

CABINET AGENDA



TUESDAY 16 OCTOBER 2018 AT 7.30 PM
CONFERENCE ROOM 2 - THE FORUM

The Councillors listed below are requested to attend the above meeting, on the day and at the time and place stated, to consider the business set out in this agenda.

Membership

Councillor Williams (Leader)	Councillor Marshall
Councillor Griffiths (Deputy Leader)	Councillor G Sutton
Councillor Elliot	Councillor D Collins
Councillor Harden	

For further information, please contact Corporate and Democratic Support

AGENDA

1. MINUTES (Pages 3 - 13)

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 18 September 2018

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of interest

A member with a disclosable pecuniary interest or a personal interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered -

(i) must disclose the interest at the start of the meeting or when the interest becomes apparent

and, if the interest is a disclosable pecuniary interest, or a personal interest which is also prejudicial

(ii) may not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter (and must withdraw to the public seating area) unless they have been granted a dispensation.

A member who discloses at a meeting a disclosable pecuniary interest which is not registered in the Members' Register of Interests, or is not the subject of a pending notification, must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest within 28 days of the disclosure.

Disclosable pecuniary interests, personal and prejudicial interests are defined in Part 2 of the Code of Conduct for Members

[If a member is in any doubt as to whether they have an interest which should be declared they should seek the advice of the Monitoring Officer before the start of the meeting]

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

An opportunity for members of the public to make statements and ask questions in accordance with the rules as to Public Participation.

5. REFERRALS TO CABINET

There were no referrals to Cabinet

6. CABINET FORWARD PLAN

7. HEMEL HEMPSTEAD TOWN CENTRE AND PARKING ACCESS AND MOVEMENT STRATEGY (Pages 14 - 22)

8. LOCAL PLAN UPDATE (Pages 23 - 40)

9. PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND SPORTS STRATEGY (Pages 41 - 51)

10. ATHLETICS TRACK RELOCATION (Pages 52 - 60)

11. TREASURY MANAGEMENT 17/18 CLOSING PERFORMANCE (Pages 61 - 70)

12. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

To consider passing a resolution in the following terms:

That, under s.100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 Schedule 12A Part 1 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 the public be excluded during the items in Part 2 of the Agenda for this meeting, because it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, that, if members of the public were present during those items, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information relating to the financial and business affairs of the Council and third party companies/organisations.

Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Part 1, paragraph 3.

MINUTES

CABINET

18 SEPTEMBER 2018

Councillors: Williams (Leader)
Griffiths (Deputy
Leader)
Elliot
Harden
Marshall
G Sutton
D Collins

Officers:	Mark Brookes	Assistant Director - Corporate and Contracted Services
	James Deane	Corporate Director - Finance and Operations
	James Doe	Assistant Director - Planning, Development and Regeneration
	Mark Gaynor	Corporate Director - Housing & Regeneration
	Nigel Howcutt	Assistant Director - Finance and Resources
	Sally Marshall	Chief Executive
	Claire Oliveri	Communications and Consultation Officer
	Fiona Williamson	Assistant Director - Housing
	David Barrett	Group Manager - Housing Development
	Jo Deacon	Housing Development Team Leader
	Katie Mogan	Corporate and Democratic Support Lead Officer

Also in attendance:

Councillor John Birnie
Councillor Tina Howard
Councillor Ron Tindall

The meeting began at 7.30 pm

CA/86/18 MINUTES

Minutes of the meetings held on 31 July 2018 were agreed by Members present and signed by the Chair.

CA/87/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence

CA/88/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

CA/89/18 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation

CA/90/18 REFERRALS TO CABINET

There were no referrals to Cabinet.

CA/91/18 CABINET FORWARD PLAN

The Forward Plan was noted and agreed.

Councillor Harden asked what item 11 'New Normal' was about. S Marshall explained that it was about working towards a new strategy that began with a workshop attended by Cabinet a couple of years ago.

CA/92/18 Q1 FINANCIAL REPORT

Decision

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND;

1. That the revised capital programme to move slippage identified at Quarter 1 into financial year 2019/20 as detailed in Appendix C be approved.
2. That the draw down of reserves previously agreed by Cabinet be approved. Details are set out below:
 - Draw down £165k from Capital Development reserve to fund Development Company (DevCo) phase 1 costs incurred.
 - Draw down £70k from On-Street Car Parking reserves to cover costs of ongoing parking zone consultation.

3. That the supplementary capital budgets be approved.

- **Capital budget of £15k for Gadebridge Park Walled Garden irrigation system**
- **Capital budget of £34k for Warners End Community Centre heating and door improvement works**

4. That the virements detailed in Appendix D be approved:

- Virement to transfer the budget for the debt recovery function from Legal Services to Financial Services
- Virement for the purpose of realigning capital budgets in order to deliver recycling facilities at flats
- Virement for the purpose of realigning the car parking budget to reflect new cashless parking system

Corporate objectives

Delivering an efficient and modern council.

Monitoring Officer/S.151 Officer comments

No comments to add to the report

S.151 Officer:

The comments were included within the body of the report.

Advice

Councillor Elliot introduced the report. Currently, there was a forecast pressure of £719k which mainly came under three areas: waste recycling pressure of £500k, building control service pressure of £200k and garage income pressure of £160k. It is predicted that the waste income will improve over the financial year with a rise in commodity prices. The building control pressure comes from increased costs of agency staff but a reduced income. The garage income pressure is linked to a budgeting matter and steps are being taken to reduce this pressure.

Councillor Harden said the portfolio holder seemed quite positive that the £500k pressure would improve. He asked if there was any indication of the figures at the end of year?

N Howcutt said there has been some modelling projection that shows a £200k drop in pressure

Voting

None.

CA/93/18 BROWNFIELD LAND REGISTER UPDATE

Decision

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND;

- 1. That the sites listed in Parts 1 and 2 of the Brownfield Land Register (BLR) as drafted in Appendix 1 be approved and;**
- 2. Delegate authority to the Assistant Director (Planning, Development and Regeneration) to finalise the site specific information before publication.**

Corporate objectives

A clean, safe and enjoyable environment, Building strong and vibrant communities; Ensuring economic growth and prosperity; Providing good quality affordable homes; Delivering an efficient and modern council;

The Brownfield Register will assist in more housing led sites becoming available for development This will provide more local housing, improved communities and economic growth.

Monitoring Officer:

The Council is required to review the entries in the Brownfield Land Register at least once within each year from first publication and therefore agreement of this report will enable the Council to achieve that deadline for 2018.

Statutory guidance for the matters which must be included in the BLR, including all consultation requirements, is set out in The Town and Country Planning (Brownfield Land Register) Regulations 2017 and officers must ensure that they follow these regulations when publishing future registers.

S.151 Officer:

No further comments to add to this report.

Advice

Councillor Sutton introduced the item and said it was a legal requirement to produce a brownfield land register. He thanked the team for producing a good register.

J Doe said the register had been around for a year and this was the latest update.

Voting

None.

CA/94/18 BUSINESS RATES POOLING

Decision

1. That Cabinet support the principle of the Council being a part of a Hertfordshire wide bid to take part in the Government's proposed 75% Business Rates Pooling Pilot commencing 1 April 2019; and,
2. That Cabinet delegate authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to approve the final application subject to final details being agreed between prospective pilot members.

Corporate objectives

This report supports all of the Council's Corporate Objectives.

Monitoring Officer:

If the bid is approved, an agreement or Memorandum of Understanding will need to be developed to document the governance and administrative framework for the Business Rates Pool.

S.151 Officer

This is a Section 151 Officer report.

Advice

Councillor Elliot introduced the report which if agreed, will allow DBC to take part in a county wide bid to be involved in a pilot. The benefit to the county would be £11 million.

N Howcutt said there had been a late announcement from the government about extending the deadline for bid submission. The bid is similar to last year's which was not successful. The risks are minimal and there would be a major risk if business rates dropped 8% in the next 18 months but as business rates have currently been

increasing by 2-4%, it is deemed very unlikely that this would happen. The net benefit would be worth £8.4 million split across the local authorities under Hertfordshire.

Councillor Marshall asked what the government would be getting out of this scheme.

N Howcutt said the aim is to have 75% business rate retention by 2020. The idea of the pilots is to find out the details and how well it will be implemented. More local authorities are aware of how to control their business rates. It is expected that fewer pilots will be awarded from the ten that were awarded last year. The idea is to drive economic development in order to increase to pool. There has been little feedback on the unsuccessful bid from last year so it is difficult to say what they are looking for.

Councillor Tindall asked if the ten selected last year had any similarities to the bid submitted by Hertfordshire.

N Howcutt said a range of different authorities were picked and there was no clear methodology.

Voting

None.

CA/95/18 BOVINGDON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Decision

1. The Neighbourhood Plan Area for Bovingdon is agreed to be consulted upon; and
2. That authority is delegated to the Assistant Director, Planning, Development and Regeneration in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Infrastructure to consider the consultation responses and formally designate the Bovingdon Neighbourhood Plan Area.

Corporate objectives

If the area is formally designated for neighbourhood planning, the Bovingdon Neighbourhood Plan may assist in supporting the following corporate priorities for Dacorum:

- *A clean, safe and enjoyable environment* e.g. may contain policies relating to the design and layout of new development that promote security and safe access;
- Building strong and vibrant communities;

- Ensuring economic growth and prosperity;
- Providing good quality affordable homes, in particular for those most in need;
- *Dacorum delivers*: e.g. provides a clear framework upon which planning decisions can be made;
- *Community Capacity*: e.g. allows local communities to prepare area-specific guidance within Neighbourhood Plans

Monitoring Officer:

The Council has a duty to support a Parish Council or Neighbourhood Forum in the preparation of a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). This includes providing technical support expertise and resources to such level as the Council considers appropriate. The Council is also responsible for arranging an independent Inspection of the NDP and to meet the cost of the Inspection.

If the NDP meets all the necessary criteria it can only come into being if more than 50% of those voting in a referendum vote in favour of it. If the referendum is in favour of the NDP it must be adopted by the Council. The Council is responsible for arranging the referendum which must take place in the Grovehill Neighbourhood Area and this process will be organised by the Election's team

Deputy S.151 Officer

At present there are limited financial liabilities in relation to the creation of this NDP. Any costs incurred that DBC are liable to meet will be met by MHCLG funding where applicable with any residual costs being met from within the existing planning and regeneration budgets.

Advice

Councillor G Sutton introduced the item and said the purpose of this report was to identify and approve the area requested by Bovingdon Parish Council. The plan submitted fulfils all the requirements and does not overlap on other areas. If the report is approved, it will set the plan in action.

J Doe said this was the second neighbourhood plan submitted to the council, the first being in Grovehill. If approved, there will be a public consultation and then a referendum. It is important to note that the Local Plan is currently being developed and it will be vital to keep in contact with the parish council to make sure both plans do not contradict each other.

Councillor Birnie referred to page 26 and asked if there was an error as it stated the referendum would take place in Grovehill.

J Doe said this was an error. The referendum would be held in Bovingdon.

Councillor Williams said it was his understanding that the Cabinet is obliged to accept the plan if all the criteria has been met.

Councillor Birnie asked about the limit of neighbourhood plans a council can have.

J Deacon said that the funding comes from the government and that funding is limited to five plans. Anymore plans would need to be funded by the council.

Councillor Tindall asked if the parish council had carried out any informal consultation to find out the views of residents.

J Doe said he was not aware of any but said that a public consultation would follow.

Councillor Williams said he was aware that there have been discussions within parish council meetings with external support.

Voting

None.

