

Cabinet

Date: Thursday 16 March 2023
Time: 1.45 pm
Venue: Committee Room 2, Shire Hall

Membership

Councillor Isobel Seccombe OBE (Chair)
Councillor Margaret Bell
Councillor Peter Butlin
Councillor Andy Crump
Councillor Andy Jenns
Councillor Kam Kaur
Councillor Jeff Morgan
Councillor Wallace Redford
Councillor Heather Timms
Councillor Martin Watson

Items on the agenda: -

1. General

(1) Apologies

(2) Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

(3) Minutes of the Previous Meeting

5 - 10

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 16 February 2023.

(4) Public Speaking

To note any requests to speak on any items that are on the agenda in accordance with the Council's Public Speaking Scheme (see footnote to this agenda).

2. Education Capital Programme 2022/23 and Approval of Statutory Proposals

11 - 28

To consider a request for additional funding to be allocated to existing projects.

Portfolio Holders - Councillors Peter Butlin and Kam Kaur

- 3. Improved Better Care Fund 2023/24** 29 - 36
To review and approve the draft list of schemes to be funded from the Improved Better Care Fund (IBCF) in 2023/24 in principle, in advance of publication of the Better Care Fund national Policy Framework.

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Margaret Bell
- 4. Developer-Funded S278 Highway Scheme Approval - Eastboro Way/Crowhill Road** 37 - 40
To consider the addition of a Section 278 fully developer-funded highway improvement scheme to the Capital Programme.

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Peter Butlin
- 5. Electricity Contract Renewal** 41 - 46
A report seeking approval for the renewal of the electricity contract for Council owned buildings.

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Peter Butlin
- 6. Surface Pro Device Replacement** 47 - 50
To approve replacement of existing Surface Pro devices.

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Andy Jenns
- 7. Museum Disposal of Items which do not meet the Collection Development Policy** 51 - 64
To consider the disposal of museum items which do not meet the requirements of the Collection Development Policy.

Portfolio Holder - Councillor Heather Timms
- 8. Member Working Group on Assisted Transport** 65 - 72
To paper seeking authorisation for the establishment of a Home to School Transport Member Working Group.

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Peter Butlin
- 9. Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership Transition & Future Approach to Sub-Regional Economic Development** 73 - 80
A report on the transition and approach to sub-regional economic development.

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Martin Watson

10. Reports Containing Exempt or Confidential Information

To consider passing the following resolution:

‘That members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the items mentioned below on the grounds that their presence would involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of Part 1 of the Local Government Act 1972’.

11. Rugby Parkway Station - Land Acquisitions

81 - 126

An exempt report relating to the acquisition of land.

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Peter Butlin

Monica Fogarty
Chief Executive
Warwickshire County Council
Shire Hall, Warwick

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Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Members are required to register their disclosable pecuniary interests within 28 days of their election of appointment to the Council. Any changes to matters registered or new matters that require to be registered must be notified to the Monitoring Officer as soon as practicable after they arise.

A member attending a meeting where a matter arises in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest must (unless they have a dispensation):

- Declare the interest if they have not already registered it
- Not participate in any discussion or vote
- Leave the meeting room until the matter has been dealt with
- Give written notice of any unregistered interest to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days of the meeting

Non-pecuniary interests relevant to the agenda should be declared at the commencement of the meeting.

The public reports referred to are available on the Warwickshire Web
<https://democracy.warwickshire.gov.uk/uuCoverPage.aspx?bcr=1>

Public Speaking

Any member of the public who is resident or working in Warwickshire, or who is in receipt of services from the Council, may speak at the meeting for up to three minutes on any matter that features on the agenda. This can be in the form of a statement or a question. If you wish to speak please notify Democratic Services in writing at least two working days before the meeting. You should give your name and address and the subject upon which you wish to speak. Full details of the public speaking scheme are set out in the Council's Standing Orders.

COVID-19 Pandemic

Any member or officer of the Council or any person attending this meeting must inform Democratic Services if within a week of the meeting they discover they have COVID-19 or have been in close proximity to anyone found to have COVID-19.

Cabinet

Thursday 16 February 2023

Minutes

Attendance

Committee Members

Councillor Isobel Seccombe OBE (Chair)
Councillor Margaret Bell
Councillor Peter Butlin
Councillor Andy Crump
Councillor Andy Jenns
Councillor Jeff Morgan
Councillor Heather Timms
Councillor Martin Watson

Officers

Amy Bridgewater-Carnall – Senior Democratic Services Officer
Benjamin Brook, Chief Fire Officer
Sarah Duxbury, Assistant Director for Governance and Policy
Monica Fogarty, Chief Executive
Nigel Minns, Strategic Director for People
Rob Powell, Strategic Director for Resources
Virginia Rennie, Strategy and Commissioning Manager (Strategic Finance)
Steve Smith, Assistant Director - Commissioning Support Unit

Others Present

Councillor John Holland
Councillor Jerry Roodhouse

1. General

The Leader welcomed everyone to the meeting.

(1) Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Kam Kaur and Wallace Redford.

(2) Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were none.

(3) Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held on 27 January 2023 were agreed as an accurate

record.

(4) Public Speaking

None.

2. Council Plan 2022-2027 - Integrated Performance Report Quarter 3 2022/23

Councillor Andy Jenns introduced the report which asked Cabinet to consider the Quarter 3 organisational performance, progress against the Integrated Delivery Plan and management of Human Resources and Risk.

This was a retrospective summary of the Council's performance at the end of the third quarter from April to December 2022.

Councillor Jenns reminded Members that they had access to the Power BI Dashboards if they wanted to drill down into the data in more detail and he noted some of the positive aspects of performance. These included 99% of Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme applications being supported, a decrease in the number of children subject to a Child Protection Plan and the data relating to the percentage of in year applications that had a school place offered within target deadlines.

Councillor Jenns also outlined the positive performance relating to the Management of Human Resources which included the continued decrease in the annual sickness absence rate, stabilisation of absences attributed to Covid-19 and the successful winter flu vaccination programme for Council employees.

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse stated that he was pleased to see, via the Children and Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee, that investment was beginning to make a difference to services but noted there was still volatility in the system. He suggested that Cabinet may want to consider how it approached partnership working, with key partners getting round the table to deliver solutions and he made reference to Domestic Abuse in particular. He also noted the challenges that existed with HR and the workforce plan overall.

Councillor Andy Crump thanked him for highlighting the important issue of Domestic Abuse and referred to the Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy which would be discussed later on the agenda. He felt this was a great example of multi-agency working and the report detailed the list of partners and groups set up to tackle it. Councillor Crump recognised that the decrease in the number of incidents being reported could be for a variety of reasons, but he reiterated the importance of encouraging individuals to report any instances of abuse.

Councillor Margaret Bell echoed the comments made and reiterated that domestic abuse was taken very seriously.

Councillor Martin Watson responded to the HR Management data, highlighting the relaunch of the Warwickshire Supported Employment Service (WSES) which encouraged individuals with learning disabilities and autism into the workplace and aimed to help over 400 people into paid and sustainable employment every year. He noted that the performance measures were on track and improving, and extended his congratulations to the officers involved in this work.

The Leader, Councillor Seccombe addressed the meeting reiterating the positive work that partnership working was achieving across a variety of areas including health. She felt this enabled officers and Members to work across the sector, allowing time to focus on the issues that mattered to residents, whilst keeping the work relevant and holding each other to account.

Councillor Jenns thanked everyone for their comments which would be taken on board, and he proposed the recommendations as laid out.

Resolved that the Quarter 3 organisational performance, progress against the Integrated Delivery Plan and management of Human Resources and Risk be noted.

3. Determination of Admission Arrangements, Co-ordinated Scheme and In Year process for school admissions for the 2024/2025 Academic year

Councillor Jeff Morgan introduced the report which sought approval for the Admission Arrangements, Co-ordinated Scheme and In Year process for school admissions during the 2024/25 Academic Year.

The report also sought authorisation for the Strategic Director People to approve the Admission Arrangements, Co-ordinated Scheme and In Year admission process in future years, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Education.

Councillor Morgan explained the purpose of the report, which was an annual requirement, detailing the process for handling admissions. He signposted Members to the minor changes proposed for 2024/25 and advised that responses to the consultation had been low.

There were no questions or comments on the report.

Resolved that

- 1) the Admission Arrangements, Co-ordinated Scheme and In Year process for school admissions during the 2024/2025 Academic year, as outlined in Appendix 1, Appendix 2 and Appendix 3, are approved; and
- 2) the Strategic Director for People is authorised, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Education, to approve the Admission Arrangements, Co-ordinated Scheme and In Year admission process in future years, unless those arrangements or schemes are subject to consultation as outlined in Section 1.

4. Educational Attainment Working Group Report

Councillor Bell outlined the report which presented the progress and recommendations made by the Educational Attainment Member Working Group.

The Group had been established to examine the inequalities in educational attainment across Warwickshire, following submission of a motion to Full Council in July 2022.

Councillor Bell provided some background to the Group which had been chaired by Councillor Brett Beetham and explained that the Group's work had been held up slightly due to the period of national mourning. She explained that whilst the Group had made good progress, it was felt that

further discussions were required and the report requested permission for the Group to continue to meet. She highlighted the next steps that the Group hoped to make as detailed on page 110 of the document pack. These included visits to schools, a focus on mental health support in schools and encouraging the take up of free school meals.

Councillor Seccombe expressed her thanks to the Group for taking on the work.

Councillor Morgan added his support to the report and agreed that it was important to get underneath the data and find out where the problems really were. He also suggested that the George Eliot School in Nuneaton was a good example of a school that had improved from 'requires improvement' to 'good' under Ofsted.

Councillor Bell thanked Members for their support and proposed the recommendations as laid out.

Resolved that

- 1) the progress made by the Educational Attainment Member Working Group, be noted;
- 2) the recommendations made by the Member Working Group, as set out in Section 3 of the report are approved, and the development of those recommendations into a costed action plan is supported; and
- 3) the continuation of the Member Working Group is approved, to enable it to gather further evidence and to develop the costed action plan for consideration by Cabinet.

5. Warwickshire Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2023-2026

The report presented the Warwickshire Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy 2023-2026 replacing the previous strategy which had covered the period 2015-2018.

Councillor Bell introduced the report and explained that this work followed on from a report considered at the last Cabinet meeting relating to the Warwickshire Safe Accommodation Strategy. She referred to the updated VAWG strategy published by Government in 2021 and explained that Warwickshire had responded with their own, local version. She highlighted the focus on the delivery of four key priorities and objectives which included Prioritising Prevention, Supporting Victims, Pursuing Perpetrators and Reducing Re-offending and Strengthening the System. The report advised that implementation of the Strategy would be led by the VAWG Strategy Task and Finish Group and overseen by the VAWG Board.

Councillor Crump endorsed the report and gave credit to the officers and partnership working demonstrated. He highlighted the multi-agency approach as outlined in paragraph 2.3 of the report. He reminded everyone present of the damage and devastation that domestic abuse caused and the impact on families, carers and communities. Paragraph 2.7 of the report detailed funding via the Government's Safer Streets initiative and Councillor Crump explained that the total figure should be amended to read £375,000.

Councillor Roodhouse welcomed the report and supported the direction of travel. He went on to highlight that domestic abuse towards males should not be lost sight of and, whilst he recognised that occurrences were lower, coercive behaviour could be experienced on both sides of a relationship.

Councillor Seccombe agreed with the comments made and recognised the investment committed to supporting the service. She agreed with the comments made by Councillor Roodhouse and noted that there were other victim groups, rarely discussed including the abuse of parents by children. She referred to the definition of VAWG on page 128 of the report and recognised that there was a trend of change that everyone needed to be aware of. Councillor Seccombe concluded by encouraging open discussions with partners which would enable the Council to address the safety of residents in Warwickshire. She thanked both portfolio holders and the officers involved for their work.

Councillor Crump thanked everyone for their support and reminded them that domestic violence could occur in any relationship including same sex relationships.

Resolved that the Warwickshire Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2023-2026 is approved.

6. Reports Containing Exempt or Confidential Information

Resolved:

That members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the item mentioned below on the grounds that their presence would involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of Part 1 of the Local Government Act 1972.

7. Exempt Minutes of the 27 January 2023 Meeting of Cabinet

The exempt minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 27 January 2023 were agreed as an accurate record.

The meeting ended at 14:22

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Cabinet

16 March 2023

Education Capital Programme 2022/23 and Approval of Statutory Proposals

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

1. Approves the following proposal for prescribed alterations at Evergreen School:
 - To increase the number of places for learners with SEND at Evergreen School by up to 40 places.
 - Recommends to Council that £7.820 million be added to the capital programme to deliver the scheme at Evergreen School to be funded from the Department for Education High Needs grant
2. Recommends to Council that £6.026 million be added to the capital programme to deliver the schemes at Oakwood Primary School and Stratford upon Avon School to be funded from Department for Education High Need and Basic Need grants and developer contributions.
3. Approves the addition to the capital programme of £1.532 million funded from developer contributions and Department for Education grant to deliver the remaining schemes in section 3 of the report and supports development of the land edged red on the plan in Appendix 3 as a new alternative provision free school.
4. Authorises, subject to Council's agreement to the required additions to the Capital Programme, the Strategic Director for People in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property, to invite tenders and enter into the appropriate contracts or (where the scheme is school led) to make the necessary funding arrangements for these schemes on terms and conditions considered acceptable to the Strategic Director for Resources.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report recommends proposals for allocating resources in the Education (Schools) Capital Programme to the specific project set out in Section 3. The proposals include funding from developer contributions.
- 1.2 The proposals within this report look to increase the number of pupils admitted to mainstream schools and special schools in Nuneaton & Bedworth, Warwick

and Leamington and Stratford on Avon. Further information relating to how the Council plans for, and anticipates the growth in demand for school places, is laid out in the [Education Sufficiency Strategy](#) and [Annual Sufficiency Update](#).

