This would mean that more time could be spent gathering evidence to further support the development of the policy to ensure a full range of travel assistance options to support personalisation and independence were considered.</p>
Reasons for Decision	<p>The service cannot continue to provide travel assistance in the manner it has to date, and development of a full range of travel assistance options, including Personal Transport Budgets and bespoke solutions for families will provide people of our City with increased choice and personalisation.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that the current transport policies can be developed to better support individual's needs. The proposal is to develop a new All Age Travel policy which would be more transparent, and person-centered.</p>
Record of Conflicts of Interest	None
Dispensation Granted	N/A
Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)	N/A