CA/96/18 NEW BUILD UPDATE

Decision

1. That the bid to be made to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) be approved, as set out in the report, including the financial details in part 2, for additional borrowing freedom for £10.1M in the Housing Revenue Account to facilitate the early delivery of 106 new homes and to approve the acceptance of the bid if successful.
2. That the bid be accepted, if successful, and the detail, process and utilisation of any increased borrowing arising from the bid be delegated to the Corporate Director Housing and Regeneration and the Corporate Director Finance and Operations including any minor variations that may need to be made following liaison with MHCLG.
3. That the purchase of land at Paradise Fields for Homes England on the terms set out in the Part 2 report be approved and the process of purchase be delegated to the Corporate Director Finance and Operations. £150,000 to be allocated for consultancy and design work, from the existing 2018/19 HRA new build budget also be approved.
4. That the revised contract, as set out in Part 2 of this report, for the construction of new homes at Stationers Place, be awarded to Jarvis UK Ltd.
5. That delegated authority be given to the Corporate Director Housing and Regeneration in consultation with the Corporate Director Finance and Operations and the Assistant Director, Corporate and Contracted Services and the Portfolio

Holder Housing and Portfolio Holder Finance and Resources to purchase land of a value up to £5,000,000 for housing development.

6. That the Housing Revenue Account land purchase Framework set out in the report be approved.
7. That the new build update be noted.

Corporate objectives

Monitoring Officer:

Any land purchases under the proposed delegation in recommendation 5 will need to be documented in an officer decision sheet to ensure that the decision is properly recorded.

Full site due diligence and valuation assessment should also be carried and reported in the officer decision sheet for consideration by the statutory officers.

Deputy S.151 Officer

The revised new build development programme and subsequent submission for an increase in the HRA borrowing limit, by £10.1m, has been modelled through the 30 year business plan. The business case put forward is financially sustainable but will require close monitoring.

The HRA is projected, if the bid is accepted, to maximise its new extended borrowing cap of £364min 2021/22 and 2022/23, hence fiscal management is key, as borrowing to the maximum capacity provides no headroom. The strategy will need to continue to be closely monitored to ensure the new build development plan remains deliverable and affordable.

The financial increase in the tender contract for Stationers place can be delivered within the existing new build development budget. The increase in contract value after analysis is in line with the expected industry inflationary increases over this time period.

The implementation of a land purchase framework/delegated decision making process will allow for the HRA to react to market conditions in a timely manner. The approval of land purchases must be accompanied with a red book valuation to ensure value for money is assessed.

Advice

Councillor Griffiths introduced the item and said this report was to update members on the new build programme and to show the new process for acquiring sites. There is an option to apply for an increase in the council's borrowing cap and the council applied for this two weeks ago.

M Gaynor said there was an error under paragraph 6.6 which should say units not nits. He said this was a significant report and deals with the bid for additional borrowing. This year, the council have built 132 units with another 280 in construction. If the bid is successful, this will provide funding to build another 231. There are strict rules associated with the bid; the council must use all of its borrowing requirements and must deliver within the planned timeframe. The funding is also limited to the projects planned, the submitted bid asks for an extra £10 million which is based on the projects that the council have already planned. Dacorum has a good track record on delivering homes and this could allow for a second bid in the future.

Councillor Marshall referred to page 41 and asked how the process would be reported to members.

M Gaynor said initially, there would be consultation with the portfolio holder and reports to Cabinet. He said there would also be an officer decision sheet.

Councillor Marshall asked at what point would these be produced?

M Brookes said the purchase of sites would be included under the officer decision sheet.

M Gaynor said that the site would be sold in competition so the successful agent would be looking for a quick process which the Cabinet process does not allow for.

Councillor Marshall asked if the officer decision would be subject to call in?

M Brookes said yes. There would be a process to sign off the agreement and then a separate legal process.

Councillor Marshall asked how long the call in was for an officer decision. She said she wanted to make sure there was enough time.

M Brookes said the call in was five days. He said the council will not be signing the transfer that soon after the decision is published.

Voting

None.

CA/97/18 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

That, under s.100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 Schedule 12A Part 1 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 the public be excluded during the items in Part 2 of the Agenda for this meeting, because it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, that, if members of the public were present during those items, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information relating to the financial and business affairs of the Council and third party companies/organisations.

Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Part 1, paragraph 3.

CA/98/18 DEVELOPMENT COMPANY UPDATE

Full details in part 2 minutes.

CA/99/18 ADDITIONAL TENANT FOR THE FORUM

Full details in the part 2 minutes.

The Meeting ended at 8.20 pm

CABINET FORWARD PLAN

	DATE	MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION	Decision Making Process	Reports to Monitoring Officer/ S.151 Officer	CONTACT DETAILS	BACKGROUND INFORMATION
1.	13/11/18	Q2 Financial Report		25/10/18	Nigel Howcutt, Assistant Director (Finance & Resources) 01442 228662 Nigel.howcutt@dacorum.gov.uk	To provide details of the projected outturn for 2018,19 at quarter 2. Includes projected outturn for General fund, Housing Revenue Account and the Capital programme.
2.	13/11/18	Strategic Risk Report		25/10/18	Nigel Howcutt, Assistant Director (Finance & Resources) 01442 228662 Nigel.howcutt@dacorum.gov.uk	To be provided
3.	13/11/18	Fire Safety Policy		25/10/18	Fiona Williamson, Assistant Director (Housing) 01442 228855 Fiona.williamson@dacorum.gov.uk	To be provided
4.	11/12/18	New Normal		22/11/18	Linda Roberts, Assistant Director People, Performance & Innovation 01442 228979 Linda.roberts@dacorum.gov.uk	To be provided
5.	11/12/18	Growth and Infrastructure Strategy		22/11/18	Chris Taylor, Group Manager Strategic Planning & Regeneration 01442 228000 Chris.taylor@dacorum.gov.uk Mark Gaynor, Corporate Director for Housing and Regeneration 01442 228575 Mark.gaynor@dacorum.gov.uk	To be provided
6.	11/12/18	Treasury Management		22/11/18	Nigel Howcutt, Assistant Director (Finance & Resources) 01442 228662 Nigel.howcutt@dacorum.gov.uk	To provide members with the Biannual review of the treasury management performance for 2018/19.
7.	11/12/18	Council Tax Base		22/11/18	Nigel Howcutt, Assistant Director (Finance & Resources) 01442 228662 Nigel.howcutt@dacorum.gov.uk	For members to approve the council tax base, collection rate and constituent elements for 2019/20
8.	11/12/18	Authority Monitoring Report		22/11/18	James Doe, Assistant Director Planning, Development & Regeneration 01442 228583 James.doe@dacorum.gov.uk	To be provided
9.	11/12/18	Committee timetable 2019/2020		22/11/18	Mark Brookes, Assistant Director (Corporate & Contracted Services)	To approved the committee timetable for 2019/2020
10.	29/01/19			10/01/19		

Future Cabinet Dates 2019: 12 February
19 March
23 April
21 May

Future Items:

Statement of Community Involvement update
Vehicle Repair Shop
Longdean Leisure Services (Part 2)
Local Plan Update (J Doe) – 12 February
Private Sector Housing Strategy - 21 May

Agenda Item 7



Report for:	Cabinet
Date of meeting:	16th October 2018
Part:	1
If Part II, reason:	

Title of report:	Hemel Hempstead Town Centre Parking, Access and Movement Strategy
Contact:	<p>Cllr Graham Sutton, Portfolio Holder for Planning and Infrastructure</p> <p>Responsible Officer: James Doe, Assistant Director, Planning, Development & Regeneration</p> <p>Authors: Nathalie Bateman, Team Leader Strategic Planning and Regeneration – Infrastructure and Project Delivery Claire Covington, Strategic Planning and Regeneration Officer</p>
Purpose of report:	To set out proposals for changing the access arrangements into and out of Water Gardens (South) car park, Hemel Hempstead.
Recommendations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Cabinet approves the delivery of the parking, access and movement proposals for Hemel Hempstead town centre as set out in the report. 2. That delegated authority is given to the Assistant Director (Planning, Development and Regeneration) to approve further design, planning and implementation decisions on recommendation 1 above. 3. That delegated authority is given to the Assistant Director (Planning, Development and Regeneration) for the appointment of consultants and contractors to deliver the Parking, Access and Movement project as set out under recommendation 1 above. 4. That delegated authority is given to the Assistant Director (Planning, Development and Regeneration) in consultation with the Assistant Director (Corporate and Contracted Services) for the approval of a legal agreement with

	<p>Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) to enable the works to be undertaken on the public highway.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. That approval is given for the submission to HCC of the Traffic Regulation Order required to prevent blue badge parking along Bridge Street, west of Waterhouse Street and to seek delegated authority from HCC to enforce the Traffic Regulation Order. 6. That Cabinet recommends to Council approval of a supplementary capital budget of £165k in financial year 2019/20 to enable the project to be delivered. 7. That Cabinet approves the use of s106 income and income from sustainable transport funding from HCC to supplement existing budgets on this scheme; the virements brought in from these sources will increase the respective project budget. 8. That Cabinet is asked to recommend to Council a supplementary one off reserve draw down of £25,000 in 2019/20 to support the delivery of the project, funded from the Planning and Regeneration Project Reserve.
<p>Corporate objectives:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clean, safe and enjoyable environment <p>The Parking, Access and Movement project will aid traffic flow, improve visitor experience and maximise the benefits of the Water Gardens restoration. It will create an attractive, safe and accessible route for pedestrians between the Leighton Buzzard Road/Water Gardens and the pedestrianised shopping area via Bridge Street.</p>
<p>Implications:</p> <p>'Value for money' implications</p>	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>The approved capital budget for this project is £560k, the estimated capital costs to deliver the project is now £725K. This paper seeks an additional supplementary budget of £165,000 in 2019/20 to address this budget shortfall.</p> <p>It is proposed to seek s106 contributions and sustainable transport funding from HCC to supplement the agreed capital allocation in order to complete any additional public realm or highway improvements required to support the scheme. However, the value of funding is unknown.</p> <p>For prudence an additional one off reserve draw down of £25,000 for 2019/20 is requested for project support and non-capital expenditure during the delivery phase funded from the Planning and Regeneration Project Reserve. This will avoid any unnecessary pressure on existing revenue budgets.</p> <p><u>Value for money</u></p> <p>Project development and management is being undertaken by</p>

	OPUS ARUP International Consultants (UK), awarded under the Herts Highways Framework Agreement.
Risk implications	Risk assessment reviewed in August 2018.
Community Impact Assessment	A Community Impact Assessment has been completed for the project. The main issue identified is that blue badge holders will no longer be able to park on single yellow lines along Bridge Street, however holders will still be able to park in the Water Gardens car parks in any bay without time restrictions.
Health and safety Implications	An initial road safety audit was undertaken as part of the project, further stage audits will be completed prior to Hertfordshire County Council's consideration of the scheme.
Consultees:	<p>Mark Gaynor, Corporate Director (Housing & Regeneration)</p> <p>Ben Hosier, Group Manager (Commissioning, Procurement & Compliance), DBC</p> <p>Steve Barnes, Parking Services Team Leader, DBC</p> <p>Simon Coultas, Operations Manager (Clean, Safe and Green)</p> <p>Luke Johnson, Team Leader, Trees and Woodlands</p> <p>Graham Patterson, Operations Manager (Waste)</p>
Monitoring Officer/S.151 Officer Comments	<p>Monitoring Officer:</p> <p>The Project Team will need work closely with the Legal Team to ensure that the proposed Traffic Regulation Orders and S.278 Highway Agreements are legally sound and protect the Council's legal position.</p> <p>The procurement for works will also require an EU compliant procurement process, and the contract for works must be drafted prior to commencement of the procurement to ensure that all bidders are aware of the terms which they are bidding on.</p> <p>Deputy S.151 Officer</p> <p>The development of this access project has resulted in an increase in the estimated capital costs of £165,000, that will require adding to the 2019/20 capital programme.</p> <p>The project estimates that up to £25k of reserves are required to cover one off revenue costs incurred to deliver this project, these reserves will be drawn down and approved through cabinet in 2019/20 as these costs are realised.</p>
Background papers:	Cabinet Report: Hemel Evolution: Marlowes Shopping Zone & Bank Court, Bus Interchange and Market Square, and Water Gardens projects, June 2014