- 1.3 The Education Capital Programme is driven by the long-term strategic planning outlined in that Education Sufficiency Strategy and annual updates to ensure Warwickshire can meet its statutory duty to provide school places.
- 1.4 Forecasts of expected future pupil numbers are produced and published annually and consider current and expected future population growth. This includes growth from approved housing development. Where these forecasts predict a shortfall of school places, and local schools do not have enough physical space to admit the expected numbers of additional children, education capital projects are developed to provide those additional places.
- 1.5 As part of the SEND and Inclusion Programme there was a review of current specialist provision across the county, incorporating patterns of transport, current pressures and prevalence of need, pathway analysis, population growth and priorities. The project used both quantitative and qualitative data and included Council officers, headteachers and parent carer representative. Among the priorities identified, was the expansion of generic specialist provision in Nuneaton & Bedworth and the Central area.
- 1.6 Projects are prioritised and brought forward according to the date the additional places will be required, as evidenced in the pupil forecast data, combined with the expected time required to design and deliver each scheme.
- 1.7 The expected education capital requirements associated with proposed strategic housing development across the county are identified as part of the District and Borough Local Plan process. As strategic housing developments progress across the county, and planning permission is granted, the pupil forecast data is updated and the prioritisation of education capital projects amended as needed to ensure sufficient school places exist to meet the expected demand. Availability of education capital resources limits the ability to deliver additional school places in advance of the requirement for those places being evidenced in the pupil forecast data.
- 1.8 Whilst the issue of sufficiency of provision must take priority, it is important to ensure that schools that are not expanding are able to continue to meet existing sufficiency needs and to operate within their existing accommodation. Details of proposed schemes to make improvements to existing schools are set out in section 3.
- 1.9 Where possible, and where economies of scale allow, expansions and building works will also address other factors such as: encouraging infant and junior to become primary, pre-school requirements in an area, providing specialist SEN provision, and any outstanding disability access requirements.

- 1.10 All proposed education capital projects are considered against independently published third-party data to benchmark the cost to the Council of providing school places and ensuring effective allocation of resources.
- 1.11 The current available funding is set out in Section 2.

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1 The Basic Need capital grant balance for 2022/23 has been fully allocated to projects within the Capital Programme. The Department for Education have confirmed the Council will receive further Basic Need capital grant allocations of **£40.850 million** in 2023/24 and **£21.366 million** in 2024/25.
- 2.2 The Service holds resources for school investment which are not currently included in the approved Capital Programme, this is largely from the following:
- confirmed yet unallocated Basic Need grant to be received up to 2024/25,
 - other grants/contributions held for specific purposes,
 - developer contributions currently held but unallocated; and
 - one historically earmarked capital receipt.

Available Resources (unallocated)	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Basic Need Grant	0	11,749	21,366	0	33,115
High Needs Grant	7,671	6,008	0	0	13,679
Schools Condition Allocation	2,197	0	0	0	2,197
Special Provision Fund	62	0	0	0	62
s.106*	56,700	0	0	0	56,700
Earmarked Capital Receipts	2,113	0	0	0	2,113
	68,743	17,757	21,366	0	107,866

* The s.106 balance consists of funds the authority currently holds in cash as received from developers but is linked to over 200 separate s.106 agreements and, therefore, flexibility of funding is limited to the conditions of the individual agreements.

- 2.3 The project costs outlined within this report total £15.378 million of which £1.547 million is funded from Basic Need funding, £9.956 million is from High Needs Grant and £3.875 million is from developer funding. Therefore, £1.547 million will be drawn down from forthcoming Basic Need funding, reducing the total Basic Need unallocated resource to £31.568 million. These allocations will also result in a remaining High Needs grant balance of £3.723 million.
- 2.4 It should be appreciated that costing accuracy typically increases as a project proceeds through its development through to delivery. Projects that are at the stage of strategic business case development have about a 40% costing confidence evolving through the outline business case (60%); detailed

business case (planning) 85% and to the point where a Contractor is under contract (97%).

- 2.5 Currently where cost confidence is lower appropriate contingency figures are included in the cost estimates to account for this. Inclusion of contingency figures are expected to mitigate the majority of cost increases experienced as the project progresses and costs become more certain. Any contingency allocation not required to deliver the scheme as specified will be returned to the remaining unallocated balance of basic need funding and available to be allocated to meet future demand.
- 2.6 On 7 February 2023 Council approved the creation of an Investigation Design Fund to provide the resources to carry out the early work necessary as part of large scale, high value and/or high-risk schemes to reduce the risk of approving projects without fully understanding the true costs of delivery. The intention is that this will lead to a reduction in the number of capital projects which request additional funding once in the delivery stage. The fund has been established to cover Council funded schemes. A similar approach is being developed to cover education schemes funded through national government funding streams such as Basic Need and High Needs Capital. Work is taking place to assess the required size of the fund, taking into account all the schemes currently planned to meet the Council's duty to provide sufficient high-quality places.

3. Proposals for addition to the 2022/2023 Education Capital Programme

Oak Wood Primary School (Nuneaton)

- 3.1 Expansion of generic special schools in line with population growth is a priority to ensure sufficiency requirements can be met. Nuneaton & Bedworth has been identified as an area with high SEND sufficiency demands across all year groups.
- 3.2 Oak Wood Primary School mainly serves Nuneaton & Bedworth. It has been identified that the school does not have sufficient capacity to meet current demand in the local area with a number of children attending specialist provision in neighbouring North Warwickshire. The provision of additional places at Oak Wood Primary School aims to meet the current under provision in the area, thus reducing travel time and cost to out of area provision, and meet the additional demand that is anticipated as a result of population growth in the Borough over the next five years.
- 3.3 It is proposed to build an extension to the school which will contain four additional classrooms for ambulant and non ambulant pupils, light and soft play sensory spaces, a hygiene suite, toilets and a staff room. The project will create an additional 20 primary places.

- 3.4 The total cost of the project has been estimated at £2.310 million and will be funded using £2.277 million from the DfE High Need Capital grant and £0.033 million from developer funding. The project is still evolving through to outline business case, with the outcome of a number of surveys continuing to be assessed, therefore contingency has been included to provide against possible cost increases that can be experienced as the project progresses and costs become more certain.
- 3.5 A capital scheme to increase the number of places at Oak Wood Secondary School is currently progressing through the business case stage and will be included in a future report to Cabinet.
- 3.6 Cabinet is asked to agree the proposal to allocate £2.310 million funded as follows and recommend to Full Council its addition to the Capital Programme:

High Needs Capital Grant	£2.277 million
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Developer Funding	£0.033 million
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Evergreen School (Warwick)

- 3.7 Expansion of generic special schools in line with population growth is a priority to ensure sufficiency requirements can be met. Warwick District has been identified as an area with high SEND sufficiency demand due to significant housebuilding in the South Leamington/Warwick area which will bring further increase in demand for local SEND provision in the next 10 years.
- 3.8 Evergreen School is a community special school for children and young people with Special Educational Needs (aged 4-19). It is the only maintained special school in Warwick District and is currently operating at capacity with 279 pupils on roll. It is proposed to extend Evergreen School utilising land located directly behind the main school building, to develop a building which will support up to 40 pupils with special educational needs. The expansion will provide the additional capacity needed to meet the demand for spaces across all year groups within the school.
- 3.9 The new two-storey build will include seven classrooms, staff offices, hygiene and medical rooms, a range of therapy rooms, additional sensory space, a kitchen, music and vocational rooms, changing rooms and toilets.
- 3.10 A new access road is planned from the land being developed to accommodate the new 2FE primary school (Myton Gardens) off Fusiliers Way. The new access road and parking will be beneficial in reducing the traffic flow along the current access route to the school along Brittain Lane.

- 3.11 The total cost of the project has been estimated at £8.005 million. It is proposed that remaining funding of £0.185 million from an existing approval for capital works at Evergreen School from February 2018 Cabinet is put towards the project. The remaining £7.820 million will be funded using £7.679 million from the DfE High Needs Capital Grant and £0.141 million from developer funding.
- 3.12 The project is still evolving through to outline business case, with the outcome of a number of surveys continuing to be assessed, therefore contingency has been included to provide against possible cost increases that can be experienced as the project progresses and cost become more certain.
- 3.13 As part of the process to increase the number of school places at Evergreen School, a 4 week statutory consultation was carried out with key stakeholders between 23rd January 2023 and 19th February 2023. 32 responses were received. 69% of respondents agreed with the proposal, 22% of respondents disagreed with the proposal and 9% of respondents provided a neutral response. Those in agreement with the proposal supported the need to ensure there was sufficient specialist provision in the local area for those learners who need it and considered that the proposal would help alleviate the pressure on mainstream schools. In terms of disagreement with the proposal, the reasons provided were focused around traffic congestion, ensuring there was sufficient staff to support the increase in the number of pupils, needing to improve the support for SEND pupils in mainstream school, the loss of green space, and building a new school rather expanding existing provision further. A summary of the consultation responses is available in Appendix 2.
- 3.14 Cabinet is asked to agree the proposed increase to the number of places at Evergreen School and to allocate £7.820 million funded as follows and recommend to Full Council its addition to the Capital Programme:

High Needs Capital Grant	£7.679 million
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Developer Funding	£0.141 million
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Bishop's Tachbrook CofE Primary School

- 3.15 Prior to the opening of the primary phase of Oakley School in September 2024, a forecast shortfall in Reception places for September 2023 of 1.5 to 2 FE (45-60 places) needs to be met. Bishop's Tachbrook CofE Primary School is one of two schools that will be providing an additional 30 places for September 2023 reception. The project is to provide these places in existing schools and pupils would remain in the schools for the seven years.
- 3.16 The capital scheme at Bishop's Tachbrook CofE Primary School was first presented to Cabinet in July 2022 with an estimated budget of £0.400 million.

- 3.17 Since the initial options appraisal, further design and development and site specific surveys have been undertaken. Construction cost of the project has increased by £0.220 million with a number of factors attributing to this including moving the modular to a new location as a result of identified emergency services access requirements with resulting additional site preparation costs. Site surveys also uncovered additional costs relating to asbestos, drainage and flooding, and the power supply capacity.
- 3.18 The increase in construction cost together with contractor preliminaries, overheads, fees, risk and inflation, has increased the estimated budget to £0.917 million
- 3.19 Cabinet is asked to agree the proposal to allocate an additional £0.517 million as follows:

Education Capital Resources	£0.517 million
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Briar Hill Infant School/St Margaret's CofE Junior School

- 3.20 Prior to the opening of the primary phase of Oakley School in September 2024 a forecast shortfall in Reception places for September 2023 of 1.5 to 2 FE (45-60 places) needs to be met. Briar Hill Infant School is one of two schools that will be providing an additional 30 places for September 2023 reception. A further 30 year 3 places will be provided at the partner junior school, St Margaret's CofE Junior School, in readiness for the transition from year 2 to year 3 in September 2026.
- 3.21 The capital scheme at Briar Hill and St Margaret's was first presented to Cabinet in July 2022 with an estimated budget of £0.786 million.
- 3.22 Since the initial options appraisal, further design and development and site specific surveys have been undertaken. Construction cost of the project across the two sites has increased by £0.314 million with the majority of the increase relating to the project at Briar Hill Infant School. The original option of a courtyard infill was replaced with an extension to the existing building as a result of reviewing the courtyard's increased use as a valuable space for the increase in number of pupils with SEND, together with construction access concerns and complications relating to a courtyard infill. Further cost can be attributed to the removal of asbestos, additional parking requirements, and the addition of toilets.
- 3.23 It should be note that once the additional pupils have progressed through the school, the accommodation will provide the option to establish a specialist resourced provision across the two schools.
- 3.24 The increase in construction cost together with contractor preliminaries, overheads, fees, risk and inflation, has increased the estimated budget to £1.506 million

- 3.25 Cabinet is asked to agree the proposal to allocate an additional £0.720 million as follows:

Education Capital Resources	£0.720 million
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Stratford upon Avon School

- 4.32. The existing project to deliver a 2FE expansion, an additional 350 pupils, was approved by Cabinet in December 2020 with a budget of £11.573 million. Prior to this in July 2020, £1.3 million was approved for an extension to the dining hall, kitchen and servery. These works were completed in July 2021. In July 2022, a further £2.2 million was approved by Council to meet the inflationary increase since the original approval in December 2020 bringing the total approved budget to complete the 2FE expansion to £13.773 million.
- 4.33. The planning application for the build was submitted in December 2022. Planning approval has been obtained for the additional land adjacent to the school purchased by WCC from Stratford College at the end of 2020. Phase 1 of the works to the area are due commence shortly with the cost of Phase 2 incorporated in the additional funding in this report.
- 4.34. The project's appointed contractor has produced revised costs, which increase the construction cost to the main extension by £1.95 million. The main reason for this increase in the construction cost is that the Stage 3 estimates have been based on a more detailed design using quantities and market rates for each item as opposed to the Stage 2 feasibility estimate which used more of a concept design and a general cost per m2.
- 4.35. A further £1.77 million is required to cover cost of phase 2 of the car park/social space works, identified design and development work, the inclusion of ICT and furnishing which had not been full accounted for in the original estimate, and subsequent increase in professional fees and contingency. Total additional funding required is £3.716 million.
- 4.36. Cabinet is asked to agree the proposal to allocate an additional £3.716 million as follows and recommend to Full Council its addition to the Capital Programme:

Education Capital Resources	£0.210 million
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Developer Funding	£3.506 million
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Bishop's Itchington Primary School, Stratford on Avon

- 4.37. The village of Bishops Itchington has experienced growth from housing development over the last 5 to 10 years and as a consequence the school has gone from mixing year groups to single year entry year groups.

- 4.38. There are two classrooms which are under sized as per the Department for Education (DfE) recommended floor space per pupil and are of an L-shaped design.
- 4.39. Utilising developer contributions from housing development in the village, it is proposed to undertake the relocation of two washrooms and a disabled toilet currently protruding into the two L-shaped classrooms. This will enable the squaring off of the classrooms to provide teaching spaces of an adequate size for 30 children per room as per DfE recommendations.
- 4.40. The scope of works is for a new washroom block to be incorporated into the school by building it in an area which is a recessed external space. The block will match up to the current building line and will have no detrimental effect on any playground or outside space available.
- 4.41. The main objective of this project is to achieve vast improvements to the learning environment for SEND children in these year groups by changing the layout and increasing the size of the classrooms enabling more pupils with SEND to be adequately supported within the classroom rather than outside of it.
- 4.42. The cost of the project has been estimated at £0.195 million and works will be instructed by the Academy Trust.
- 4.43. Cabinet is asked to agree the proposal to allocate an additional £0.195 million as follows:

Developer Contributions	£0.195 million
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Alternative Provision Free School, Warwick

- 4.44. In March 2019, WCC received notification from the DfE that the LA had been successful in their bid for a new alternative provision free school to be created in Warwickshire. A new purpose built school will be delivered and funded by the DfE and provide 60 places. The DfE have provided a provisional completion and opening date of January 2025.
- 4.45. The new free school is to be located on part of the 7 hectare education site secured as part of the housing development off Europa Way in Warwick, which provides improved connectivity for this school to serve the need for alternative provision for all secondary schools in Warwickshire and free of the constraint of existing buildings above that offered by the previously considered site at Unit 1, Bermuda Park in Nuneaton.
- 4.46. The site is under WCC ownership and will be adjacent to the new Myton Gardens Primary School approved by Council in September 2022. The required site area for the AP school will be subsequently leased to the DfE for construction. Following completion of the build, the site will be leased by WCC to the Trust running the AP school on a standard DfE 125 year lease.

- 4.47. Under the terms of the free school bid the DfE are funding and delivering the main school buildings and external works while WCC are responsible for funding and carrying out any associated works outside of the site boundary, site abnormalities and any required highways works.
- 4.48. The current system of Academy schools was established by the Academies Act 2010 which imposes a number of specific obligations on the County Council when existing Schools are converting to Academy status or completely new Academies are being established, including the transfer of the school site to an Academy Trust. The Department for Education has developed a standard format of 125 year lease which the local authority is expected to enter into with the Academy Trust for this purpose. This follows through into the authorities given to officers under the County Council's Constitution. An academy lease is not a transaction 'for value' which would require a particular level of authority, such as Cabinet, Leader, Portfolio Holder or Strategic Director depending on the value of the property at stake. Given that the granting of the Academy Lease is a specific legal obligation on the Council, it is appropriate for the Strategic Director to authorise completion of the lease under standing delegated powers for the day to day management of the Council's business.
- 4.49. WCC have estimated the cost of establishing site access, service connections and S278 works to be circa £0.100 million. It is proposed to fund this cost from Education Capital resources.
- 4.50. Cabinet is asked to agree the proposal to allocate an additional £0.100 million as follows:

Education Capital Resources	£0.100 million
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4. Environmental Implications

- 4.1 The County Council will look to use modern methods of construction to achieve efficiencies and benefits particularly in terms of time, cost, and the environment.
- 4.2 Environmental risk assessments, together with mitigation statements to reduce any potential environmental impacts, are required for any capital project.
- 4.3 All future school capital projects will be developed in accordance with statutory regulations which include the revised Building Regulations 2021. These new building regulations include significant changes to the regulations around ventilation, energy efficiency and overheating, electric vehicle charging and a number of smaller supporting elements of the regulations. Schools will therefore be built to new standards that are expected to produce lower carbon dioxide emissions compared to previous standards and will also be assessed using primary energy metrics.

- 4.4 Proposed schemes aim to ensure the sufficiency of, and accessibility to, provision in local settings avoiding the need to travel further afield to access education or childcare provision.

5. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

- 5.1 Subject to Cabinet approval, those schemes requiring Council approval will be submitted to Council for approval on 21 March 2023.

Appendices

1. Appendix 1 – Finance Summary
2. Appendix 2 – Evergreen School Consultation Responses Summary
3. Appendix 3 – Red line plan Alternative Provision Free School

	Name	Contact Information
Report Author	Emma Basden-Smith, Education Capital and Sufficiency Lead Commissioner Bern Timings, Education Capital and Sufficiency Lead Commissioner	emmabasdensmith@warwickshire.gov.uk, berntimings@warwickshire.gov.uk
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Strategic Director	Nigel Minns, Strategic Director for People	nigelminns@warwickshire.gov.uk
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Kam Kaur, Portfolio Holder for Education Cllr Peter Butlin, Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property	cllrkaur@warwickshire.gov.uk cllrbutlin@warwickshire.gov.uk

The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s): Cllr Singh Birdi, Cllr Matecki, Cllr Falp, Cllr Rolfe, Cllr Fradgley, Cllr Kettle, Cllr Baxter-Payne, Cllr Clare Golby
Other members: Cllr Dahmash, Cllr Roodhouse and Cllr Brown

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SCHOOL CAPITAL PROGRAMME - FINANCE BREAKDOWN

APPENDIX 1

Available Basic Need Resources £m	
2023/24 Confirmed Basic Need Grant (Remaining Unallocated)	11.749
2024/25 Confirmed Basic Need Grant	21.366
Total Available Resources	33.115

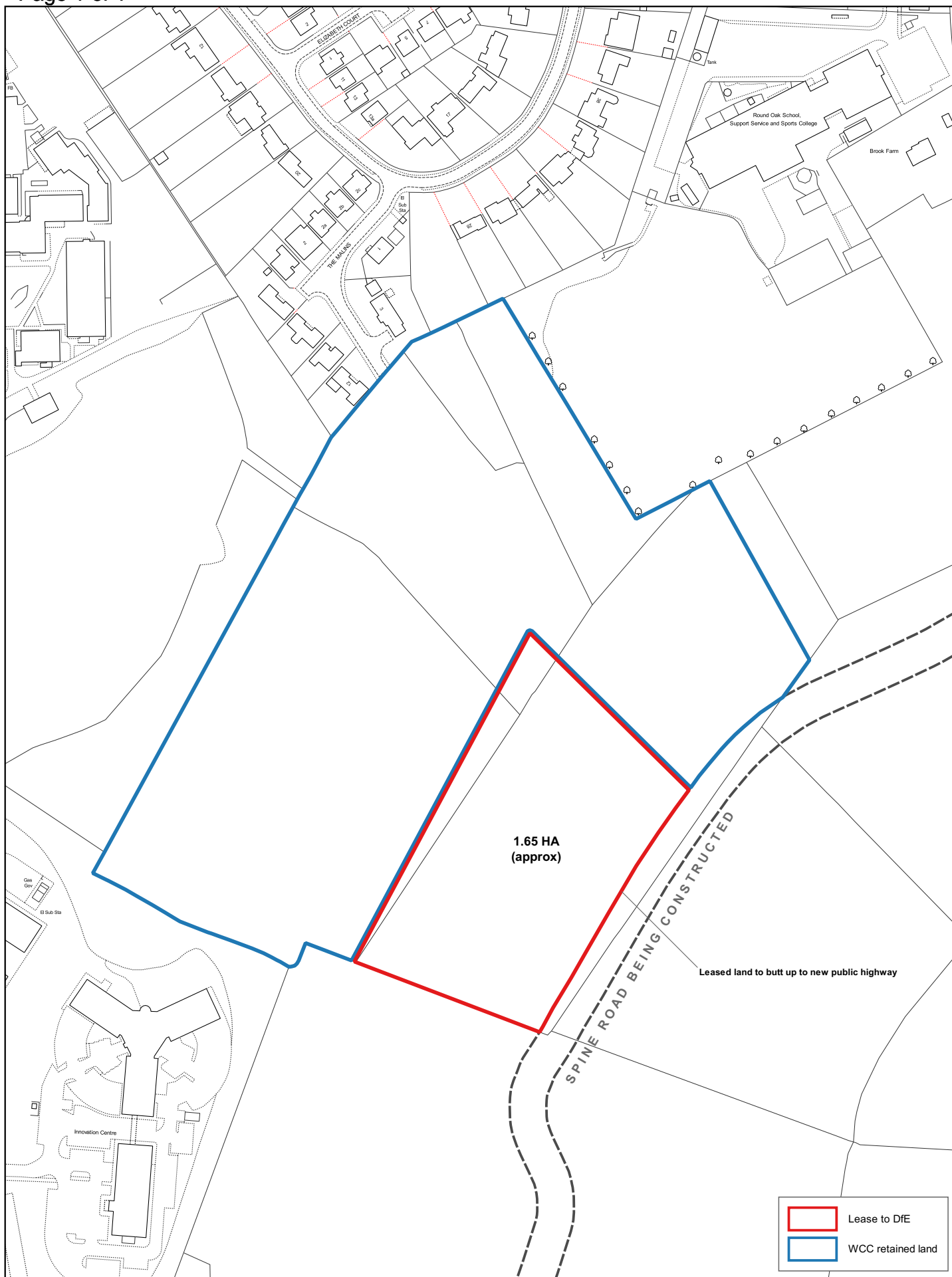
Projects Recommended for Support in March 2023 Cabinet Report	Total Cost £m	Proposed Use of Basic Need Resources £m	Proposed Use of Developer funding Resources £m	Other Funding £m
Oak Wood Primary School (Nuneaton)	2.310		0.033	2.277
Evergreen School (Warwick)	7.820		0.141	7.679
Bishop's Tachbrook CofE Primary School	0.517	0.517		
Briar Hill Infant School/St Margaret's CofE Junior School	0.720	0.720		
Stratford upon Avon School	3.716	0.210	3.506	
Bishop's Itchington Primary School (Stratford on Avon)	0.195		0.195	
Alternative Provision Free School (Warwick)	0.100	0.100		
Total	15.378	1.547	3.875	9.956
Revised Unallocated/ (Shortfall) in Basic Need Resources		31.568		

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Proposal to increase the capacity at Evergreen School by 40 places – Overview of Consultation Responses

Reasons For Proposal	WCC response
Increase in specialist provision for those children that need it	Increase in specialist places needed to ensure the needs of all learners with SEND can be met
Need to ensure current pupils and families are kept informed of the process so can plan for the changes	The school has numerous methods of keeping pupils and families up to date including school council, weekly newsletters, the use of Class Dojo App, school comms, website, in school parent events, access to the community café, school wide events such as the Summer Fair
Help ease the pressure on mainstream schools	The right and most appropriate provision needs to be in place for the level of need or disability
More spaces particularly for nursery children with SEND	Evergreen School does not provide Nursery places but WCC continues to work with Early Years providers to increase the number of children with SEND taking up early years provision
More children with the local area can access suitable provision	The right and most appropriate provision needs to be in place for the level of need or disability
Reasons Against Proposal	WCC response
Parking/Traffic	The proposal increases pupil numbers by 40 places. The proposal is not anticipated to increase traffic/congestion significantly. Additional parking on site and a new access road off Fusiliers Way will also help alleviate traffic congestion
Additional Staff needed	The school will put together a recruitment program in line with the increase in pupil numbers to ensure pupils needs and provision is met as outlined in their EHCP
The school will be too big	Evergreen School is the only Special school in the Central area and therefore needs to expand in line with demand.
Parking for staff and visitors	Additional parking will be provided on site
Loss of Outdoor Space	Evergreen School is on a large site and plenty of playing field space will remain following the build. The Warwick District Council development plan also includes an athletics track next door to the school, a community football stadium and community play areas. All of which would be fantastic additional community provision for the pupils that attend Evergreen.
Need another special school in the area	This proposed expansion will meet the sufficiency needs of the local area with regards to generic SEND provision
Improved support in mainstream settings for SEND pupils	WCC continues to promote and inclusive practice for children and young people with SEND across all phases

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AP SCHOOL, MYTON, WARWICK

Site Plan

Scale: 1:2500 at A4
 Grid Ref.: 430054, 264456
 Operator: DTAT
 Date: 16/04/2021



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 2021. Ordnance Survey 100019520
 Warwickshire County Council,
 100019520, 2021



Resources Directorate
 Shire Hall, Warwick, CV34 4RP

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Cabinet

16 March 2023

Improved Better Care Fund 2023/24

Recommendations

That Cabinet

1. approves the schemes to be funded from the Improved Better Care Fund pooled contribution of £15.132m by the Council for 2023/24 and the plan for resources as set out in paragraph 2.6 and Appendix 1.
2. requests that, following publication of the national Better Care Fund Policy Framework and Planning Requirements, the local Better Care Fund Plan for 2023/24 is developed for approval by Cabinet in advance of the submission deadline.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Better Care Fund (BCF) is a programme spanning both local government and the NHS which seeks to join-up health and care services, so that people can manage their own health and wellbeing and live independently in their communities for as long as possible. There are two policy objectives spanning health and social care:
 1. Enable people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer.
 2. Provide the right care in the right place at the right time.
- 1.2 The Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF) was introduced in 2017 and forms part of the Better Care Fund. It is a fund made available to local authorities and can only be used for the purposes of:
 - Meeting adult social care needs.
 - Reducing pressures on the NHS, including seasonal winter pressures.
 - Supporting more people to be discharged from hospital when they are ready.
 - Ensuring that the social care provider market is supported.