	<p>Cabinet Report: Jellicoe Water Gardens Restoration: update on Parks for People application and delivery project, July 2014</p> <p>Cabinet Report: Bus Interchange Project – Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) proposal for Waterhouse Street, March 2016</p> <p>Strategic Planning & Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Parking, Access and Movement Proposals for Hemel Hempstead Town Centre, September 2018</p> <p>Hemel Hempstead Town Centre Masterplan</p>
<p>Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:</p>	<p>PH - Portfolio Holder</p> <p>HCC – Hertfordshire County Council</p> <p>Hemel Evolution – the group name for a range of activities covering the delivery of the Town Centre Masterplan and other key regeneration projects. This update includes; The Old Town, Gadebridge Park, Marlowes Shopping Zone, Bus Interchange, Maylands Urban Realm Improvements, Maylands Business Centre Extension, Durrants Lakes, Jellicoe Water Gardens</p> <p>HLF – Heritage Lottery Fund</p> <p>OPUS - OPUS ARUP International Consultants (UK)</p> <p>TRO – Traffic Regulation Order</p>

Background

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Parking, Access and Movement project focuses on the access and movement objectives identified for the Jellicoe Water Gardens Zone within the 2013 Hemel Hempstead Masterplan and complements the restoration of the historic Gardens and regeneration of the surrounding zones.
- 1.2 It puts forward a highway based scheme to form a new access into Water Gardens (South) car park from Leighton Buzzard Road, and to convert Bridge Street into a one-way egress from both Water Gardens (North) and (South) car parks, along with some changes to access arrangements to Water Gardens (North) car park from Combe Street. It also includes improvements to Bridge Street, west of Waterhouse Street, that will improve pedestrian movement through the Water Gardens and its car parks.

2. Jellicoe Water Gardens

- 2.1 The 2013 Masterplan's strategy for access and movement, aims to promote a permeable and easily navigable town centre that minimises conflicts between different modes of travel, with objectives set for each character zone, including the Jellicoe Water Gardens.

- 2.2 The creation of a shared surface across Bridge Street to physically and visually link the northern and southern sections of the Water Gardens was highlighted in the Masterplan and initially included within the proposals to regenerate the Gardens. This was challenged by the Heritage Lottery Fund as it involved works to the public highway which are outside of the area of the registered garden and was subsequently removed from the scope of the restoration project.
- 2.3 The restored Gardens are now once again a high quality public space which are greatly used and appreciated by visitors, residents and shoppers. However, there remain areas of poor quality public realm adjacent to the Gardens and issues which impede access to the car parks and shopping area, all of which detract from the overall impression of the town centre.

3 Parking, Access and Movement Project

- 3.1 The Parking, Access and Movement project focuses on outstanding access and movement objectives identified in the Hemel Hempstead Town Centre Masterplan for the Jellicoe Water Gardens Zone.
- 3.2 In June 2014 Cabinet approved the commencement of the Access and Movement Improvement project and for delivery to be combined with the planned capital works to the decked Water Gardens (North) car park and Water Gardens restoration. Due to the complexity of the Jellicoe Water Gardens restoration it was subsequently decided to focus resources on the delivery of the Heritage Lottery Fund project.
- 3.3 With the Gardens now complete, the parking, access and movement proposals are being brought forward for delivery. An initial design was agreed with Hertfordshire County Council in 2016. In March 2017, works awarded to OPUS ARUP International Consultants (UK) through HCC's Client Services Term contract to complete the final design, apply for the required consents and manage the construction contract.

4 Parking, Access and Movement Objectives

- 4.1 The project will deliver access and movement improvements to aid traffic flow, improve visitor experience and maximise the benefits of the Water Gardens restoration. A key objective is to improve access, connectivity and safety for pedestrians at Bridge Street, where the Jellicoe Water Gardens are physically and visually divided. At present Bridge Street does not provide a particularly attractive or accessible route between the Water Gardens, its car parks and the shopping area. Issues include:
- poor visibility and public realm between Bridge Street and the pelican crossing on Leighton Buzzard Road;
 - poor connectivity through Water Gardens (South) car park to Bridge Street footpaths;
 - lack of dropped kerbs on Bridge Street for visitors walking through the Water Gardens;
 - blue badge parking on Bridge Street restricting visibility making it difficult for pedestrians to see motorists and vice versa, causing a safety risk.

4.2 A fully accessible route suitable for visitors with disabilities is required to link the Leighton Buzzard Road, Water Gardens car parks and Jellicoe Water Gardens with the pedestrianised shopping area.

5 Layout and design

5.1 The layout and design is included as appendix A. Key features include:

- A new vehicle entrance to the Water Gardens (South) car park from Leighton Buzzard Road. This will be located at the southern end of the car park towards the Water Gardens flower garden and play area;
- Bridge Street changed to single width carriageway and exit only from the Water Gardens' car parks;
- Footpaths widened at Bridge Street between the car park exit and Waterhouse Street;
- Blue badge parking removed from Bridge Street through a new Traffic Regulation Order;
- A new 4m crossing table added to Bridge Street to provide a more visible and level pedestrian crossing point and to connect the footpaths through the Water Gardens;
- An improved pedestrian route from the pelican crossing on Leighton Buzzard Road to Bridge Street to include relocated recycling facilities and public realm improvements;
- Signage on the Leighton Buzzard Road indicating the new entrance.

5.2 OPUS will also consider how access for cyclists can be improved as part of the project.

6. Access to the Water Gardens car parks

6.1 There are currently three vehicle access points serving the Water Gardens (North) and (South) car parks. Water Gardens (North) car park has two-way entrance/exit points from Combe Street and Leighton Buzzard Road. Both car parks have two-way access from Bridge Street, and the Water Gardens (South) can be accessed from the Water Gardens (North).

6.2 Blue badge parking regularly occurs on the single yellow line along Bridge Street between Waterhouse Street and the Water Gardens car parks. Blue badge holders can park for up to 3 hours on the single yellow line. The number of vehicles parking here obstructs access to the car parks and reduces the visibility of pedestrians crossing the road. In the new design, this section of Bridge Street will be reduced in width and made one way to exit only. In order to prevent parking on the reduced width section, a loading/unloading restriction will be introduced through a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) enabling the Council's parking team to enforce and manage this area.

- 6.3 The entrance and exits to Water Gardens (North) car park from Leighton Buzzard Road are retained in their current form. The Combe Street access point will also remain two-way, any design modifications required will be considered following the outcome of road safety audits.
- 6.4 Within the Water Gardens (South) car park vehicle movements will follow the existing clockwise direction. As a consequence of the works, two car parking spaces will be lost, reducing the car park's capacity to 93 spaces. There will be some loss of hedge screening and street trees along Leighton Buzzard Road as a result of the new vehicle entrance.
- 6.5 HCC generally accepts the proposals subject to a satisfactory road safety audit and further consideration of pedestrian access, in particular calming features to improve pedestrian access and connectivity at the car park exit at Combe Street and Bridge Street/Waterhouse Street junction. Measures may also be required to control movements into and out of the car park exit at Combe Street if additional use of this access point results in queueing traffic on the Leighton Buzzard Road.
- 6.6 These aspects are estimated at £25,000. Opportunities to promote sustainable journeys including improvements to existing or new crossing points will be considered at detailed design stage and will be informed by road safety audits.

7 Estimated costs

- 7.1 The total project costs are estimated at £725,000 of which £86,000 has been spent to date. Due to the nature of this project and the high risks associated with known and unknown utilities, a prudent contingency has been included within total project costs. There is £475,158 in the capital programme to deliver the access and movement improvements across 2018/19 and 2019/20. Delivery costs will be £640,000. Table 1 outlines estimated costs.

Table 1 Estimated project costs

Type of Spend	up to and inc 17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	TOTAL
Total Cost	84,842	25,000	640,000	0	0	0	749,842
Capital	84,842	25,000	615,000	0	0	0	724,842
Professional & Design	84,842	25,000	30,000				139,842
Construction		0	385,000				385,000
Utilities			148,000				148,000
CCTV New Installation			27,000				27,000
Public Realm improvements			25,000				25,000
Revenue	0	0	25,000	0	0	0	25,000
Project Support (reserve funded)			25,000				25,000
TOTAL	84,842	25,000	640,000	0	0	0	749,842

- 7.2 This paper requests additional funding through a supplementary capital budget of £165,000 in 2019/20 to address the budget shortfall.
- 7.3 For prudence a revenue budget of £25,000 is requested in 2019/20 for project support and any non-capital expenditure during the delivery phase funded from the Planning and Regeneration Project Reserve. This will avoid any unnecessary pressure on existing revenue budgets.
- 7.4 It is expected that public realm and highway improvements will also be required within the surrounding area to complete the scheme and inform visitors of the changes, layout and capacity of the car parks. As a result, it is

proposed to seek s106 contributions and sustainable transport funding from HCC to supplement the available budget. The funds DBC and HCC currently hold from s106 payments could not be attributed to this scheme due to the requirements of their legal agreements and as a result the value of these potential additional contributions is unknown.

8 Strategic Planning & Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

8.1 A report on the Parking, Access and Movement project was considered by the Strategic Planning & Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 19th September 2018.

8.2 The following views on the scheme were expressed by Members:

- There was strong support for the removal of blue badge parking on Bridge Street (west) to improve safety for pedestrians and motorists;
- The length of the new access link into the Water Gardens (South) car park was considered excessive, in particular the environmental impact this would have through the loss of trees and hedge planting;
- Concern was raised at the project costs and it was suggested that a reduced scheme focussing on pedestrian access and public realm improvements may be able to achieve the objectives of the Parking, Access and Movement project.

8.3 The length of the access road cannot be adjusted as it has been designed to the standards set by the highways authority and tested through a road safety audit. The landscape changes required will be the removal of part of the beech hedge along the boundary of Water Gardens (South) car park and of some street trees which are not significant specimens. While pedestrian changes at Bridge Street would improve access for pedestrians, it would not deliver the vision of transforming the area into a pedestrian focussed high quality shared space, fully integrated with the Water Gardens.

9. Programme and Delivery

9.1 Subject to Cabinet approval, the designs will be submitted for planning approval and formal consideration by the highways authority with a decision expected in the New Year. A legal agreement will be required with HCC to enable the works to be delivered on the public highway. Enabling works, such as tree removal will take place in early spring 2019 prior to the bird nesting season. The main works will follow in 2019/20, and will last 3 - 4 months, undertaken over several phases starting with utility diversions within the Leighton Buzzard Road verge. Works will be programmed to enable the Water Gardens (South) car park to remain open, with partial closures to bays and access points expected during the build period. Around 14 parking bays will be closed for one month to allow for construction of the new access into the Water Gardens (South) car park from the Leighton Buzzard Road.