Review of the Improved Better Care Fund

- 1.3 In August 2022, the Warwickshire Joint Commissioning Board commenced a review of NHS and local authority services funded through temporary funding sources, which included schemes funded from the iBCF. Twenty iBCF schemes were prioritised for an in-depth review. The joint review comprised of

staff from the local authority and Integrated Care Board (ICB) and ran from October 2022 to January 2023. It focused on jointly reviewing iBCF schemes to the value of £3.96m. The ICB have also undertaken a similar exercise with Coventry City Council.

- 1.4 The majority of schemes covered by the review have been in place for a number of years, during which time cost pressures to both the local authority and ICB have increased following the ending on 31 March 2022 of the national Hospital Discharge Grant introduced during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 1.5 The review focussed on assuring that schemes continue to meet the BCF and iBCF conditions, support current system pressures/priorities and are as efficient and effective as possible (including considering whether there are alternative ways of achieving similar outcomes or alternative funding arrangements that could be used).
- 1.6 The provisional Local Government Core Spending Power settlement on 23rd December 2022 indicated that the iBCF allocation will remain at £15.132m for 2023/24, which creates a further cost pressure for Warwickshire of c£611k regarding the national living wage, inflation and associated salary increases for existing schemes.
- 1.7 The review found that:
 - a. the majority of schemes are well established with positive impact evidenced across health and social care. If these schemes were withdrawn it would have a detrimental impact on the people of Warwickshire and on other organisations across the health and social care system. It was recommended that these continue and be funded from the iBCF in 2023/24;
 - b. potential efficiencies to the iBCF budget for nine schemes could release up to £528k for reinvestment in existing schemes in 2023/24 and contribute to the inflationary cost pressures outlined in 1.6 above; and
 - c. one existing scheme – Mental Health Street Triage (W-IBCF 15) - should continue but should instead be funded from the Mental Health budget outside of the iBCF.

Draft list of schemes to be funded from the iBCF in 2023/24

- 1.8 Following the review a list of proposed schemes to be funded from the iBCF next year was drafted. This list was costed and included inflationary and salary uplifts and was reviewed by both the local authority and the Integrated Care Board.
- 1.9 Approval of the final list is within the delegated authority of the Strategic Director for People, and had been granted. Approval is expected from the ICB imminently. The final draft is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1 The grant conditions for the iBCF require that the local authority pool the grant funding into the local BCF Plan and report as required through BCF reporting.
- 2.2 iBCF funding can be allocated across any or all of the four purposes of the grant in a way that the local authority, working with the ICB, determines best meets local needs and pressures. No fixed proportion needs to be allocated across each of the purposes.
- 2.3 When preparing the list of schemes, the following considerations have been taken into account:
- Base budget pressures (to meet social care needs).
 - Inflationary fee rate increases to providers (to stabilise the market).
 - Committed expenditure on or changes to existing schemes (to proactively reduce/delay future demand and pressures).
- 2.4 As in previous years, any underspends against schemes will be used to fund preventative activity to reduce / delay future demand or off-set cost pressures.
- 2.5 Similar to previous years it is proposed that the majority of schemes continue in 2023/24 as they are now well established with positive impact seen across social care and health. No new schemes are proposed for 2023/24.

Expenditure Plan

2.6

iBCF Grant Conditions	23/24 Budget Request £000s	22/23 Budget £000s	Variance £000s
Reducing Pressure on the NHS	3,693	3,994	-301
Stabilising the Market	7,090	6,642	+448
Meeting Social Care Needs	4,353	4,327	+26
Enabling Resource	250	281	-31
Total	15,386	15,244	142
To be funded from IBCF	15,011	15,244	
ICBF Budget	15,132	15,132	
Variance	-121	+112	
To be funded from BCF Development Fund	375	-	

- 2.7 The review of the iBCF has identified £528k of potential efficiencies, which it is proposed is used to cover the majority of the cost-pressure relating to inflationary increases for existing schemes. Had the review not taken place, the budget pressure on the iBCF in 2023/24 would have been c£1m.
- 2.8 A balanced Improved Better Care Fund budget is proposed for 2023/24 to mitigate any risks to either the local authority or Integrated Care Board. Any spend on the Market Sustainability project that cannot be met from the iBCF

will be charged against the BCF Development Reserve at the end of the year and reported through financial monitoring on a quarterly basis.

- 2.9 The iBCF is received on a temporary basis but has been recurrent since it's 2017/18 introduction. In order to counter the risk inherent in temporary funding, the grant is retained by Corporate Finance and issued to the service as base budget. Further, all new initiatives are temporary or commissioned with exit clauses. There are, however, a number of areas where the funding is being used to maintain statutory social care spending and this would require review by Warwickshire County Council if the Better Care Fund was removed without replacement. This would form part of the annual MTFS refresh. The fund is paid directly to local government and must be used to support social care activity.

3. Environmental Implications

None

4. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

- 5.2 Following publication of the national Better Care Fund Policy Framework and Planning Requirements for 2023/24, Cabinet will be further updated on any changes required to the list of schemes agreed in principle, as normal as part of the annual plan submission approval process.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Improved Better Care Fund 2023/24

Background Papers

None

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Portfolio Holder	Councillor Margaret Bell, Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care & Health	margaretbell@warwickshire.gov.uk

The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s) : Not applicable. This is a countywide matter.

Other members: Councillors Clare Golby, John Holland, Tracey Drew, and Kate Rolfe

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National condition	Outcome	Scheme Ref	Summary of schemes	Existing or new scheme		23/24 Budget £000s	22/23 Budget £000s	Variance to previous budget
Reducing Pressure on the NHS	Reducing LOS, improving flow, supporting Discharge to usual place of residence		Schemes include additional resources or support in acute or community based hospital settings and schemes directly supporting discharge and flow			2,037	2,067	-30
		W-IBCF 1	Hospital Social Care Team	Existing	Social Care staff working in the HSCT to support discharges	722	704	18
		W-IBCF 2	Housing Hospital Liaison	Existing	Housing Hospital Liaison Officers working across UHCW/St.Cross, GEH, SWFT and CWPT	66	63	3
		W-IBCF 3	Hospital Based Social Prescribing	Existing	Hospital based social prescribing service.	140	140	0
		W-IBCF 4	Trusted Assessments	Existing	Trusted Assessors (HICM)	168	152	16
		W-IBCF 5	Domiciliary Care Referral Team	Existing	Brokerage posts	86	75	11
		W-IBCF 6	Hospital to Home Service	Existing	Hospital to home service operated by Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service. Includes as an enhancement to Safe and Well checks, the falls prevention (Timed Up and Go) assessments implemented as part of the Falls Prevention project	416	444	-28
		W-IBCF 7	Moving on Beds	Existing	6 Moving on Beds in the Rugby area and 3 enhanced MOBS for hoisted patients, to provide social care and housing related discharge step-down support.	310	294	16
		W-IBCF 8	ICE Contract Increases (ICB)	Existing	Covers ICB inflationary cost increases relating to inflation increase, lease cost increase, more expensive equipment, increased staffing costs including to support driver retention etc.	109	155	-46
		W-IBCF 9	Clearing/deep cleaning properties	Existing	Fund to support discharge and admission prevention by covering clearing & deep cleaning costs to properties to enable domiciliary care and NHS Community providers to access properties and provide support at home. Links to W- IBCF 2 - Housing Liaison Officers.	20	40	-20
	Admissions Avoidance		Schemes include specialist and targeted support and interventions in the community to support admission or readmission prevention			1,656	1,927	-271
		W-IBCF 10	Support to Carers	Existing	Includes planned short breaks service, carers support grant, direct payments for carers and young carers, carers digital offer.	296	281	15
		W-IBCF 11	Advocacy	Existing	Provides advocacy related services including acute based service costs for hospital based advocacy, a contribution to maintain the block IMCA provision and some provision for SPOT IMCA.	190	180	10
		W-IBCF 12	Occupational Therapist capacity	Existing	Occupational Therapists supporting moving and handling reviews in the community.	290	310	-20
		W-IBCF 13	End of Life	Existing	Funding for hospice costs for the South, Warwickshire North and Rugby EOL schemes.	252	249	3
		W-IBCF 14	Falls prevention	Existing	Following implementation of a new falls pathway in December 2020, this scheme supports patients at moderate to high risk of falls with a contribution to falls care-coordination and Multi-Factorial Assessments delivered via the Out of Hospital provider ISPA.	37	35	2
		W-IBCF 15	Mental Health Street Triage	Existing	Countywide Mental Health Street Triage Support. This scheme will now be funded from outside of the the BCF from the MH Investment Standard or other non-recurrent funds.	0	263	-263
		W-IBCF 16	Adults with Autism	Existing	Warwickshire's WCC and ICBs costs relating to the Community Outreach Offer, which directly supports waiting list reductions for adults with autism.	295	280	15
W-IBCF 17		Residential Respite Care Charging Policy	Existing	Enables WCC to cease charging based on standard residential care protocols (which have regard to property wealth) and charge based on community care charging protocols (which do not consider property wealth). This change is proven to encourage respite take up and therefore prevent or reduce the likelihood of carer breakdown.	250	250	0	
W-IBCF 18	Joint Commissioning	Existing	Contribution to commissioning resource and additional costs required to commission and implement joint initiatives and activities funded via the BCF and IBCF.	46	79	-33		
Stabilising the market	Fee rates / increases		Protecting older people community care budgets and NHS budgets through night support in ECH and Specialised Settings			6,180	5,752	428
		W-IBCF 19	Residential and nursing care fee rates	Existing	Contribution towards base budget pressures caused by necessary fee increases within the residential and nursing care market. The budget for 2023/24 includes a £300k increase compared to the previous year - to factor in a contribution towards 1 year of inflation pressures. Note: ongoing risk/issues re: Providers regularly refusing WCC fee rates and requesting Top-Ups.	3,200	2900	300
		W-IBCF 20	Care at Home fee rates	Existing	Contribution towards base budget pressures caused by necessary fee increases within home care, supported living including sleeping nights. The budget for 2023/24 includes a £100k increase compared to the previous year - to factor in a contribution towards 1 year of inflation pressures and the ongoing need to stabilise the dom care provider market to support safe and timely discharges.	2,450	2,350	100
		W-IBCF 21	Extra Care Housing Waking Nights Cover	Existing	Extra Care Housing Fee Rates ECH Night Time Support Needs - Laurel Gardens, Oakwood Gardens, Farmers Court, Web Ellis Court, Rohan Gardens, Tithe Lodge, Queensway Court, Ettington Lodge, Briars Croft and Lavendar Meadows.	530	502	28
	Market support and development		Schemes to support the Provider Market include: Learning and Development, additional OT and specialist quality assurance resource and expertise to improve quality, reduce provider costs and prevent admissions, market sustainability and support for winter pressures etc			910	890	20
		W-IBCF 22	Provider Learning and Development	Existing	Funds the Learning and Development Partnership for providers.	347	334	13
		W-IBCF 23	Specialist support for providers	Existing	OT support to upskill providers; Quality assurance staff and engagement staff to ensure providers access all the support available to them; and a MH/LD/Autism practitioner or professional resource in the Quality Assurance Team.	188	181	7
	W-IBCF 24	Market Sustainability	Existing	Fund initiatives across the system by the ICB to develop, stabilise and strengthen the Provider Market and includes funds to be used in Warwickshire, to meet local pressures.	375	375	0	
Meeting Social Care needs	Supporting adult social care pressures		Schemes include demand pressures relating to older people community care budgets, dementia, social care capacity and housing related support			4,353	4,327	26
		W-IBCF 25	Protecting older people community care budgets	Existing	Direct funding contributing towards homecare and community care budget pressures as a result of demand growth. The budget for 2023/24 remains the same as 2019/20.	2,735	2,735	0
		W-IBCF 26	Services to support dementia in the community	Existing	Direct funding sustaining Dementia Day Ops, Dementia Navigators and Dementia Carers Support services. This is acknowledged to be a high risk area for the system with negative impact on non-elective admissions, carer breakdown and increased permanent admissions to res/nursing care.	501	475	26
		W-IBCF 27	Care Management Capacity	Existing	Direct funding contributing towards care management capacity budget pressures as a result of demand growth. This is a limiting factor in the ability to deliver service (e.g. reviews) and meet need (deliver assessments). The budget for 2023/24 is the same as 2019/20 which originally equated to 15 x FTE Social Workers working in the community team to maintain existing capacity.	639	639	0
		W-IBCF 28	Cost transfers from housing related support	Existing	Reductions in housing related support budgets have resulted in the identification of increased adult social care needs which have to continue to be met, and therefore increasing demand on community social care. This scheme is direct funding contributing towards community care budget pressures as a result of demand growth. The budget for 2023/24 is the same as 2019/20.	478	478	0
Support arrangements	Support		These schemes fund the resources (programme, project, analytical and insight) to meet the BCF governance and reporting requirements via the Health and Wellbeing, Adults and Better Together Programme, Joint Commissioning Board, Housing Partnership and System wide operational improvements to support discharge.			250	281	31
		W-IBCF 29	Communications Support	Existing	Communications support for projects and initiatives under the Adults and Better Together programmes (including System Operational Discharge Delivery Group), Health and Wellbeing Board and Housing Board.	0	41	-41
		W-IBCF 30	Support	Existing	This scheme funds the Better Together programme which provides project management, analytical, insight and programme support to the Coventry and Warwickshire System Operational Discharge Delivery Group improvement activity and Better Care Fund programme.	250	240	10
Total						15,386	15,244	142
Total to be funded from IBCF allocation						15,011	15,244	-233
IBCF Budget						15,132	15,132	0
Variance (under/over draft IBCF budget)						-121	112	
Total to be funded from Development Fund						375		

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Cabinet**16 March 2023****Developer- Funded Highway Scheme Approval - Eastboro Way / Crowhill Road****Recommendations**

That Cabinet

1. recommends to Council the addition of £4,409,900 to the Capital Programme in relation to the Section 278 highways improvement scheme (signalised junction works) at the A4254 Eastboro Way/Crowhill Road intersection; and
2. subject to the approval of Council to add the scheme to the Capital Programme, authorises the Strategic Director for Communities to procure and enter into any contracts and associated agreements required to implement the scheme on terms and conditions acceptable to the Strategic Director for Resources and subject to the requirements of the Section 278 Agreements with the Developer

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 A planning application was submitted to Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council by Crest Nicholson Midlands in respect of Sketchley Gardens Nuneaton agricultural land to the East of Eastboro Way.
- 1.2 Planning consent was granted with conditions on 29 January 2019 (ref: 035918) for the development of 360 residential dwellings. The planning conditions require works to be carried out in the public highway and the Council will enter into an agreement under Section 278 of the Highways Act 1980 in order to facilitate these works. The s278 works required are the construction of a signalised T Intersection and improvements to junctions
- 1.3 The works are currently valued at approximately £4,409,900.
- 1.4 Pursuant to the constitution, a cabinet decision is required to commence a procurement of this value. In addition, as the scheme value is likely to exceed £2,000,000, a decision of Council will be required to add the project to the capital programme. For that reason, authorisation to commence procurement is requested subject to the decision of Council.
- 1.5 The addition of this scheme to the capital programme and its ultimate completion will enable the provision of new dwellings in line with the report

commissioned by the Borough Council “Towards a Housing Requirement for Nuneaton & Bedworth” and support the Coventry & Warwickshire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (available on the Council web site).

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1 As the new highway assets which are being created through these schemes will come on to the Council’s balance sheet once completed, the costs incurred by the Council need to be treated as capital expenditure.
- 2.2 Section 278 schemes are fully funded by developer contributions which are ring-fenced for the scheme described above. There are no alternative uses for the contributions and the addition of these schemes will not affect the overall level of available capital resources available to Council.
- 2.3 The respective Developers have already committed to funding the technical review work by accepting the Council’s fee estimates. The Council’s fees for technical review are always collected in advance of the Section 278 agreement being signed.
- 2.4 Procurement and subsequent award of construction contracts will only take place once the Section 278 agreement has been completed which will provide 100% of the funding. The Section 278 agreement will also require the Developer to provide a bond or cash security of at least 150% of the costs of the works. The commencement of the works is dependent on the completion of the technical review, procurement, and contractor mobilisation processes.

3. Environmental Implications

- 3.1 The environmental impacts of developer-funded highway schemes are considered through the planning approval process.
- 3.2 The contractors on the Council’s Framework Contract for the Provision of Engineering and Construction Works (WCC 6012) have all demonstrated that they hold a certificate of compliance with BS EN ISO 140001 (or equivalent) or have otherwise satisfactorily demonstrated their policies and arrangements for the management of construction-related environmental issues.

4. Appendices

None

5. Background Papers

None

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Portfolio Holder	Councillor Peter Butlin Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property	cllrbutlin@warwickshire.gov.uk

The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s): Cllr Jeff Clarke

Other members: Councillors – Warwick, Singh Birdi, Boad, Phillips, and W Roberts

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Cabinet

16 March 2023

Electricity Contract Renewal

Recommendations

That Cabinet

1. Agrees to the Council entering a framework agreement (the (Electricity Procurement Service Agreement) for the purchase of electricity for council owned buildings with ESPO (East Shires Purchasing Organisation) for the period Oct 2024 - Sept 2028.
2. Authorises the Strategic Director for Resources, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property, to enter all required agreements to implement the recommendations in this report on terms and conditions considered acceptable to him.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 Since 2008, the Council has purchased electricity, for a proportion of Council owned sites, through the ESPO electricity agreement framework contract. The proposal in this report to renew the electricity agreement with ESPO represents a continuation of this arrangement. The electricity purchased through this arrangement is currently used in over 100 properties (139 meter points) within the Council's portfolio and covers a range of different building types (including fire stations, libraries, highways depots and offices). The current electricity framework agreement in place with ESPO ceases on 30th September 2024.
- 1.2 The purchase of energy requires specific experience and knowledge to monitor the electricity (and gas) markets in order to identify best value options for energy purchase. The Council does not have the in-house expertise or resources for this work, and instead chooses to purchase electricity (and gas) through framework agreements. The Council's chosen supplier is ESPO and a number of other Local Authorities also use the same purchasing route.
- 1.3 Entering a framework contract allows ESPO, on our behalf, flexibility to set the price of energy within a longer-term hedging strategy. Flexible contracts of this nature require very large volumes to operate effectively. By aggregating these volumes into a single supply with one supplier, economies of scale can be achieved resulting in reduced suppliers' margins and minimisation of avoidable costs.

- 1.4 ESPO are to begin forward purchasing of electricity for this agreement on 1st April 2023 and therefore require a decision from participating authorities, including Warwickshire County Council, to commit to the agreement.
- 1.5 The County Council's Energy Strategy (which will focus primarily on the energy efficiency of Council owned buildings) will be considered for approval by Cabinet in June 23, supporting the delivery of the Sustainable Futures Strategy. Procurement of energy and energy efficiency will be major strands of this work as the Council identifies ways to move towards more cost-effective green energy (tariffs and funding options) and reduce reliance over the mid to longer term on electricity (and gas) to heat and power our buildings. As part of this work, we will review and learn lessons from good practice across local government and other sectors. The Energy Strategy will be supported by a delivery plan, which will identify actions, and impact on, the Council's electricity (and gas) consumption and thus carbon emissions.

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1 Prices fluctuate annually under the agreement and in the past two years total costs of electricity have increased by 120% (compared to a 295% wholesale price increase).
- 2.2 Council spend on the ESPO electricity agreement in the last full financial year (21/22) was £1.2 million. (As a comparison, the total Council spend on electricity over the same period was £5 million. Not all the Council's electricity is sourced through the ESPO agreement, e.g. Service managed buildings and primary schools are not currently all included). In the 22/23 period (October 2022) there was a 100% increase in electricity prices however, in the first three quarters of the current financial year (April 2022 to January 2023) actual spend on the ESPO electricity agreement was a comparable £0.9 million. The increase in prices may not have been realised due to a number of reasons (e.g. building closures, asset rationalisation, Government's Energy Bill Relief Scheme, and increased awareness of the price of energy generally leading to a reduced consumption).
- 2.3 In the final year of the current agreement (i.e. Oct 2023 to Sep 2024) electricity prices are expected to rise by a further 30-35%; a conservative assumption of the annual cost would £1.54 million. Therefore, over the life of the new agreement (Oct 2024 - Sept 2028), given current prices, contract value could be expected to be in the region of £6.2 million.
- 2.4 Smoothing this impact over the duration of the contract will allow the Council better control and management of its budget over the 4-year period (further details of how this operates are at paragraph 4.2 below). Based on current expectations about price increases, increased costs for the electricity sourced through the ESPO contract, can be managed from within the budget provision at least over the next three years. After that period the MTFS impact will need to be considered when long term trends become clearer.

- 2.5 The ESPO electric agreement includes the option of a 'Pure Green' electricity tariff that the Council has purchased since 2020. This electricity is from '100% renewable sources (solar, wind and hydro/wave)'. This electricity can be matched to the ofgem administered Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin (REGO's), supporting the Council's Sustainable Futures Strategy and net zero ambitions. In the last year of the current agreement (Oct 23- Sept 24) the green tariff will represent an increased spend of 2.1% (increased from 1.8%, in the Oct 22-Sept 23 period) over the standard tariff.
- 2.6 The ESPO electricity agreement also includes the option of a bill validation service. This service costs 25p per meter per day i.e. an additional £12k per annum on the electricity contract. The Council currently uses this service for gas bill validation and aligning the electricity agreement to this means that we would expect timely information to support future decision-making, greater clarity on costs, reduced periods to recover funds and reduced demand on internal and stakeholder resource. (ESPO's Bureau Team run all supplier invoices through their specialist software to identify anomalies and then query them with the supplier so payment is not made until any issues are resolved. The software checks 15 different bill elements, including consecutive meter reads and makes comparisons with the previous year to identify any issues). Adopting this billing option is therefore recommended to provide assurance that the Council is being charged the correct amount for the energy it uses.
- 2.7 The current agreement (2020-2024) has been taken up by Council primary schools, business centres, fire stations and household waste sites as well as Council owned offices. As part of the new agreement, Officers will review the scope to ensure the Council maximise value and potential savings by extending the coverage of the contract where able and where it is cost effective to do so.
- 2.8 We would expect to see a reduction in electricity usage over the course of this contract period however, continuity of heating and power for buildings will be required until renewable sources / lower carbon initiatives are identified and installed. Making any large-scale shift is likely to take some time to implement and will need to be considered from a financial perspective as well as a practical perspective (e.g., for some of our buildings it would be more challenging to implement alternative energy provision than maintain the status quo).

3. Environmental Implications

- 3.1 As part of the Sustainable Futures Strategy, the Council is committed to reducing its environmental impact and becoming net zero by 2030. The Energy Strategy, to be delivered in June 2023, is a supportive strategy, sitting under the umbrella of the Sustainable Futures Strategy and will set out the approach to carbon reduction in Council owned and occupied buildings.

- 3.2 Currently the Council emits approximately 1,000 tonnes of CO2 a year, from electricity consumption in its owned portfolio. We would expect to see a reduction in this number over the course of this contract period. As such we will continue to explore all options robustly, however, continuity of heating and power for buildings will be required until renewable sources / lower carbon initiatives are identified and installed. It should be noted that not all buildings will be suitable for installation of newer technologies.

4. Supporting Information

- 4.1 ESPO is a major purchaser with over 35 years' experience of purchasing energy, including gas and electricity. ESPO is also active in influencing the energy supply chain both through direct contact with the various industry regulators, Government Departments, Parliamentary Committees, and key organisations such as National Grid, OFGEM, and through participation in consumer groups.
- 4.2 In flexible energy buying the onus is on managing the risk, rather than the actual price, and by spreading the risk over a longer period (e.g., 18-24 months or longer) there is a smoothing effect on annual costs avoiding the extreme variations experienced currently. The period over which the energy is purchased provides increased budgetary certainty and earlier information about future costs.
- 4.3 There are no volume commitments in the framework agreement, therefore the Council will not be penalised for any changes in its consumption (e.g., due to sales / acquisitions of premises and reductions in usage due to building improvements, implementation of new energy efficient technology and/or agile working).
- 4.4 ESPO has carried out a full tender process and identified Total Energies Gas and Power as the successful bidder.
- 4.5 ESPO has not yet begun purchasing electricity for the period 2024-2028, however their Trading Team expects a (caveated) 0% to -5% shift in purchase price compared to 2023/24 prices.

5. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

- 5.1 Confirmation to ESPO to continue to be part of the Framework, March 2023.
- 5.2 Confirmation to budget holders of ongoing commitment in the 2024-2028 period, April 2023.
- 5.3 Regular updates to budget holders and site contacts of pricing reviews, during the contract term.