Report for:	Cabinet
Date of meeting:	16 October 2018
Part:	1
If Part II, reason:	

Title of report:	Dacorum Single Local Plan 2020-2036: Update on current situation
Contact:	<p>Cllr Graham Sutton: Portfolio Holder for Planning & Regeneration</p> <p>Author/Responsible Officers: James Doe: Assistant Director, Planning, Development and Regeneration Andrew Horner: Team Leader, Strategic Planning and Regeneration</p>
Purpose of report:	To update Cabinet on the progress towards preparing Dacorum's Local Plan.
Recommendations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Cabinet note the progress on preparing Dacorum's Local Plan as set out in the report. 2. That Cabinet agree to setting up a Task and Finish group to consider key issues related to the Local Plan. 3. That Cabinet delegates authority to the Corporate Director Housing and Regeneration in consultation with the Portfolio Holder Planning and Infrastructure to submit a bid for financial support from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government 'Garden

	Cities Prospectus’.
Corporate Objectives:	<p>The Council’s Local Plan helps support all 5 corporate objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Safe and clean environment:</i> e.g. contains policies relating to the design and layout of new development that promote security and safe access; • <i>Community Capacity:</i> e.g. provide a framework for local communities to prepare area-specific guidance such as Neighbourhood Plans, Town / Village Plans etc.; • <i>Affordable housing:</i> e.g. sets the Borough’s overall housing target and the proportion of new homes that must be affordable; • <i>Dacorum delivers:</i> e.g. provides a clear framework upon which planning decisions can be made; and • <i>Regeneration:</i> e.g. sets the planning framework for key regeneration projects, such as Hemel Hempstead town centre and the Maylands Business Park.
Implications: ‘Value For Money Implications’	<p><u>Financial</u> Funding to prepare the new Dacorum Local Plan is provided from existing budgets. A budget has been agreed for 2018/19. Preparations to deliver the Plan, can be met by re-phasing existing budgets through the MTFs process, to account for periods of high activity, pre and post examination periods over the next 5 years.</p> <p><u>Value for Money</u> Where possible, evidence base work is undertaken jointly with other authorities to ensure cost is optimised (through economies of scale). Collaborative working with landowner consultants will continue to help extend the resources available to the Council and avoid the duplication of site specific technical information.</p>
Risk Implications	<p>The Local Plan has its own detailed risk assessment.</p> <p>The key risk is that the new Local Plan could be found ‘unsound’ by an Inspector at Public Examination. To ensure against this, the Council must ensure that the Plan’s proposals comply with Government policy, are founded on robust evidence, such as that detailing housing, employment and infrastructure requirements and follow all statutory requirements regarding public consultation, publication, public examination etc.</p> <p>Following adoption of the Local Plan by the Council, the key risk is that the Plan does not deliver as planned. At that stage, continued close working with local communities, developers and infrastructure providers, along with consistent decision making, helps to ensure sustainable development takes place in a timely fashion.</p> <p>The annual Authority Monitoring Report reviews the risks</p>

	<p>inherent in preparing and delivering the Local Plan. Monitoring of development is a source of information which, properly used, can assist risk reduction – i.e. it checks whether progress and control of development has been successful and can indicate where change (in policy or process) may be beneficial. There is a new requirement for an Action Plan where authorities have delivered less than 95% or less of the homes required over the previous three year period. This report should be supported by a detailed evidence base requiring data collection and review at a more detailed site level. Regular monitoring is also able to inform future Local Plan and planning policy document review.</p>
Community Impact Assessment	<p>A full Sustainability Appraisal (SA) must be carried out as part of the Local Plan process. The SA looks at social, environmental and economic impacts in detail and is scrutinised at the Local Plan examination by an independent inspector. The Council will also undertake an Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) in due course.</p>
Health And Safety Implications	<p>No implications as a result of this report.</p>
Monitoring Officer/ Deputy S.151 Officer Comments	<p>Monitoring Officer:</p> <p>If Cabinet approves the request to set up a Task and Finish Group, the request will be referred to the Programming Panel, which consists of the political group leaders or their representatives, who will appoint the membership of the group and decide upon the terms of reference for the group.</p> <p>Deputy S.151 Officer</p> <p>The submission of a funding application can be produced within the existing local plan approved funding and these funds will be profiled as required to support the delivery of the local plan.</p>
Consultees:	<p>Mark Gaynor, Corporate Director Housing and Regeneration</p> <p>Consultation on the new Local Plan and other policy documents will be carried out in accordance with the council's adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).</p>
Background papers:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopted Local Development Scheme (July 2018) • Adopted Core Strategy (September 2013) • Adopted Site Allocations DPD (July 2017) • Dacorum Borough Local Plan 1991 – 2011 (April 2004) • Authority Monitoring Report 2016/17 • National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) • Housing White Paper 'Fixing our Broken Housing Market (February 2017) • Planning for the Right Homes in the Right Places (Consultation Proposals September 2017) • Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Act 2008 • Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.
Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	<p>AMR: Authority Monitoring Report LDS: Local Development Scheme SCI: Statement of Community Involvement SPD: Supplementary Planning Document NPPF: National Planning Policy Framework NPPF2: New National Planning Policy Framework PPG: National Planning Policy Guidance SHMA: Strategic Housing Market Assessment now called the Local Housing Need Assessment ENS: Employment Needs Study IDP: Infrastructure Delivery Plan JSP: Joint Strategic Plan <i>(for SW Herts)</i> LEP: Local Economic Partnership <i>(for Hertfordshire)</i> SoCG: Statement of Common Ground SA: Sustainability Appraisal EIA: Equalities Impact Assessment HRA: Habitat Regulations Assessment SPEOSC: Strategic Planning & Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee</p>

Background

1. The Council has a statutory duty to prepare a Local Plan; failure to produce and adopt a Local Plan can leave the Council open to direct intervention and loss of control over the plan making process. The new local plan proposed for Dacorum will replace the adopted 2004 Local Plan, 2013 Dacorum Core Strategy, Site Allocation DPD and update a range of existing documents. The timetable for the production of the new Local Plan is set out in the LDS which was approved, in updated form at the meeting of the Cabinet.
2. This report is provided to update Members on the progress with preparing the Local Plan and identify the next stages in progressing the Plan towards adoption. It is intended that this will be the first in a series of update reports with the next update scheduled for the February meeting of the Cabinet.
3. The Local Plan will cover the period to 2036. The latest guidance in the NPPF2, however, makes it clear that Local plans should be kept under review with formal review at least every 5 years to ensure that the plan remains up to date. This requirement does not necessarily require a complete new plan to be produced every five years but the pace of change in Government planning related Policy and other relevant factors suggests that significant updates (if not a full new plan) will be required in response to the reviews.

Key Dates and Milestones

4. As highlighted above the LDS was recently updated and the key milestones and dates in plan preparation are:

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| • Pre-Submission (draft version of plan) | Autumn 2019 |
| • Submission of plan to Secretary of State | Spring 2020 |
| • Examination in Public | Summer 2020 |
| • Adoption | Winter 2020 |

5. Within this high level timetable there are many other priorities and deadlines that must be set and met. The following sections of the report give a flavour of the issues to be addressed and the work required but this is not in any way an exhaustive list.
6. There will also be extensive public consultation on the emerging plan in line with the principles set out in the Council's adopted Statement of Community Involvement. The next round of consultation will be at the pre-submission stage scheduled for autumn 2019. It will allow the opportunity for the wider public, land owners, developers, Town and Parish Councils, Ward Councillors and all other with an interest in the emerging Plan to comment and have their views taken into account.

Issues to be addressed in the Plan

7. The formulation of the new plan needs to cover a range of issues including:
 - household projections;
 - the role and function of the Green Belt affecting Dacorum, including long term boundaries and the potential to identify safeguarded land beyond 2031; and more significantly,
 - the role that effective co-operation with local planning authorities could play in meeting any housing needs arising from Dacorum. This element will include nearby and neighbouring Councils and others lying beyond the Green Belt.
8. Key questions that need to be addressed through this plan review are:
 - What should the roles of the towns and villages be?
 - Should new development be focussed in one place, or distributed more evenly across the Borough?
 - How many new homes and jobs should we provide?
 - How do we ensure new infrastructure is provided alongside new development?
 - What is the future role of the Green Belt in the Borough?

Growth and Infrastructure Strategy

9. As part of the work to support the evolution of the Local Plan, Cabinet agreed in July to the production of a Corporate Growth and Infrastructure Strategy for Dacorum. The production of this new Strategy for Dacorum addresses a fundamental point – that the Council needs a clear and ambitious vision for how it wants the Borough to develop and evolve over the next 20-30 years.
10. This Strategy will be key in articulating how the area can take full advantage of the economic and social opportunities which will arise as a result of the growth and change that is being planned for the area and will underpin the Council's approach towards key issues into the future, such as affordable housing development, economic and business development, health and

wellbeing, regeneration, parks and open spaces, tourism, the role of its town centres and the digital/technology development agenda. It will also set out how the Council will seek to direct and influence the provision of transport and access, utilities and other major infrastructure. The Strategy will also create important opportunities to access new funding across these broader areas of work to help the Council deliver its vision and attract new investment into the Borough.

11. The Strategy will be particularly important for Hemel Hempstead where, as the main urban centre of the Borough, a significant proportion of growth and change is likely to be concentrated. It is similarly important however at other towns and villages, where communities will be looking to the Council to help them optimise the benefits of new development for their local community, such as ensuring the availability of a proportion of new homes for local people in housing need, securing access to jobs and making the most of business opportunities arising from increased disposable income from incoming households and workers.
12. The Strategy will be relatively high level, but detailed action plans and programmes will flow from it, with delivery of the new Local Plan once adopted, placed as one such programme.

Garden Communities Prospectus

13. Members will recall in the report to Cabinet of 31 July 2018, reference was made to the need for the production of a Strategic Sites Supplementary Planning Document in due course, for dealing with the delivery of strategic scale sites emerging from the Local Plan preparation process.
14. The report referred to the proposals by the Crown Estate for a major expansion of Hemel Hempstead initially to its east and then to its north, with the eastern section of around 5000 new homes and an extension to Maylands Business Park, part of the Hertfordshire Enviro-Tech Enterprise Zone featuring in the pre-submission consultation version of the new St Albans Local Plan.
15. The northern section of the development, with capacity for around a further 5000 new homes, local services and open space has been put forward by The Crown Estate as a site for consideration to be included in the new Dacorum Local Plan.
16. The scale of the development is considerable and would be the largest ever, if selected by the Borough Council, to be included in a local plan for the area since the expansion of the new town of Hemel Hempstead by the former new town Development Corporation ended. The scale of the proposal would have the potential, with the proposals contained within the draft St Albans Local Plan and the delivery of development within the Enterprise Zone, to deliver major new infrastructure for the area and to have potentially transformative effects on the town as a whole.
17. The Crown Estate wishes to promote the development of land to the north and east of Hemel Hempstead on garden town or community principles. To help support the delivery of major new garden communities, the Government

has set up a funding programme through its Garden Cities Prospectus to which local authorities and/or developers are invited to bid for resources from.

18. Key thresholds in the funding programme require proposed developments to be of 10,000 new homes or more, and where they are being brought forward as an expansion of an existing settlement (as is the case with the Hemel proposals) they are expected to demonstrate transformational effects and benefits to the established town.
19. A copy of the prospectus is attached as an appendix to this report, and can be found at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/734145/Garden_Communities_Prospectus.pdf
20. The prospectus offers funding to authorities and developers to support the delivery of new garden communities, the prospectus advises that *'We want to see vibrant, mixed-use, communities where people can live, work, and play for generations to come – communities which view themselves as the conservation areas of the future. Each will be holistically planned, self-sustaining, and characterful'*.
21. Though funding levels are not specified, the support on offer is aimed at staffing resources and knowledge that need to be put in place to ensure successful and timely delivery of new garden communities. The fund is not there to overtly provide capital funding, though MHCLG cross-refer to garden community schemes possibly forming part of a Housing Deal with Government.
22. Specifically, the funding could cover:
 - Resource funding – to cover staffing, technical reports and studies. This would be immensely helpful to the HGC project.
 - Delivery advice and support – with reference to Homes England resources being provided to assist. HE is already engaged with the project.
 - Delivery vehicles – such as Joint Venture companies or development corporations. These have not yet been considered as part of the project.
 - Cross-government brokerage
 - Peer learning and networking
 - Bespoke support proposals that bidders might put forward.
23. The deadline for submissions to the Government's programme, being implemented through the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and Homes England, is 9 November 2018. Given the exceptional scale of the development and its advancement in part at least through both the confirmed and operational Enterprise Zone and the draft St Albans Local Plan, it would be beneficial to submit a bid to MHCLG for there to be a possibility of the support listed above. Officers are working with counterparts at St Albans City and District Council, Hertfordshire County Council and The Crown Estate to prepare a submission by the deadline.