Appendices

None

Background Papers

None

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The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s): N/A county wide paper

Other members: Councillors John Holland, Jerry Roodhouse, Jonathan Chilvers, Adrian Warwick, Parminder Singh Birdi, Sarah Boad, Caroline Phillips, and Will Roberts

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Cabinet

16 March 2023

Refresh of Surface Pro Devices

Recommendation

That Cabinet authorises the Strategic Director for Resources to undertake an appropriate procurement process, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Customer and Transformation, and to enter into all agreements that he considers necessary for the replacement of the Council's current end user devices as set out in paragraph 1.3.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Council deployed Surface Pro devices in 2019/20 as part of the Microsoft 365 transformation programme and has subsequently realised the benefits of this approach. This initial 3-year lease was extended in 2022 for 1 year to avoid significant pricing changes due to inflation.
- 1.2 The Surface Pro device has supported the Council's approach to flexible and agile working, enabling colleagues to work in a style which suits them. They have proven to be highly reliable devices, reducing pressure on our ICT support and benefit from being a familiar device to all colleagues. Having a standard device simplifies support arrangements and contributes to financial savings.
- 1.3 The recommendation is that the Council should lease replacement Surface Pro 7+ devices on a 4-year basis to continue to provide all users with a safe, flexible, and familiar device that serves all key business purposes.

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1 The 2022/23 budget includes £1.040m for the annual leasing cost of our devices. The budget will be reduced to £0.890m in 2023/24 delivering the £0.150m saving from devices agreed as part of the 2023/24 budget approved by Council on 7 February 2023.
- 2.2 The proposed lease reduces the annual cost for devices from £1.040m to £0.910m. The £0.020m annual shortfall resulting from the lease will be funded from efficiencies within Digital & ICT.

- 2.3 Considering the increase in the number of devices required, this represents a 24% reduction in lease cost per device.

3. Environmental Implications

- 3.1 The Council's current devices will be returned to the leasing company and re-sold when refreshed. The devices will not be disposed of which will help reduce any environmental impact.

4. Supporting Information

- 4.1 The Council initially deployed Surface Pros in 2019, financed through a 3-year lease arrangement, expiring in November 2022. The 2019 lease provided a total of 4,250 devices at an annual cost of £1,040m. Pricing uncertainty in the market due to global factors meant the decision was taken to extend the lease by 12 months, ending November 2023.
- 4.2 The Council's Digital Strategy approach is to deploy a single corporate device to colleagues. This approach has delivered efficiencies in support and management and provides best value from the market achieved by leasing at volume.
- 4.3 The current devices are used extensively and have a limited useful life before issues increase. As such, it is the appropriate time to refresh them on a new lease which makes financial sense for the Council.
- 4.4 Consultation with HR has identified the current organisational device need (based on establishment and headcount totals) as 4,867, an increase of 617 devices from the previous lease in 2019. The increase in need has resulted from service response to the Council priorities such as Children and Families, Adult Social Care, and Environment Services. The increase in the number of employees with different working patterns also contributes to this demand.
- 4.5 A market review has been undertaken to establish the options open to the Council to replace more devices at a reduced annual lease cost.
- 4.6 The market review identified alternative devices. Testing of these did not deliver on the high expectations the Council has for its devices. As the Surface Pro is familiar to users and has served all types of uses, from desk-based to remote work, it is recommended as the best available device considering the work the organisation undertakes and good experience over the last 4 years.
- 4.7 There are a small number of users (estimated at below 1% of the Council's staff) where their work requires a different device, usually because of specific application requirements. These will be identified and considered during the refresh and an alternative solution identified.

- 4.8 Procurement advice confirms that using the Crown Commercial Services Technology Products and Associated Services RM6068 Framework is an acceptable route to market and will enable a competitive process to be conducted for procurement of the 4867 Surface Pros.

5. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

- Cabinet – 16 March 2023
- Procurement completed by end of May 2023
- Device rollout begins June 2023
- Device rollout completes November 2023

Appendices

None

Background Papers

None

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The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s): Not applicable. This is a countywide matter.

Other members: Councillors Jerry Roodhouse, John Holland, Jonathan Chilvers, Adrian Warwick, Parminder Singh Birdi, Sarah Boad, Caroline Phillips, and Will Roberts

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Cabinet

16 March 2023

Museum Disposal of Items which do not meet the Collection Development Policy

Recommendation

That Cabinet approves the process of disposing of the identified items in Warwickshire Museum Service's collection which do not meet the requirements of the Museum Collection Development Policy (approved by Cabinet in January 2020) as listed in Appendix A.

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report seeks Cabinet's approval to dispose of items in Warwickshire Museum Service's collection (the collection) which do not meet the Museum Collection Development Policy 2020-2025 (the policy) which was approved by Cabinet on 30 January 2020. This policy requires Cabinet to approve disposal of museum objects regardless of value.

2. Executive Summary

2.1 Background

- 2.1.1 There are a number of items (identified in **Appendix A**) which have previously been added to the collection, and are owned by WCC, which do not meet the requirements of the policy.
- 2.1.2 The majority of items in section A of appendix A were acquired circa 1990s to be used as set dressing at St. John's House Museum and having not been used have been in storage since that time.
- 2.1.3 The items do not meet the requirements of the policy, as they are in poor condition, are unlikely to be used for display or of limited engagement potential and will not be used for set dressing at St. John's House Museum or any other Heritage Culture Warwickshire (HCW) sites.
- 2.1.4 The other items in Section A of Appendix A are items in the collections which are duplicates and/or have no provenance (either at all or for Warwickshire). These objects are therefore of no use either for display or study purposes.

- 2.1.5 These items in section B of Appendix A were acquired circa 1980s and are in a state of advanced historic deterioration and/or disrepair, and of no potential for display or educational use.
- 2.1.6 The items are either duplicated by better-preserved examples or are not related to Warwickshire's heritage, and as such do not meet the policy.
- 2.1.7 In line with best practice and the policy, any items which do not meet the policy should be disposed of in accordance with the Museum Association Code of Ethics¹ and the Spectrum standard (the UK collection management standard that is also used around the world²).

3. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

- 3.1 Following Cabinet approval, the disposal of the identified items requires the following of the Spectrum standard (the standard).
- 3.2 The standard requires "a minimum period of two months for an interest in acquiring the material to be expressed"³ by other museums or appropriate bodies before other forms of disposal can be completed.

4. Environmental Implications

- 4.1 None arising directly from this report.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 Following Cabinet approval, items will be offered to other museums or appropriate bodies in the first instance in accordance with the policy. There are established protocols for museum staff to do this via sector networks. This may involve donations. However, should disposal be by sale, the collective value of the items is in the low £'000's and will be accounted for in accordance with the Policy approved by Cabinet in 2020 and the Museum Association Toolkit which requires that "any money raised as a result of disposal through sale should be applied solely and directly for the benefit of the museum's collection."⁴

¹ 'Code of Ethics for Museums', *Museum Association*, <https://www.museumsassociation.org/app/uploads/2020/06/20012016-code-of-ethics-single-page-10.pdf>, accessed on 25th October 2022

² 'Spectrum', *Collections Trust*, <https://collectionstrust.org.uk/spectrum>, accessed on 25th October 2022

³ 'Deaccessioning and disposal', *Collections Trust*, <https://collectionstrust.org.uk/resource/deaccessioning-and-disposal-suggested-procedure>, accessed on 25th October 2022

⁴ 'Disposal Toolkit: Guidelines for Museums', *Museums Association*, <https://ma-production.ams3.digitaloceanspaces.com/app/uploads/2020/06/18145447/31032014-disposal-toolkit-8.pdf>, accessed on 25th October 2022

Appendix

Appendix A – Items identified for disposal

Background papers

None

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This report has been shared with the following members:
Councillors Adrian Warwick, Parminder Singh Birdi, Sarah Boad, Caroline Phillips,
and Will Roberts (Chair, Vice Chair, and Party Spokespersons of the Resources and
Fire & Rescue OSC)

Appendix A – Items identified for disposal

Section A – Social History items

The objects from the Social History collection and recent collections review at St Johns, with a small number of objects from the Museum Collections Centre at Hawkes Point.

This review was carried out with reference to the Museum Association Code of Ethics and the Disposal Toolkit. The criteria used for determining disposals were as follows:

- Significance/provenance (in line with Collections Development policy)
- Condition assessment/completeness (includes potential cost of conservation and long-term storage)
- Documentation (including whether it has been accessioned, catalogued etc)
- Storage housing
- Public engagement potential

Items currently at St. John's House (items with “none” recorded under objective number have not been formally added to collection.

Object number(s)	Object Description	Reason for disposal
69/1971	Slaughterer's pulley wheel	Has a Warwickshire provenance but is large and includes beams as well as the wheel itself. Condition is fair, but engagement potential is limited. It could not be displayed at Market Hall Museum or reconstructed appropriately at Hawkes Point and presents long term storage / preservation issues.
126/1967	WCC cheque signing machine	Poor condition. One of a number of items handed over to the Museum Service from WCC when old equipment was replaced and no engagement potential for contemporary audiences.

Object number(s)	Object Description	Reason for disposal
1969/53	Apple mill and press	Poor condition and a lack of storage space. No / limited opportunities to display or present to the public.
183/1978	3 fire grates from Woodhouse St, Warwick	Poor condition and lack of storage space. Unlikely to be used for display and limited engagement potential.
137/1969	'Deans' washing machine	Poor condition and no engagement potential
H7507 126/1982 or 77/1979f	Washing machine with mangle	Documentation and provenance unclear. Poor condition and no engagement potential
100/1972	Two-oven kitchen range Hassal and Singleton - received in pieces	Poor condition and therefore no engagement potential.
1982/9, H7090	Kitchen range made for cottage at Stoneleigh village	Poor condition (oven door missing) and lack of storage space. Unlikely to be used for display and limited engagement potential.
1971/135 a/b/c	Long handled Fork(a), hand cart frame(b), iron wheel tyre(c)	Incomplete and limited engagement potential.
113/1967	Handmill c 1853	Incomplete and in poor condition.
115/1983	Beatty Washing Machine	Complete, but in poor condition and lack of storage space. Limited engagement potential
49/1978	Ewbank mangle	Incomplete, in poor condition and little provenance information.

Object number(s)	Object Description	Reason for disposal
10/1969	Sack beam scales from Nuneaton flour mill	In pieces, poor condition and lack of storage space. Limited engagement potential.
140/1969	Roasting Jack or Hastener	Damaged and in poor condition. Duplicate (one in St Johns kitchen).
H7090	Cooking range 'DAPPER'	Incomplete (door and other fittings missing) poor condition and long-term storage implications.
226/1983/ H8950	Lantern for gas lamp	Possibly damaged and replaced lantern from gas lamp at St John's House (by the side of the house). Incomplete and in poor condition.
141/1978a, b and c	Cast iron bedroom grates and fire baskets x 3	Poor condition and documentation not clearly linked to these items. Limited engagement potential.
None	Sewing machine in box	Duplication (there are a number of sewing machines in the collection). Limited opportunity for display and limited engagement potential.
None	Mangle, green painted cast iron stand. 'The Craven Wringer'	No documentation found nor provenance. Duplicate.
None	Weedkilling implement	No documentation. Possibly old museum garden equipment rather than collections.
None	Long shafted lawn roller	No documentation. Possibly old museum garden equipment rather than collections.
None	Bandsaw	No documentation. Possibly old museum garden equipment rather than collections.

Object number(s)	Object Description	Reason for disposal
None	Metal poles and fixings, painted black	Possibly linked to a fire pump, but no documentation found and function not confirmed.
None	Possible water tank	No documentation nor provenance. Use / purpose unclear.
None	Pulley or pipe part	No documentation nor provenance. Use / purpose unclear.
None	Large cast iron hinges and upright	No documentation. Possibly old museum fixings (damaged and presumably replaced).
None	Pulley system	No documentation nor provenance. Use / purpose unclear.
None	Wooden carrier and wheeled frame— possibly a pram	No documentation nor provenance. Use / purpose unclear.
None	Valor Gas heater	No documentation nor provenance. Duplicate
None	Roller from Ironing machine	No documentation. Poor condition and incomplete.
None	Washing dolly	No documentation. Poor condition
None	Horncastle and Son Leamington – possibly a door for cooking range	No documentation and not fully identified. Poor condition and incomplete
None	Small metal container with tap fitting	No documentation and not fully identified.
None	Assorted metal pipes	No documentation and not fully identified. Poor condition and incomplete

Object number(s)	Object Description	Reason for disposal
None	Semi-circular lid	No documentation and not fully identified. Poor condition and incomplete
None	Wooden shaft, pointed at one end	Part of larger object, therefore incomplete and unidentifiable
None	Wooden panel (possibly from a wall)	No documentation. Possibly a fixture in St John's House, but removed. Not collections nor relevant to collections.
None	Possible large handle and drain key	No documentation. Unidentified, if it is a drain key, may be linked to house and not collections.
None	Two iron wall brackets	No documentation and not fully identified. Possibly related to house and not collections.
None	Iron range with grate and thistles and lion decoration	No documentation. Poor condition and incomplete
None	Unidentified metal panel with fitting	No documentation and not fully identified. Poor condition and incomplete
None	Unidentified metal panel	No documentation and not fully identified. Poor condition and incomplete
None	Female sparrowhawk	Very poor condition, wing, body and eye damage, with better examples held within the collection. No value or potential for display or other public engagement, without costly repairs.

Items currently at Hawke Point (items with “none” recorded under objective number have not been formally added to collection.