Resources

24. The preparation of the Local Plan is a complex and challenging task for all involved requiring extensive staff input and support from specialist external consultants. The officer team has recently been strengthened through the appointment of a new Team Leader (the role having previously been filled on an interim basis) and filling a Planning Officer vacancy created through the promotion of the previous post holder within the team to the post of Assistant Team Leader. The officer resource available to the team has also recently been boosted through the creation of two Planning Graduate posts for an initial period of two years. These two additional posts, funded from the existing LDF budget, have been filled with the post holders joining the Council in the next few weeks.

Evidence and Evidence Gathering

25. The preparation of the plan will require an extensive and comprehensive evidence base made up of many technical documents that will support the Council's proposals at the Examination in Public. Some pieces of work have been completed, others commissioned and others at an early stage in the tendering process.
26. A key piece of work that is currently completing the tender process is the Site Assessment Study to be carried out by consultants; this will review all potential development sites that have been put forward or identified against a range of criteria. This study will be at a relatively high level but should identify potential development sites that are worthy of more detailed evaluation and rule out sites with no real potential.
27. The retail and Leisure Study is currently underway and is being carried out as a joint study with the other south west Herts authorities which has benefits in ensuring a comprehensive approach and ensuring that costs are shared and thereby minimised. The Gypsy and Traveller Study is close to completion and this will inform the likely requirement to identify new pitches.
28. Another key document being prepared on a South West Hertfordshire wide basis is the Local Housing Need Assessment (previously called the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA)). This document looks in detail at the form and tenure of housing required, including specialist housing, to meet the needs of South West Hertfordshire in general and Dacorum in particular. The assessment will build detail into the overall quantum of new housing needed in Dacorum.
29. There are many other reports and evidence documents required such as Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, settlement Envelope Boundary Review, Green Infrastructure Study and Social and Community Facilities Study. This is only a sample of the range of documents required but gives an indication of the vast amount of information required to support plan preparation and examination.

Duty to Cooperate

30. The Duty to cooperate is something imposed on all Local Planning Authorities as part of plan preparation. This is not a duty to agree but there is a clear expectation that Council's will work together to resolve issues. The level of

cooperation and efforts made to cooperate are an important issue for consideration at the examination of the Plan. As with all other matters to be examined there must be extensive evidence available to demonstrate the discussions that have taken place and agreements reached and an explanation of situations where agreement was not reached.

31. The Duty to Cooperate is not just limited to other Councils but extend to other organisations including infrastructure providers and Government Bodies such as water supply and health care providers. The Duty covers all aspects of services providing by Councils including County level functions such as education and highways/transport. The current work on the South west Herts Joint Strategic Plan is an example of the operation of the Duty to Cooperate.
32. Duty to cooperate is a significant and important process that involves working closely with partners to identify key issues and find solutions. The outcome of the meetings should produce a more robust solution to issues and deliver joined up thinking and delivery between both councils and infrastructure providers to ensure that development and supporting facilities can be delivered in line with the timescales set out in the Plan once adopted. The steps taken to deliver cooperation will be a key issue for consideration when the plan is Examined; failure to demonstrate a rigorous approach could be a reason for the plan to be declared not to be sound.

Task and Finish Group

33. As part of the formulation of the local plan, its policies and site allocations it is proposed that a Task and Finish group be formed. The purpose of the group would be to review and challenge the proposed overarching strategy, individual policies, site allocations and other key features of the plan prior to a first draft of the document being produced for wider consultation. It is envisaged that the group would highlight strengths and weaknesses of the emerging plan, challenge contentious issues and identify opportunities and solutions. The Task and Finish Group would be set up in accordance with the provisions of the Council's constitution. Details of the programme of meetings will be finalised in consultation with the Portfolio Holder and Programming Panel.

Issues and Options Consultation

34. Members will recall that late last year an extensive Issues and Options consultation was carried out as part of the early stages of the preparation of the new plan. Analysis of the results is being completed by officers; the number and complexity of the questions asked and the responses received (22,688 comments by 2,736 individuals) has made this a challenging task for officers resulting in the process taking much longer than expected. It is anticipated that this work will be complete before the end of the year when a full report will be presented to Cabinet.

All of the comments received can be viewed on the Council's Local Plan Consultations web page by following this link:

<http://consult.dacorum.gov.uk/portal/planning/lp/io/io>

35. Moving forward the scale and form of future consultations will be managed by officers to ensure that the consultation is targeted and focussed to a smaller number of specific questions.

Future Reports and Conclusions

36. It is intended that this will be the first in a series of reports on progress with the Local Plan and it is proposed to bring a further update report to Cabinet in February next year.
37. The Local Plan is a vital statutory document setting the future vision and direction of the Borough. The delivery of the Plan is challenging and requires the gathering and interpretation of extensive evidence and further consultation with the public, Town and Parish Councils and a very wide range of other bodies and organisations.
38. Members are asked to note the content of this report and the progress being made on the preparation of the Local Plan.

Appendix 1

Part A: Overview of key issues raised to the draft (Issues and Options) Local Plan Consultation (Nov/Dec 2017) by local residents.

Consultation Process:

- Complexity and length of the consultation documents.
- Too many questions.
- Lack of understanding of technical issues to be able to respond.
- Problems entering responses onto Objective system.

Duty to Cooperate:

- Need for greater/improved engagement with key stakeholders and neighbouring authorities, particularly in relation to cross-boundary housing numbers and new infrastructure.

Homes:

- Problems with high local house prices and support for increasing the supply of affordable homes.
- Concerns raised over the broadening definition of affordable housing.
- Developers avoiding providing and/or not securing sufficient affordable homes.

Jobs:

- Loss of employment land to housing.
- Settlements becoming solely commuter towns.
- Lack of support for new employment opportunities identified in the plan e.g. at Wayside Farm.

Green Belt:

- Support for the protection of the Green Belt.
- Need to use brownfield sites/look to urban sites before releasing Green Belt land. In some instances, a list of potential sites was provided.
- Green Belts are important to the character and setting of settlements.
- Green Belts protect the open countryside and the wildlife resource and recreational facilities there.
- Loss of Green Belt will result in the merging of settlements.

Housing target:

- General preference for the mid and lower options.
- Concern over the impact and scale of new development on the Borough, individual settlements and the countryside.
- Arguments made in support of lower growth options i.e. below 602dpa.
- The new homes will fail to resolve local housing needs.

Housing distribution:

- General preference for housing to be directed to the larger settlements, particularly Hemel Hempstead.
- Existing settlements have already accommodated sufficient housing.
- Impact and scale of new development on individual settlements and the surrounding countryside.
- Merging of towns and villages.
- Support for brownfield sites within settlements to accommodate the new housing and before greenfield and Green Belt development.
- Urge the need to identify/exhaust urban capacity opportunities.
- Arguments made for alternative growth distributions.

Infrastructure:

- Quality and capacity of existing infrastructure:
 - Lack of school places
 - Lack of community facilities
 - Capacity of highway network to accommodate future growth
 - Capacity of utility provision (electricity, water – both drinking and waste)
 - Capacity of health services, particularly relating to the future of Hemel Hempstead Hospital and GP surgeries
- Timing of new infrastructure:
 - Developers avoiding contributions
 - The need to bring forward infrastructure/contributions earlier.
 - The Council failing to bring forward infrastructure to keep pace with new development.
- The need to plug any funding gaps.

Sites:

- Concerns raised as to whether the sites align to local aspirations for the area or to the overarching plan objectives/place strategies.
- Significant objections made to the sites identified in the Schedule of Site Appraisals:
 - Cumulative impact and scale of sites relative to size of settlement
 - Adverse effects on existing character of settlement
 - Ability of local infrastructure / services / facilities to accommodate the new sites
 - Loss of Green Belt and countryside (Chilterns AONB and agricultural land)
 - Loss of local facilities
 - Settlements have already provided sufficient housing.
- A number of alternative sites suggested.
- Disagree with conclusions made on individual sites in the Sustainability Appraisal.

Part B: Overview of key issues raised to the draft (Issues and Options) Local Plan consultation (Nov/Dec 2017) by Duty-to-Cooperate organisations.

1. SW Herts authorities:

- General support for working collaboratively to meet the needs of the district and those which may affect the wider SW Herts area.
- Potential for Dacorum to help meet the needs of other councils, especially the SW Herts authorities, particularly as it includes the only parts of SW Herts beyond the Green Belt.
- Issues to be addressed on a cross-boundary basis should include retail facilities and transit sites for Gypsies and Travellers.
- The SW Herts authorities should agree housing and job growth targets and how to meet them through joint working and a Statement of Common Ground.
- Further explanation should be provided of the SW Herts strategic sub-regional planning context.
- St Albans have stressed the need to explore potential for housing development / new settlement in the Rural Area beyond the Green Belt.
- Mixed views over the suitability of the approach to employment development. St Albans do not consider there is justification for further greenfield office development at Kings Langley given the potential East Hemel Hempstead employment allocation.

2. Hertfordshire County Council:

Detailed responses received from a number of services:

(a) HCC Highways:

- Dacorum should work with other neighbouring LPAs to understand the cumulative impact of their plans and develop deliverable and effective transport and highways mitigations as the Local Plan develops.
- HCC as Highway Authority has produced 'Requirements for Local Plans - August 2016'. This sets out that transport / highway information and evidence already available and what further evidence is required, a key requirement being a transport strategy that explains how the plan will mitigate the impacts of growth.
- The County-wide COMET transport model can be used to provide an appropriate evidence base and help to inform decisions on site selection and scale of development, as well as transport infrastructure needs.
- Early engagement and consideration of highways mitigation measures in the Local Plan process is essential
- Transport mitigation measures should be integrated into the Local Plan's infrastructure planning processes and ultimately the Infrastructure Delivery Plan.

(b) HCC Minerals and Waste:

- Dacorum should consult HCC as mineral planning authority when identifying areas for non-mineral development in the local plan within HCC's defined

Minerals Consultation Areas (MCAs). Draft MCAs are shown in the Draft Minerals Local Plan (2017).

(c) HCC Environment:

- Herts Ecology considers that the environment should be included as a cross boundary issue, given development in Buckinghamshire and the increasing impact on the Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and other environmental resources.
- HCC is consulting on a new Local Transport Plan, and this should be reflected in terms of policies on transport, mobility and connectivity.
- The specific transport issues, implications and infrastructure needs to support the Local Plan will depend on development levels and sites selected in Dacorum and neighbouring local authority areas.
- The Local Plan should include a strategic green infrastructure (GI policy) and should refer to the Hertfordshire GI Strategy, Dacorum GI Strategy and how these translate into local projects.
- Comments submitted on the archaeology, transport/access and ecology implications of the sites in the Schedule of Site Appraisals.

(d) HCC Property (Development Services):

- No changes to facilities proposed and no new fire stations needed to support future housing development.
- The possibility of re-locating fire stations could be examined, particularly at Tring, Markyate and Kings Langley.
- Facilities for young people and children are required, especially for young people.
- New housing developments will necessitate an increase in library service provision, and will need developer contributions.
- Opportunities for co-location of library services will be explored.
- A range of additional Support Accommodation is required for young and older people.
- Guidance has been provided on the possible implications for school place in the towns and large villages in relation to each growth option. Several new primary schools will be required, even with the lowest growth options (Options 1A-1C). There is also the potential need for some new secondary schools.