Object number(s)	Object Description	Reason for disposal
141/1977	'Lite' Mangle, spanner and booklet	Bought in Oxfam in 1977 for £5.00. No provenance (possibly bought specifically for St John's kitchen and not used).
134/1979, H4622	Carpenter's Drawers	The set of drawers are from Warwickshire, but they are in a bad condition. There is significant damage due to old wood worm which means the frame can no longer stand and therefore the drawers have to be stored separately. There are cracks developing in some of the shelving panels and the joints are coming apart. Not suitable for display and very limited engagement potential.
139/1967 H2805	Copper stick (for stirring laundry in a heated copper washing basin)	Part of a house clearance on the death of a resident of Main Street, Monks Kirkby. The object is a short stick with no additional features. Condition is poor, it is split and damage to both ends, evidence of scorching-possibly from when it was in use. The stick has very limited engagement potential.
None	No 1 Mangle Manchester Bradford and London	No documentation nor provenance. Duplicate.
None	Mangle top George Michie Darlington	No documentation nor provenance. Duplicate.
None	Woollen felt carriage/car blanket with 6 racoon pelts applied to one side	No documentation nor provenance. In poor condition with long-term storage implications. No engagement potential.

Section B – Natural History items

The objects for disposal were identified during a review of the taxidermy collection, following the collections move from Montague Road to the new Museum Collections Centre at Hawkes Point, 2020. This review was carried out with reference to the Museum Association Code of Ethics and the Disposal Toolkit. The criteria used for determining disposals were as follows:

- Significance/provenance (in line with Collections Development policy)
- Condition assessment/completeness (includes potential cost of conservation and long-term storage)
- Public engagement potential

All specimens lack Warwickshire provenance unless stated otherwise and are currently at Hawkes Point.

Object number(s)	Object Description	Reason for disposal
30/1963 F1,F2,F3,F4	Ruff x 4	Very poor condition, with significant damage to the fourth bird. No potential for display or other engagement without costly remedial conservation and repair.
47/1966	Moorhen	Very poor condition, in a state of physical disintegration. No potential for display or other engagement without costly remedial conservation and repair.
191/1968	Knot	Very poor condition, in a state of physical disintegration. No potential for display or other engagement without costly remedial conservation and repair.
113/OCNH - 2005/1	Curlew	Very poor condition, broken wing and broken mount. No potential for display or other public engagement without costly remedial conservation and repair.

Object number(s)	Object Description	Reason for disposal
168/1969/A	Bar-tailed godwit	Condition is very poor, neck is badly damaged. No potential for public engagement without costly remedial conservation and repair.
77/1981	Wren (?)	Most of body missing: very poor condition and no engagement potential.
157/1955-21	Goldcrest	Detached leg and broken mount; very poor condition. No value or potential for display or other public engagement without costly remedial conservation and repair.
123OCNH 2005/1	Richardson's skua	Very poor condition, one eye missing. No value or potential for display or other public engagement without costly remedial conservation and repair.
90/1967	Whitethroat	Very poor condition, one eye missing. No value or potential for display or other public engagement without costly remedial conservation and repair. Collected from Warwick.
(AZ/NH)	Moorhen	Broken feet and feathers, very poor condition. No value or potential for display or other public engagement without costly remedial conservation and repair.
35/OCNH 2005/1	Common scoter	Very poor condition, one eye missing. No value or potential for display or other public engagement without costly remedial conservation and repair.
31/OCNH 2005/1	Common pochard	Very poor condition, numerous feathers missing. No value or potential for display or other public engagement without costly remedial conservation and repair.

Object number(s)	Object Description	Reason for disposal
8/1967 b and c	Fox cubs	Specimen (b) has suffered loss of fur on shoulder due to past infestation; (c) has suffered loss of fur and skin on legs due to past infestation. No value or potential for display or other public engagement without costly remedial conservation and repair.
33/1963b	Lamb	Fur has completely disappeared from the front right leg, possibly due to past infestation. Body as a whole is very dirty, tail appears to be broken. No value or potential for display or other public engagement.
135/1962 K1	Tree pipit	Mount is missing, and a leg is broken. No value or potential for display or other public engagement without costly remedial conservation and repair.
71OCNH 2005/1	Peregrine falcon and thrush	Birds are no longer upright. Falcon: left wing broken, tail feathers disintegrating or previously eaten by pests, thrush's head broken and condition of feathers very poor. No value or potential for display or other public engagement.
135/1962/D3	Greenfinch	Left wing is broken. No value or potential for display or other public engagement without costly repair and conservation.
94/1962/A	Treecreeper	Loss of numerous feathers. No value or potential for display or other public engagement without costly remedial conservation and repair. Collected from Wellesbourne.
148/OCNH 2001/1	Tawny owl	Detached from branch, which is in very poor condition. Specimen has lost feathers and suffered structural damage, especially on its head and front. No value or potential for engagement.
48/2015	Otter	Much historical pest damage and staining. No value or potential for display or other public engagement.

Object number(s)	Object Description	Reason for disposal
NH/206	Canada goose	Very poor condition, mould on inside of case, mould and other damage on feathers in several places, feathers very thin in places, mould to back paper, piece of wooden case carcass splintering at back right corner. No value or potential for display or other public engagement, without costly repairs.
NH/152	Ruddy Shelduck	Very poor condition, glass cracked from top to bottom of case on one side, areas around the head and neck are missing feathers, extensive damage to head and tail. No value or potential for display or other public engagement, without costly repairs.

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Cabinet

16 March 2023

Member Working Group – Home to School Transport

Recommendation

That Cabinet:

- a) approves the Terms of Reference for the Member Working Group on Home to School Transport, attached at Appendix A; and
- b) authorises the Strategic Director for Resources to establish and initiate the Working Group.

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1. The agreement to set up a Home to School Transport Member Working Group was part of the 2023/24 budget approved by full Council on 7 February 2023.
- 1.2. The 2023/24 budget included investment of an additional £8.2m in home to school transport next year, to meet the increasing demand and cost of the service, which has been particularly impacted by inflation. The investment brings the total budget for home to transport in 2023/24 to £30.1m. The remaining four years of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) includes indicative additional investment of another £5.7m and the delivery of £2.2m savings.
- 1.3. The investment in 2023/24 aims to put the budget for the service onto a sustainable footing. However, there is a real risk that the continued growth in the funding need for this service is unsustainable. Particularly so if demand and costs continue to increase at the levels seen this year. The Education Sufficiency Strategy predicts that continued growth in school places will be needed to address housing growth which is likely to result in around 4000 more pupils at schools in Warwickshire between now and 2027. Increased housing

development in the county also increases in-year placement pressure. This can result in an increased number of pupils who cannot be accommodated at their nearest school and may need to be transported to the next nearest school with space if this is beyond the statutory walking distance. Any increase in school places (and therefore pupils) is likely to result in increased demand for home to transport, meaning the longer-term financial risk is real and requires monitoring and mitigation.

- 1.4. In light of this risk, the 2023/24 budget resolution agreed to set up a Member Working Group. The Group will enhance focus on the demand and cost management of home to school transport and the delivery of the budget reductions included in the 2023/24 budget resolution.
- 1.5. The Working Group is expected to make its written recommendations to Cabinet in Autumn 2023. This will ensure alignment with the overarching timeline for the development of the 2024/25 MTFS refresh. The Group will also connect with the Home to School Transport Improvement Project.
- 1.6. Cabinet is asked to approve the Terms of Reference for the Member Working Group attached at **Appendix A**.

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1. There are no direct financial implications for the Authority from the report, although the findings and recommendations of the Working Group may have implications for the 2024/25 MTFS refresh.

3. Environmental Implications

- 3.1. There are no direct environmental implications from the report, although the findings and recommendations of the Working Group may have wider environmental implications which will be considered as part of the Working Group's report(s).

4. Background Papers

- 4.1. None.

	Name	Contact Information
Report Author	Virginia Rennie Strategic Finance Manager	vrennie@warwickshire.gov.uk
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Local Members consulted

Not applicable

Other Members consulted

Group Leaders consulted as part of the development of the report to identify representatives for the Working Group.

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Home to School Transport Member Working Group

Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

The agreement to set up a Home to School Transport Member Working Group was part of the 2023/24 budget approved by full Council on 7 February 2023.

The 2023/24 budget also included investment of an additional £8.2m in home to school transport to meet the increasing demand and cost of the service, which has been particularly impacted by inflation.

The budget resolution went on to recognise that continued increases in the level of funding for the service at this level is unsustainable. It was agreed that a Member Working Group would be established, with the terms of reference to be approved by Cabinet by March 2023, to enhance focus on the demand and cost management of home to school transport and the delivery of the home to school budget reductions included in the 2023/24 budget resolution. Initial outcomes from this work would then form part of the 2024/25 MTFS refresh.

2. Objectives

The cross-party Member Working Group will provide support and advice to Cabinet in the development of home to school transport spending and savings proposals for Warwickshire covering both mainstream pupils and those with special educational needs (SEND). In particular its role will be:

- a) to ensure visibility of the background and current status of school transport;
- b) to challenge the assumptions, size and drivers of current and future year costs;
- c) to operate as an advisory group on the development of home to school transport savings proposals and service delivery plans; and
- d) to scrutinise and review plans to improve the capture, use of and analysis of data.

3. Work Plan

The Work Plan for the Group will be determined by the Chair of the Group in discussion with Group members and with Strategic Director(s). The Group will provide input to the overall direction of work on the transformation of home to school transport and will build on the change activity already underway.

It is anticipated the following areas will be covered:

- i. review of WCC's policies against statutory requirements and, if necessary, recommend changes to these and to internal procedures to ensure the consistent application of policy;
- ii. scrutiny and challenge of the current plans and assumptions to mitigate cost pressures and deliver the agreed savings;
- iii. consideration of the extent to which the recommendations from the LGA's paper "Understanding the drivers for rising demand and associated costs of home to school transport" are applicable to and/or already being delivered by WCC;
- iv. exploration of further ideas to mitigate cost pressures, which could include reviewing options identified and rejected historically or learning from other authorities, in order to create a short list of future mitigations and savings proposals;
- v. review of whether the implications for home to transport are sufficiently integrated into pupil place planning, admissions and the EHCP process to deliver cost effective decision-making;
- vi. consideration of the effectiveness of procurement, contract management, compliance and monitoring frameworks in the delivery and continuous improvement of home to school transport;
- vii. exploration of how a stronger approach to managing the whole market more effectively can be achieved;
- viii. identification of improvements to the collection of data and the reporting and management insight generated from that data to aid effective management of the delivery, cost and continuous improvement of the service;
- ix. scrutiny of the approach to route optimisation and the challenges and barriers to its effectiveness; and
- x. helping to inform and shape any consultation proposals which may be required, and which will be the subject of future member consideration/approval.

4. Membership

The cross-party Group will comprise 9 members and in line with our custom and practice that Member Groups will follow the political balance of the Council, in so far as possible, will be constituted as follows:

- 6 x Conservative representatives;
- 1 x Labour representative;
- 1 x Liberal Democratic representative; and
- 1 x Green representative.

Membership of the Working Group will be finalised in discussions with the Leaders of the Council's political groups.

5. Meetings and Meeting Arrangements

The Group is not a formal Committee of the Council.

The Group is intended to be time limited until such time as recommendations are made to Cabinet. It is intended that the Group will meet every 4-6 weeks.

The Group will not be open to the public and the Access to Information regime will not be applicable.

6. Officer Support

Amy Bridgewater-Carnall, Democratic Services will provide officer support to the Group and make all the necessary administrative arrangements. Minutes/action notes will be circulated to members of the Group following each meeting.

Officer advice and support will be provided by the following:

- Mark Ryder – Strategic Director for Communities (lead/sponsor)
- Scott Tompkins – Assistant Director, Environmental Services;
- Johnny Kyriacou – Assistant Director, Education Services;
- Richard Sweeney – Service Manager (Transport Delivery);
- Guy Darvill – Team Lead Senior Solicitor – Education;
- Caroline Jones – Finance Portfolio Lead (Communities and Resources);
- Becky Robinson – Lead Commissioner Finance Strategy; and
- other Officers as relevant to the agenda.

7. Timeline

The Group is expected to make its written recommendations to Cabinet in Autumn 2023 to align with the overarching timeline for the development of the 2024/25 Medium Term Financial Strategy Refresh.

The timeframes and/or work of the Group may be subject to change and varied or extended with the agreement of the Chair of the Member Working Group, in consultation with the Strategic Director for Communities.

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Cabinet

16 March 2023

Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership transition and the future approach to sub-regional economic development

Recommendations

That Cabinet

1. endorses the transition proposals and the approach to sub-regional economic development across Coventry and Warwickshire following the dissolution of the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership as set out in paragraph 2.2.
2. confirms the Council's commitment to the continuation of the functions of the Coventry and Warwickshire Growth Hub and requests a future report on the proposals for doing so.