(e) Waste Disposal Authority:

- Longer term (10-15 years) the Hemel Hempstead Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) is 'unsuitable', and a new HWRC is needed i.e. a one hectare site near the strategic road network.
- The Berkhamsted HWRC is 'not ideal' in the long term as there is insufficient space for additional containers.
- There is a lack of Organic Waste Treatment Facilities in the west of the county, so proposals that come forward should be supported.

(f) Hertfordshire County Council (Public Health Service):

- The Local Plan's policies should promote a positive, healthy environment alongside the provision of healthcare facilities.
- A Health and Wellbeing Policy should be included in the Plan and should be supported by the Plan's vision.
- The Local Plan should encourage new development to be sustainably located, with appropriate densities and provision for walking, cycling and bus services. The health and wellbeing benefits of providing and protecting green infrastructure should be recognised.
- A Health Impact Assessment should be carried out of the growth options as part of the Local Plan preparation.
- In identifying locations for future growth, consideration should be given to locations which will encourage healthy behaviours and lifestyles.
- There should be a policy on air quality and that all development proposals undertake a Health Impact Assessment.

3. Other Neighbouring Authorities:

- Need to consider opportunities for a new settlement.
- Concerns on impact of growth on the A41 and rural roads and the need for traffic modelling evidence to support the Plan's proposals.
- Site Tr-h5 (north of Icknield Way (Waterside Way), Tring) could set a precedent for more housing north of Icknield Way, which could have an adverse landscape and visual impact on Aylesbury Vale.
- Need for joint work on schooling, highways, improved access to Tring Station and other infrastructure requirements.
- The importance of close involvement with adjoining authorities in potential future proposals e.g. at Bovingdon and Markyate.
- Support for mid and higher housing options.
- The Greater London Authority and Chiltern & South Bucks both recommend Dacorum explores whether it can accommodate any needs from housing (and potentially G&T provision).

4. Welwyn and Hatfield BC:

- Part of the SW Herts Housing Market Area (HMA) is also within the Welwyn Hatfield HMA and is an appropriate basis for considering the full OAHN.
- WHBC and the SW Herts authorities should continue to discuss housing land supply and the full OAHN.
- DBC should consider if it can meet some of Welwyn Hatfield's housing shortfall as part of its plan preparation (within the context of the SW Herts HMA).
- The housing target should reflect the updated NPPF and the standard methodology.
- Part of the SW Herts Functional Economic Market Area (FEMA) i.e. St Albans is also within the Welwyn Hatfield FEMA. WHBC and the SW Herts authorities should continue to discuss employment growth and land supply.

- Growth along the A414 corridor should be addressed in the transport strategy and could have implications for the Dacorum Local Plan.
- The need to upgrade Maple Lodge Sewage Treatment Works may affect the location and timing of growth. WHBC should be informed of progress on the Stage 2 study.
- The Dacorum and Watford Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) should consider the need for transit sites. There should be countywide dialogue on such sites.
- Need to reconsider the option to deliver a small sustainable new settlement (1,000+ dwellings).

5. Dacorum Town and Parish Councils:

- General support for mid to lower housing growth options, with the emphasis on focussing development at Hemel Hempstead.
- A variety of objections raised in each case to sites identified in the Schedule of Site Appraisals, although some sites are supported (see below).
- Concerns raised over impact of growth on the character of settlements and capacity of local infrastructure.
- Markyate PC raised concerns over the impact of growth from Luton and Central Beds. They would support a small development of genuinely affordable housing on the north side of Buckwood Road, to meet local needs only.
- Northchurch PC would consider supporting site Be-h5 (Lockfield, New Road) development if traffic calming/traffic safety measures were introduced onto New Road/canal bridge and Northchurch High Street.
- Tring Rural PC is not opposed to site O-h2 (Grange Road, Wilstone), providing it provides houses/flats for first time buyers or elderly persons and should be affordable and compact in layout. The design should be in keeping with the local architecture.
- Tring Town Council is supportive of site Tr-h5 Dunsley Farm, as it has the scope to deliver a mixed development to meet the wider needs of the town and is well located to the town centre/relatively less constrained.

6. Non-Dacorum Parish Councils:

- Consideration should be given to the wider shared local infrastructure, particularly roads, public transport, education and medical services.
- Concerns over traffic volumes across the district and parish boundaries, including the impact on air quality and public health, and the importance of improving the current road infrastructure.
- Need to coordinate cross-boundary impacts of housing growth on school places in Tring and demand at Tring station.
- Only Redbourn PC raised specific concerns over housing growth options, particularly growth on the north and east of Hemel Hempstead and its impact on the village.

7. Other Duty-to-Cooperate Organisations:

(a) Canal and River Trust:

- Stresses the importance of cross-boundary consistency in the policy approach to the Grand Union Canal and its arms, particularly in the Aylesbury Vale, Three Rivers and Dacorum Local Plans.
- Objects to inclusion of Site O-h2 (north east of Grange Road, Wilstone) in the Schedule of Site Appraisals.

(b) Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group:

- Stresses the shift towards more community based services and care closer to home.
- Consider that there is very limited funding for infrastructure improvements, so developer contributions for health services will be required.
- Housing growth in Dacorum by 2036 will increase pressure on an already pressurised system.
- Many GP surgeries are identified as either constrained or very constrained.

(c) West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust:

- Watford is currently the preferred option for the main emergency and specialist hospital, with a smaller hospital at St Albans for planned care, specialising in surgery and cancer. A local hospital is proposed in Dacorum, although planning is at an early stage.
- The Trust has not yet decided its requirements, but it has identified a range of the considerations in the next phase of the Local Plan.
- A site is required for the Dacorum local hospital. Hemel Hempstead Hospital is the most likely site, but alternatives could be considered e.g. in the north and east Hemel Hempstead developments.
- Any surplus land at Hemel Hempstead Hospital can be released for development, potentially housing.
- A greenfield site near Kings Langley (site KL-h3) has generally been ruled out as it is Green Belt, close to a congested motorway junction and lacks major utilities/services infrastructure.
- If a greenfield option is retained as an alternative to Watford General Hospital, the Trust will work with the local authorities to identify potential alternatives. A site at east or north Hemel Hempstead is unlikely, due to its proximity to Luton and Dunstable Hospital and displacement of activity into London from the south of the catchment area.

(d) Historic England:

- Need for a positive, integrated and evidence-led strategy for the historic environment in the Plan.
- The conservation and enhancement of the historic environment should be identified as a key cross boundary planning issue and a strategic duty to cooperate priority.
- The Plan's design policies should seek to reflect local character and distinctiveness.

- A more robust approach to the historic environment is required and various ways on how this can be achieved are suggested.
- Growth and development should conserve and enhance the significance of the Borough's many heritage assets.

(e) Sports England:

- The Plan should include a policy to protect and enhance open space and sporting facilities, and contain policy requirements for new sport/leisure provision across a range of sites.
- Outdoor sport should be encouraged in the Green Belt where a need exists.
- Existing playing fields should not be proposed for development or included on the brownfield sites register.
- The level of sports and recreation facilities in new development should be evidenced-led and take into account national and Sports England advice.
- Site specific comments were made regarding playing fields on sites HH-h1a & b (North of Hemel Hempstead), Be-h2 (Haslam Fields, Shootersway, Berkhamsted), Tr-h5 (Dunsley Farm, Tring), Tr-h6 (north of Icknield Way, Tring) and Bov h3 (rear of Green Lane, Louise Walk, Bovington).



Report for:	Cabinet
Date of meeting:	16 October 2018
PART:	1
If Part II, reason:	

Title of report:	Physical Activity & Sport Strategy
Contact:	Councillor Neil Harden, Portfolio Holder Community & Regulatory Services Author/Responsible Officer- Linda Roberts (Assistant Director), Matt Rawdon (Group Manager – People), Alex Care (Community Partnerships Team Leader) and Ben Russell (Community Partnerships Officer)
Purpose of report:	To seek approval of the Physical Activity & Sport Strategy
Recommendations	That Cabinet approve the proposed Physical Activity & Sport Strategy
Corporate objectives:	Building strong and vibrant communities
Risk Implications	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>There is no direct financial impact on the council in developing this strategy. However, there will be some financial backing required to support its delivery over the next five years.</p> <p><u>Value for money</u></p> <p>The development and implementation of a Physical Activity & Sport Strategy will provide countless benefits to the community. The Government Strategy, Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation, identifies five key outcomes that sport and physical activity can deliver, they are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved physical wellbeing - Improved mental wellbeing - Individual development - Social and community development - Economic development

	The strategy has been developed by the Council utilising existing Sport and Leisure expertise that is employed by the Council.
Equalities Implications	No equality implications have been identified at this stage, but an equalities impact assessment will be carried out as part of the action plan delivery stage.
Health And Safety Implications	None identified at this stage
Monitoring Officer/S.151 Officer Comments	<p>Monitoring Officer:</p> <p>This is a high level strategy for the Borough presented for member approval and therefore the Monitoring Officer has no comments to make at this stage; however, the detailed action plans will need to be assessed in due course to ensure that all relevant equality implications are fully considered.</p> <p>Deputy S.151 Officer:</p> <p>The proposed physical activity and sports strategy will be delivered within existing and future projected service budgets as outlined in the medium term financial strategy principles, and annual budget setting process.</p>
Consultees:	<p>Internal Colleague Consultation- Wednesday 19th April 2017-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Partnerships • Neighbourhood Action • Innovation and improvement • Environmental Sustainability • Parks and Open Spaces • Planning <p>Sport Organisation Consultation- Monday 7th April 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sport England • Herts Sports Partnership • Dacorum Sports Network <p>Club Consultation- Tuesday 10th October 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hemel Bowls Club • Berkhamsted Raiders FC • Bovingdon & Flaunden Tennis • Berkhamsted Hockey • Hemel Swimming Club • Shelley's Netball Club • Berkhamsted Tennis • Tring Swimming club • Tring Rugby

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tring Tornadoes • Hemel Stags • Hemel Storm • Berkhamsted Swimming club • Dacorum & Tring Athletics • Hemel Youth FC • Hemel Aces FC • Herts Baseball • Tring Tennis club <p style="text-align: center;">Public Consultation- Thursday 19th April 2018- Friday 18th May 2018</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Stakeholder Consultation- Thursday 19th April 2018- Friday 18th May 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Herts Sports Partnership (HSP) • Dacorum Sports Network (DSN) • Sport England • Public Health • Everyone Active • Dacorum Sports Trust (DST) • Sports Clubs <p>Housing & Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee</p>
Background papers:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sport England Strategy • HSP Strategic Plan
Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Herts Sports Partnership (HSP) • Dacorum Sports Network (DSN) • Dacorum Sports Trust (DST)
Appendices	Appendix 1- Physical Activity & Sport Strategy

1 Introduction

The strategy focuses on a vision for sports and physical activity across Dacorum and it looks at the role of Dacorum’s sports clubs, the Council and its partners and how they can improve provision and opportunity for Physical Activity and Sports for all residents.

To ensure the strategy is representative of the borough, a number of consultations have been conducted with a variety of relevant stakeholders.

2 Purpose

The purpose of this strategy is to detail the high level vision and what the Council is seeking to achieve for its residents in terms of Physical Activity and Sports. These outcomes have been developed through consultation with our key partners such as Everyone Active and with local sporting clubs and with input from national sporting associations.

How DBC will achieve this vision and measure the success of the outcomes will be developed in more detail in subsequent supporting action plans. The plans have not yet been developed, however, they will be once this strategy has been formally approved.

3 Conclusion

It is evident that there is both a need and desire for a Physical Activity and Sports Strategy within Dacorum. The consultation received so far has provided the Council with some useful insight on how to ensure that the Physical Activity and Sports strategy is representative of the Council, local residents, sports clubs and key partners' needs and desires.

4 Recommendation

That Cabinet approve the proposed Physical Activity & Sport Strategy.

Active Dacorum: A Physical Activity and Sport Strategy for Dacorum 2019-2024

Foreword

“Physical activity and sport can have a hugely positive impact on individuals and local communities. The Council is committed to creating accessible opportunities for residents to be as active as possible. We want to create an environment that encourages an active lifestyle, allows aspiring athletes to perform at the highest level as well as motivating beginners to take up a new sport or activity. Working closely with our key partners, we hope to transform local communities, develop physical activity and sporting infrastructures, and make Dacorum the most active district in Hertfordshire”

Cllr Neil Harden, Portfolio Holder for Community and Regulatory Services

1. Purpose of this strategy

“To provide opportunities for Dacorum residents to be more active, helping to shape and promote a positive attitude towards physical activity and sport”

- 1.1.** We have developed a strategy and vision ensuring we have the approach, infrastructure and commitment to deliver a lasting legacy for sports and physical activity across Dacorum. We want Dacorum to be a leader in the promotion of health and wellbeing with physical activity being a key driver in creating healthier, more active communities. We want to create an environment that allows our residents to be physically active as part of their daily routine, removing barriers and stigmas attached to physical activity and sport. We aim to deliver a high quality-sporting environment, which enables people to play, enjoy and benefit from sport, whether they are a beginner, enthusiastic amateur or an elite performer.
- 1.2.** This strategy gives us a clear vision that everyone can work towards over the next five years. It sets out our strategic priorities, supports improved engagement with stakeholders, and allows us to target resources to where we will see the greatest impact. In developing this strategy, we believe we will increase the amount of physical activity and sports participation across the borough which will in turn lead to a healthier and happier community.
- 1.3.** In collaboration with our partners and stakeholders, we will develop a detailed annual action plan to deliver this strategy. The action plan will give clearer, more in depth actions (with outcome measures), which will be governed by a project board.

Dacorum Physical Activity and Sports Key Partners

Hertfordshire Sport and Physical Activity Partnership (HSP)
Sport England
Public Health
Dacorum Sports Network (DSN)
Local Sports Clubs
Everyone Active
Dacorum Sports Trust (DST)
Dacorum Residents
Local Schools
Community Groups

2. How active is Dacorum now, and why is this so important?

2.1. Dacorum is comprised of 25 wards and is considered a largely rural and affluent area.

However, Dacorum does have pockets of deprivation, with 6 of its wards being graded at a 4 or below on the index of multiple deprivation ⁽¹⁾. About 12% (3,300) of children live in low income families primarily within these wards, where average life expectancy is 7.8 years lower for men and 5.1 years lower for women. Cardiovascular disease in people aged between 30 and 74 in Dacorum is statistically significantly higher than the averages for England and Hertfordshire and around 50,000 residents aged 50 and above suffer from a long-term health problem or disability ⁽²⁾.

	Dacorum	South East England	England
Excess weight in adults (including obesity)	66.1%	65.6%	64.8%
Physically Inactive adults (3)	21.2%	22.7 %	25.7%

(1) Department for Communities and Local Government, English Indices of Deprivation 2015

(2) Public Health England, Local Authority Health Profile 2018

(3) Sport England, Active Lives Survey

2.2. It has been scientifically proven that being physically active can dramatically improve an individual's physical health. It lowers the risk of heart disease, strokes, cancer and of developing type 2 diabetes by up to 50%. It also improves mental health, helping to lower the risk of depression and reduces cognitive decline. Taking part in sport and physical activity can also boost productivity and support increased learning.

2.3. Physical activity and sports participation is also shown to have a significant impact on the reduction of local crime rates. It can develop a sense of shared purpose and contribute to community cohesion. Sport is successful in bringing people from different communities together and forging strong, new friendships and creating a sense of pride and belonging within their communities.

2.4. How much physical activity should we be doing?

- Adults: 150 minutes per week of moderate physical activity (raised heartbeat, sweating e.g. brisk walking)
- Children and young people: At least 60 minutes and up to several hours of intense and vigorous activity per day (breathing hard and fast e.g. running) ⁽⁴⁾

(4) NHS, Benefits of Exercise

3. Current Sporting Landscape

3.1. Dacorum Borough Council (DBC) is hugely supportive of local sport. There are over 200 sports clubs within Dacorum, which offer residents a whole host of different opportunities to take part and be active, as well as a number of high profile clubs within Dacorum, including Hemel Storm (Basketball), Hemel Football Club, Hemel Stags (Rugby League) and Sapphire Gymnastics. Our sport and leisure facilities (run by Everyone Active) have circa 4,800 members, a number that continues to grow with an ever-expanding offer of activities for the community. We also have many parks, adventure playgrounds and open spaces that cater for thousands of active residents across Dacorum, including Gadebridge Park and Tring Park which are used for Park Runs, attracting hundreds of people each week.

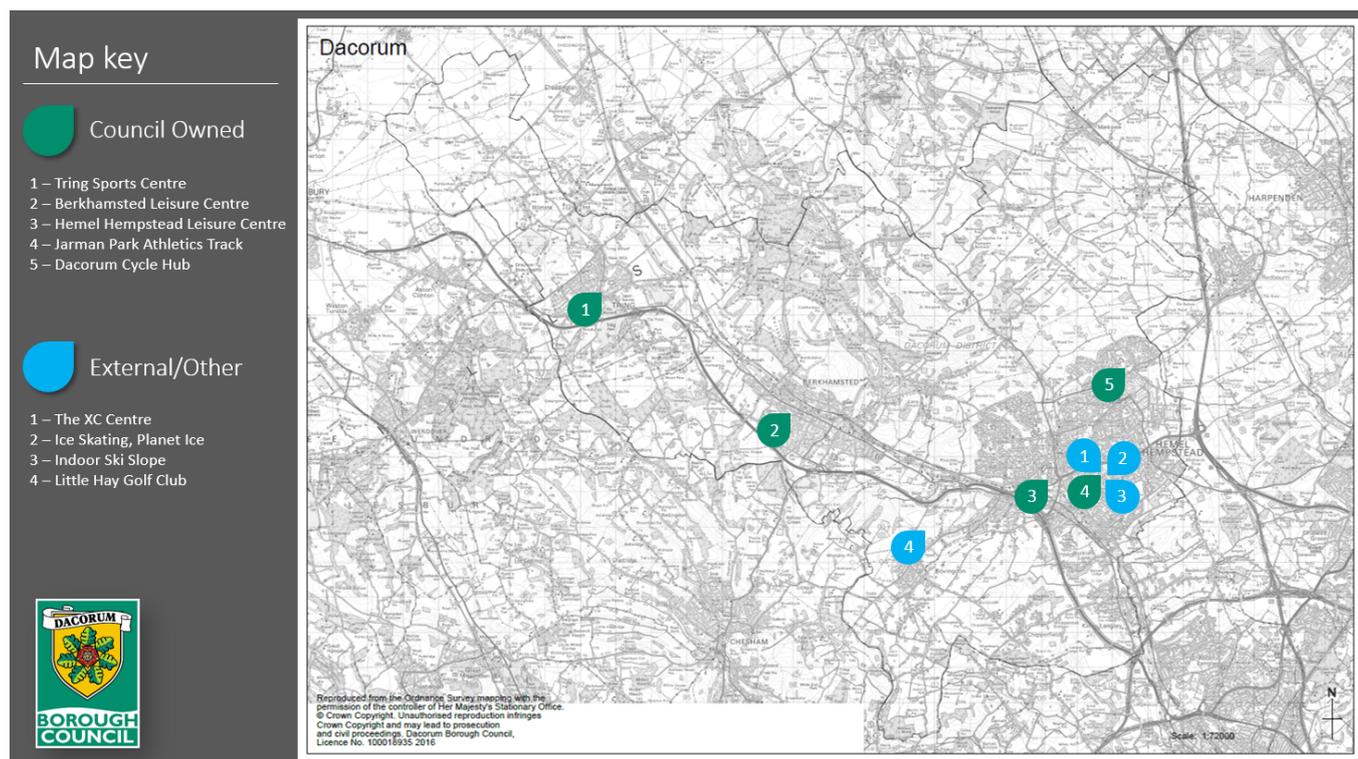
3.2. Within Dacorum we are fortunate enough to have a number of high quality facilities to support physical activity and sport provision. We have two large leisure centres that boast 6 swimming pools, 2 large sports halls and very well equipped gyms. As well as this, Dacorum has an athletics track, a golf course, an indoor extreme sports centre, an ice rink and a ski slope. Within Dacorum we have an abundance of green parks and open spaces, as well as 12 community centres all of which provide opportunity to be active within the borough.

In August 2018 Everyone Active has invested £1.3m in the refurbishment of the Hemel Hempstead Leisure Centre

In August 2018 Dacorum Borough Council has invested £1.2m in the refurbishment of Tring Swimming Pool

3.3. There are substantial facilities and opportunities that already exist within Dacorum for people to be more physically active. However, it is clear that there are factors and barriers that are preventing wider community involvement in adopting an active lifestyle.

Map of Key Facilities



4. The Role of the Council

4.1. DBC understands that a strategy such as this requires a collaborative approach. We see the council's role as a supportive one, working closely and effectively with our multiple partners to deliver our vision: *"To provide opportunities for Dacorum residents to be more active, helping to shape and promote a positive attitude towards physical activity and sport"*. To achieve this vision we will:

- Provide leadership within the community. Working closely with partners from private, public and voluntary sectors to improve and promote access to resources, quality provision, and programmes of activity, with particular focus on underrepresented groups.
- Ensure there are high quality leisure facilities which meet the current and future needs of the borough.
- Champion and promote the benefits of physical activity and sport participation in achieving health, community cohesion and community safety outcomes.

5. Our commitments to deliver this strategy

5.1. We have worked collaboratively and consulted with key partners and stakeholders to identify the needs and priorities of the borough. Using stakeholder insight to develop this strategy, as well as supporting strategies from Central Government and Sport England, we have developed four outcome-based commitments

5.2. Tackling Physical Inactivity

- Undertake consultation with local residents to better understand the barriers to participation
- Monitor and support the delivery of Everyone Active's physical activity and sports development and outreach plan
- Work with partners to actively source funding to support underrepresented groups to become more physically active
- Develop resources which support and promote an active lifestyle

5.3. Partnership Working

- Work more closely with partners to ensure resources are maximised and duplication is avoided
- Ensure we are informed by the best practice on what works to achieve our ambition, learning from others and working with the best in the sector
- Ensure DBC leisure management contracts are well managed to deliver a great service

5.4. Facilities and Infrastructure

- Continue to provide facilities and infrastructure which allow for increased use and greater opportunity for residents to have a more physically active lifestyle
- Work towards adopting a policy that supports community management and ownership of assets to local clubs, community groups and trusts.

5.5. Governance

- Establish a strong governance model that holds to account those with the responsibility for the implementation of the strategy
- Have a clear action plan which details available resources and accountability for achieving outcomes/targets, which are regularly monitored and reviewed by the project board

6. Outcomes

6.1. Everyone that lives and works in Dacorum will be able to find an activity or sport that meets their needs, which in turn will lead to increased participation and the benefits that come with this. Success will be measured through a series of key outcomes and targets.

6.2. Setting measurable targets is a key part of being able to evaluate the success of our actions and interventions. In those areas where we can use quantifiable targets it is important that we do so as this will be a valuable measure of progress for the strategy. The key outcomes that this strategy seeks to achieve are:

- 2,000 more physically active Dacorum residents ⁽⁵⁾
- 3% increase in membership numbers of local sports clubs and leisure facilities

There are contributing factors in relation to individuals' health and wellbeing, but this strategy would also influence the:

- Reduction in the mortality rate for persons under 75 from cardiovascular diseases and cancer (circa. 20 fewer people) ⁽⁶⁾
- 1,880 fewer adults (aged 18+) carrying excess weight ⁽⁶⁾
- 36 fewer children reported as overweight or obese at year 6 ⁽⁷⁾

(5) Sport England, Active Lives Survey

(6) Public Health, Local Authority Health Profiles

(7) Gov.uk, Child obesity and excess weight: small area level data

7. Putting Commitments into Action

7.1. There is a fantastic opportunity for DBC and partners to develop physical activity and sport in Dacorum. The power and influence that physical activity and sport can have on people's lives and the positive impact they can have on entire communities is the exact purpose for developing this strategy.