1. Background

- 1.1 Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) were created in 2011, following the abolition of Regional Development Agencies. They were established as strategic partnerships between the private and public sector, focused around functional economic geographies (i.e. areas that covered labour markets, commuting areas, concentrations of key sectors, etc.) which often spread across a number of administrative boundaries. In total, 38 LEPs were formed across England.
- 1.2 The Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership (CWLEP) was formed in 2011 as a company limited by guarantee (Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership Limited), with members and a Board formed representing businesses, the two universities and further education colleges, and all the local authorities across the geography. The CWLEP was responsible for developing a Strategic Economic Plan for the area, and was a conduit for a range of national government funding programmes, such as Local Growth Funds, Growing Places, and Getting Building Fund. The CWLEP was responsible for assessing and prioritising applications for funding from these sources for consideration by Government and overseeing the programme management of the funds. A local authority was required to be the official accountable body for these funds, and for Coventry and Warwickshire this function was undertaken by Coventry City Council.

- 1.3 LEPs were subject to annual performance reviews, and the CWLEP were consistently ranked as one of the best performing LEPs through the strength of the partnership working that existed in the area, and ability to deliver and effectively spend the funding allocations awarded to projects.
- 1.4 In 2014, through a partnership between local government, the CWLEP, the Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce and the Federation for Small Businesses; the Coventry and Warwickshire Growth Hub (CWGH) was established. The purpose of the CWGH was to reduce the complication and confusion to business through the wide range of different business support programmes, and act as a single front door to businesses, helping assess particular business support needs, and signposting/referring them into the most appropriate source of support. The CWGH formally became a subsidiary of the CWLEP in 2015 as a company limited by shares (Coventry and Warwickshire Growth Hub Limited).
- 1.5 In September 2021, the Government initiated a review of Local Enterprise Partnerships which fed into the Levelling Up White Paper and concluded that the functions and activities should transition to appropriate local democratic institutions as part for a wider approach to devolution. These local democratic institutions were defined as either Combined Authorities (mayoral or non-mayoral) or upper tier authorities as part of wider plans for County Deals.
- 1.6 In March 2022, the Government set out more detailed plans for this transition, and detailed three potential pathways:
 - Pathway 1: where the boundary of the LEP is coterminous with, or fully contained within, a Combined Authority Geography or County Deal area, then the LEP functions would transition into that structure.
 - Pathway 2: where the boundary of the LEP is coterminous with a county that will in due course agree a County Deal, then the LEP would continue to exist until it could transition to that new arrangement.
 - Pathway 3: where the boundary of the LEP falls across areas with different devolution arrangements (i.e. partially within a Combined Authority area), then local areas were encouraged to develop bespoke local solutions to be agreed on a case by case basis.
- 1.7 Coventry and Warwickshire therefore clearly falls under Pathway 3, and local partners have been working with the CWLEP to develop an appropriate transition plan.

2. CWLEP Transition Plan

- 2.1 Following the announcement from Government on the plans for LEP transition, officers from Warwickshire County Council have been working with Coventry City Council, the District & Borough Councils, the CWLEP, the CWGH, and other local partners and stakeholders on developing a local transition plan. There is agreement from all parties that Coventry and Warwickshire remains a clear functional economic geography, and that there

is a shared commitment to maintaining a focus and ability to work collectively across the area with respect to economic growth and prosperity.

- 2.2 The guidance from Government in March 2022 (Integrating Local Enterprise Partnerships into local democratic institutions) set out the core functions of LEPs that they identified as needing transition. Not all LEPs operated in the same way, and there were a wide range of structures and ways of working across the country. As such, not everything listed applied to all LEPs, and indeed in some areas, other functions and activities need to be considered as part of transition arrangements. Table 1 below sets out the core functions, how they apply with respect to Coventry and Warwickshire, and the proposed solution as part of the transition arrangements.

Table 1: Functions of CWLEP and Transition Arrangements

Function	How it was undertaken by CWLEP	Future Arrangements
Ensuring a strong voice of business into decision-making	Through a CWLEP Board with majority private sector members and chair, and via a range of Business Groups comprised of business representatives alongside other public partners	Establishment of a C&W Economic Forum (see paragraph 2.3-2.6 below for more details)
Strategic Economic Planning	Two Strategic Economic Plans were developed during the lifetime of the LEP, along with a Recovery Framework during the pandemic.	WCC and CCC will work together to develop a new C&W Economic Strategy, and will engage and liaise with key partners, and utilise the newly formed C&W Economic Forum, to help shape and inform this strategy.
Growth Hubs	Growth Hub was a subsidiary of the CWLEP and provided a front door to business support provision across the sub-region.	Strong local commitment to continue the functions of the CWGH post the CWLEP dissolution, and to explore the best mechanism to do this going forward (see paragraphs 2.7-2.9 below for more details)
International Trade & Investment activity	In C&W, this activity is undertaken directly by the Department for International Trade.	No change.

Function	How it was undertaken by CWLEP	Future Arrangements
Local Digital Skills Partnership	For C&W, this activity was undertaken by the West Midlands Combined Authority.	No change.
Careers Hubs	The CWLEP held a contract with the Careers & Enterprise Company to host and manage the careers hubs for both Coventry and Warwickshire. Funding and delivery in place until end of August 2023	<p>The WMCA will be taking over responsibility for the Careers Hub across the WMCA area, including Coventry.</p> <p>WCC will be working directly with the Careers & Enterprise Company to secure future funding and undertake delivery aligned to wider careers activity undertaken by the County Council. This will likely take effect from September 2023.</p>
Local Skills Analysis	Undertaken on behalf of the CWLEP by WCC and CCC, utilising the employment and skills teams in each respective authority, and data analysis provided by WCC.	No change – will continue to be undertaken by WCC and CCC.
Monitoring and assurance of Local Growth Funds	Coventry City Council acted as the accountable body for the Local Growth Funds secured and overseen by the Programme & Delivery Board of the CWLEP.	Coventry City Council will continue to act as the accountable body, and will monitor outcomes from projects as per contractual arrangements with Government. All spend has occurred, so the focus is now on assurance that investment has delivered the agreed outcomes. CCC will provide regular reports to WCC and the District & Borough Councils on performance.

- 2.3 Of particular interest and importance to Government is the continued engagement and involvement of the private sector to help shape and inform policy decisions being made by local democratic institutions. The “voice of business” was regarded as one of the key strengths of Local Enterprise Partnerships, and therefore a key part of our transition plan must address how this will be undertaken in the future.
- 2.4 To enable a clear and strong voice of business across Coventry and Warwickshire, the proposal is to establish a new Coventry and Warwickshire Economic Forum (CWEF). The aim of the CWEF is to provide a more agile, accessible, engaging and multi-format way of engaging, consulting and listening to the issues and needs of our local business community and key sectors. We do not intend to establish a fixed board. Instead, we want to create a forum where any business, of any size and from any sector, can join and engage with us. The intention is to create a dynamic structure that allows for businesses to enter and exit at will, and to engage on those issues and discussions that are important to them. Warwickshire County Council and Coventry City Council will commit to use this forum as part of their consultation and engagement processes to enable the voice of business to input into our policies, strategies and activities.
- 2.5 Businesses joining the forum will be expected to play an active role, and will be asked to set out their interests/expertise to help identify relevant businesses when issues are raised. Businesses will be notified of issues both generically, and in a targeted way based on their interests/expertise or the particular nature of the issue/ topic which is the subject of discussion (i.e. if it is something around a particular geographic area, or a particular sector, then there would be deliberate targeting of businesses). It is expected that businesses will be able to engage and comment in a variety of ways (workshops, events, surveys, 1:1 discussions etc.) and the outcomes will be collated and presented in the form of a summary report. We will commit to presenting an update on the report detailing how the feedback/comments have been utilised (“you said, we did”).
- 2.6 Warwickshire County Council and Coventry City Council are committed to jointly fund a CWEF co-ordinator post to help manage and direct the work of the CWEF. The Forum, and the co-ordinator, will be expected to work very closely with key business intermediaries such as the Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce, Federation of Small Businesses, and CWGH (or its successor).
- 2.7 The CWGH is an important component of the business support ecosystem across Coventry and Warwickshire, providing a clear and visible front door for businesses and enabling effective and appropriate referrals into the most relevant business support programmes. As the CWGH is currently a subsidiary company of the CWLEP, there is a need to consider options for the the functions of the CWGH to continue to be delivered as a separate legal entity.

- 2.8 The current proposal under consideration is to maintain the CWGH as a separate company, with Coventry City Council and Warwickshire County Council becoming joint shareholders of the new company that will also ensure the democratic accountability required. The remit of the company and the composition of the Board will need further consideration with a view to ensuring that both public and private sector are represented on the Board, with Warwickshire County Council also having a place on the Board.
- 2.9 Due diligence is currently being undertaken on the CWGH company, and options for the most suitable company structure are being reviewed. A report will come to Cabinet in the near future setting out the detailed proposals for the future of the CWGH.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 Government is continuing to provide funding to support the transition work and continuation of key activities. We have recently been informed that Warwickshire County Council will receive a funding allocation of £250,000 for 2023/24 for this purpose (subject to a business case being developed and agreed). It is expected that funding will be used to fund any costs associated with the closedown of the CWLEP, any costs involved in the transitioning of activities, and to help fund the core activities set out in Table 1 above. It cannot be assumed that this funding will continue in future years.
- 3.2 The CWLEP received grant funding from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (now the Department for Business and Trade) for the operation of Growth Hubs in previous years. It is not yet confirmed if this funding will be available in 2023/24. The Council has provided funding of £130,560 in 2022/23 to support the work of CWGH, which is the same funding contribution as Coventry City Council. The District and Borough Councils also fund CWGH on a proportionate basis at a collective level of £80,000 for 2022/23. Both Warwickshire County Council and Coventry City Council have indicated that they are committed to continue to provide funding support for CWGH, given the important role it provides in being a front-door for business support services in the sub-region.
- 3.3 The level of funding from Warwickshire County Council for 2023/24 has not yet been agreed, and it should be noted that there is no formal allocation for this in the 2023/24 budget. Options to fund include making use of some of the £250,000 of funding to support the transition work (as set out in paragraph 3.1 above), a bid into the Revenue Investment Fund (under the “Thriving Economy & Places Objective), existing service budgets, or a mixture of the three. Funding beyond 2023/24 will need to be considered in light of other funding requests as part of the 2024/25 MTFS refresh once the work to determine the best mechanism to do this going forward is completed.
- 3.4 The CWLEP have significant reserves of c. £1m that can be allocated to the any successor of the CWGH, subject to any costs and final dispersals.

4. Environmental Implications

- 4.1 The transition to a low carbon economy, supporting businesses to reduce their environmental impacts, and exploiting the new business opportunities that exist in this space are all key priorities for sub-regional economic development going forward. As we develop our new sub-regional economic strategy, and establish the Coventry and Warwickshire Economic Forum, we will look to identify and promote key measures and activities that can be undertaken to support these priorities and which can be best done across the Coventry and Warwickshire geography to complement and add value to work being done at a regional/WMCA, county and district/borough level.

Background papers

None

	Name	Contact Information
Report Author	David Ayton-Hill – Assistant Director for Communities	davidayton-hill@warwickshire.gov.uk
Assistant Director	David Ayton-Hill – Assistant Director for Communities	davidayton-hill@warwickshire.gov.uk
Strategic Director	Mark Ryder – Strategic Director for Communities	markryder@warwickshire.gov.uk
Portfolio Holder	Martin Watson – Portfolio Holder for Economy	martinwatson@warwickshire.gov.uk

The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s): N/a – county wide matter

Other members: Chair and Party Spokes of the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
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General Exception Procedure Notice Pursuant to Standing Order 17 and reg 10(1) and 10(3) of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangement) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Directorate:

Communities

Confidential or Exempt *[please state category of exempt information]*

Exempt

Decision Taker: Member Body or Officer *[if officer please give name and title]*

Cabinet

Proposed Date for Decision/ Time Period

16 March 2023

Summary of Matter

1. Previous Council approvals have allocated funding from the Capital Investment Fund (CIF) for the purchase of land and submission of a planning application for the purpose of construction a parkway railway station in Rugby ("the Scheme").
2. Some land has been secured. However, there is a need further additional land to complete the Scheme.
3. Cabinet authority is sought to purchase additional land and for approval to allocate an additional sum from the Capital Investment Fund to the Scheme within the Capital Programme. Cabinet is also asked to approve the use of compulsory purchase powers if required to deliver the Scheme.
4. The final business case for the full Scheme will be brought back to Cabinet at a later date for members to consider viability, funding and the delivery model of the scheme. However, these land purchases are required in order to advance planning for delivery.
5. The Report will be exempt pursuant to paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as containing Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any person (including the authority holding that information).

Proposed Decision

The full text of the recommendation is exempt pursuant to paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. In summary, the decision will authorise the purchase of additional land and associated actions. The full report is available for Members to view.

If the proposed decision is made, would it be contrary to or not wholly in accordance with the policy framework or budget?

No

List of documents/reports provided

Draft exempt report available to Members

List of Background Papers

None

Is consultation proposed Yes/ No *[if yes, say who and how]*

No

Members of the public wishing to make comments on this matter should write to:

**Monitoring Officer
Warwickshire County Council
Shire Hall
Warwick
CV34 4RL**

monitoringofficer@warwickshire.gov.uk

Comments should be made by

15 March 2023

Office Use only

Directorate Contact *[please give name and number]*

Hannah Collett - 01926 412252 or hannahcollett@warwickshire.gov.uk

To be completed by Member Services

Copy Notice served	
Chair of Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee	08/03/2023
Copy Notice published on website and available at the offices of the Council	08/03/2023

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