7.2. The Council will prepare an annual action plan in collaboration with partners, both internal (e.g. Planning, Community Partnerships, Housing) and external (e.g. HSP, Public Health, DSN, Everyone Active) which will deliver this strategy. In this plan, we will set out a series of more specific actions, which will take place throughout the coming years.

Agenda Item 10



Report for:	Cabinet
Date of meeting:	16 October 2018
PART:	1
If Part II, reason:	

Title of report:	Relocation of Athletics Track Consultation
Contact:	Neil Harden, Portfolio Holder for Community and Regulatory Services Author/Responsible Officer(s): Linda Roberts (Assistant Director – People, Performance and Innovation) Matt Rawdon (Group Manager – People and Performance), Alex Care (Community Partnerships Team Leader)
Purpose of report:	To inform Cabinet Members of the feedback from the recent athletics track consultation and seek a decision on relocation of the athletics track.
Recommendations	That Cabinet Members consider the response from the formal athletics track consultation and decide whether to progress with the relocation of the athletics track to Cupid Green Fields.
Corporate objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clean, safe and enjoyable environment • Building strong and vibrant communities
Risk Implications	Residents not aware of the consultation – the consultation was open for nearly two months and advertised in various media to ensure high response rates.
Equalities Implications	No equality implications have been identified in relation to the consultation exercise undertaken.
Health And Safety Implications	No implications from this report.

<p>Monitoring Officer/S.151 Officer Comments</p>	<p>Monitoring Officer:</p> <p>There will be no legal implications if Members decide to keep the track in its current location. If Members decide to relocate further site due diligence will need to be carried out to ensure that there are no legal, planning or property impediments to the proposed development as part of the project plan.</p> <p>Deputy S.151 Officer:</p> <p>Any potential financial impact of cabinets consideration of this issue will be reported at a later date as part of the wider leisure strategy.</p>
<p>Consultees:</p>	<p>Sally Marshall (Chief Executive)</p> <p>Public Consultation Survey aimed at Dacorum residents</p> <p>Members of the Housing & Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee</p>
<p>Background papers:</p>	<p>Proposal to build a new athletics track and pavilion at Cupid Green Playing Fields, Grovehill - Cabinet paper 24 April 2018</p>
<p>Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:</p>	<p>Nil</p>
<p>Appendices</p>	<p>Appendix 1 – Consultation literals from open questions.</p>

1. Introduction

- 1.1 As part of the wider Dacorum Leisure Modernisation Programme, a survey regarding a potential move of the Athletics Track at Jarman Park to the Cupid Green Fields was made available online on our consultation page from 21st June and closed on 17th August 2018.
- 1.2 The purpose of the survey was to gauge local feedback on the benefits and challenges to upgrading and relocating the Athletics Track to the Cupid Green Fields.
- 1.3 This report contains analysis of the **548** responses received so that Members may be able to make a decision as to whether or not to go ahead with further investigation into the merits of this move.
- 1.4 In addition to being made available online, it was also advertised in the Digital Digest, to our consultation panel, through a press release and social media, and paper copies were made available should anyone have requested them.
- 1.5 There was almost an equal split from those that responded, 53.3% stating they would not support the relocation of the athletics track and 44.7% stated they would. It should be noted that some of those who stated they would support it, would only do so, once further consultation had taken place and proper consideration given to their concerns.
- 1.6 The open comments (literals) section of the survey has been themed and is found in Appendix 1. The open question 'What do you think about the suggestion of building a track?' provided a useful insight into the survey response, the response showed that there were 81 positive comments as opposed to 610 negative. The results of the themed literals are found in Appendix 1.
- 1.7 Respondents considered the benefits of the athletics track being located at Cupid Green Fields were:
 - New sports venue
 - Local schools
 - Community Facilities
 - Inspiring youth
 - Health benefits
- 1.8 The challenges and concerns were noted as being:
 - Parking concerns
 - Increased transport congestion / disruption
 - Transport links / accessibility
 - Noise, floodlights pollution etc.
 - Loss of green space / land used by community
 - Financial investment concerns
 - Too close to residential housing
 - Site too small
 - Anti Social Behaviour

- Alternative location
- Infrastructure
- Road Safety
- Concerns over housing development / transparency
- Want alternative sport facility

1.9 Of those who responded 59.3% stated that they had previously used the track at Jarman Park. Of these, 63.9% said they were unlikely to use it, if it moved location to Cupid Green Playing Fields and 22.3% likely to use it (the remaining were not sure). Almost 17% stated that they would prefer to see the current track invested in and refurbished.

2. Summary

Cabinet is asked to consider responses from the formal athletics track consultation and decide whether to continue with the relocation to Cupid Green Playing Fields.

Appendix 1 - Athletics Track Consultation

Analysis of Literals – Sept 2018

Q2 What do you think about the suggestion of building a track and sports pavilion on the Cupid Green Playing Fields?

What do you think about the suggestion of building a track...?	% of respondents who made comment
Positives	
Positive comments general (24)	5
Local schools (21)	4
Increased leisure facilities (13)	3
Good for area (10)	2
Sports Hub (7)	1
Good for health (6)	1

(Base: 513)

Examples of POSITIVE comments made by respondents

Very good excellent idea hope it goes ahead

It will be a great benefit to all local schools and clubs, adults and younger athletes

I think it's a brilliant idea a great addition to the area. In conjunction with the other sporting facilities nearby it will provide the local community with some much needed leisure facilities.

Great for the local community

Sounds like a very good idea for the youth of today to have some new sports equipment and places to keep fit

What do you think about the suggestion of building a track...?	% of respondents who made
--	---------------------------

	comment
Negative comments	
Improve existing site/keep existing site (129)	25
Parking concerns (113)	22
Increased transport congestion/disruption (85)	17
Loss of green space/land used by community (47)	9
Transport Links/accessibility (34)	7
Flood lights, pollution, noise disruption (32)	6
Too close to residential housing (32)	6
Financial investment concerns (32)	6
Concerns over housing development/transparency (21)	4
Negative general (15)	3
Other suggested other sites Grovehill Playing Fields, Margaret Lloyd etc (15)	3
Poor design/location (14)	3
Site too small (14)	3
Not close to shops/restaurants etc (9)	2
Reference to Jarman Athletic Track August Newsletter 2018 (8)	2
Infrastructure concerns (6)	1
Impact on property prices (4)	1

(Base: 513)

Examples of NEGATIVE comments made by respondents

What is wrong with the athletics track at Jarman Park? It must be cheaper to refurbish this than create an entirely new facility.

Do not think it is a good idea or worth the investment when the money could be better spent improving roads and cutting grass and looking after trees etc

I think the site looks too small. Will there be sufficient parking provision? Has the access onto Redbourne Road been considered? This road is already very busy and I would be concerned about volume of traffic.

I think it is a very bad idea. Why do planners not think!!!

I would object because it removes the playing field and a popular area for local dog walkers (myself included).

Q3 What do you think are the key challenges and possible benefits of building a track and sports pavilion on the Cupid Green Playing Fields?

What do you think are the key challenges and possible benefits ...?	% of respondents who made comment
Benefits	
New sports venue (23)	5
Local schools (21)	4
Community facilities (20)	4
Inspiring youth (17)	4
Health benefits (15)	3
Challenges	
Parking concerns (153)	32
Increased transport congestion/disruption (113)	24
Improve existing site/Keep existing site (67)	14
Transport links / Accessibility (60)	13
Noise, floodlights, pollution etc (60)	13
Loss of green space, land used by community (52)	11
Financial investment concerns (48)	10
Too close to residential housing (35)	7
Site too small (30)	6
ASB (27)	6
Alternative location (24)	5
Infrastructure (23)	5
Road safety (16)	3
Concerns over housing development/transparency (7)	1
Want alternative sport facility (6)	1

(Base: 476)

Examples of comments made by respondents on the BENEFITS of new track:

Benefits will be employment and community facilities, local schools will also benefit from having this.

The benefits are for the local schools nearby and the local area in general

Benefits will be starting from scratch, building a much improved facility.

I believe it will be a welcome addition to the area and provide many residents, young an old a place to increase their physical activity and help to build a stronger, healthier community.

It would keep many youngsters busy and occupied and may lead to a life in sport a very good idea

Examples of comments made by respondents on key CHALLENGES:

Environmental issues and traffic

It is not central to Hemel so fewer people will attend. Transport links are poorer than to Jarman Park and so fewer people could access this facility

I think the main challenge will be to ensure adequate parking.

Reduction in the size of green spaces available for usage. Restricting the type of usage of existing green spaces. Increase in noise and traffic to the area. - roads would need to be improved.

Q6 Do you have any other comments or suggestions you would like to share with us regarding this Athletics Track proposal?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions ...?	% of respondents who made comment
Improve existing site/Keep existing site (80)	21
Financial investment concerns (37)	10
Another location (31)	8
Concerns over housing development/transparency (30)	8
Invest in different project (22)	6
Green spaces (19)	5
Parking/traffic (17)	5
Infrastructure (16)	4
Joint venture with school (6)	2
Invest outside of Hemel (5)	1
Football/Football pitches (5)	1
Road safety (5)	1
Site too small (4)	1

(Base: 379)

If I was a decision maker I would put money into upgrading the existing facilities rather than starting from scratch and causing problems for those who are local to that area!

The reason for the move needs to be transparent. It's not about moving the Athletics track so that sport gets a new facility, it's about selling the land for house building

Please stop building on green land that is already in use when we have an athletics track at Jarmans

Just ensure parking and traffic relieving measures are put in place and it will be amazing for the whole community and surrounding areas

I'd be very interested in the cost, time scale of the build, what the future is for the current site of the athletics track. Also how is this development being paid for?



Report for:	CABINET
Date of meeting:	16 October 2018
PART:	I
If Part II, reason:	

Title of report:	TREASURY MANAGEMENT OUTTURN AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2017/18
Contact:	Cllr Graeme Elliot, Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources James Deane, Corporate Director (Finance and Operations) Nigel Howcutt, Assistant Director (Finance and Resources)
Purpose of report:	To report upon the performance outturn for treasury management in 2017/18.
Recommendations	That Cabinet recommends to Council acceptance of the report on Treasury Management performance in 2017/18 and the Prudential Indicators for 2017/18 actuals.
Corporate objectives:	Optimising investment income for General Fund and Housing Revenue budgets whilst managing investment risk is fundamental to achieving the corporate objective of delivering an efficient and modern council.
Financial Implications:	In accordance with the CIPFA Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice, the order of the Council's investment priorities is 1. Security; 2. Liquidity; and, 3. Return. This may result in the Council achieving a lower rate of return than an organisation operating a more aggressive investment strategy in a less regulated sector.
Risk Implications:	Good corporate governance encompasses risk management and making sure that the Council makes decisions with the full knowledge of the associated risks and opportunities. The risk of not reviewing and updating our corporate governance arrangements have been addressed by this report.
Equalities Implications:	None

Health And Safety Implications:	None
Monitoring Officer / S151 Officer Comments:	<p>Monitoring Officer- No comments to add to the report.</p> <p>Section 151 officer- This is a S151 Officer report</p>
Consultees:	Link Asset Services
Background papers:	Cabinet 14 February 2017 – Treasury Management Strategy (Appendix K to Budget 2017/18 Report)

1. Regulatory Background

- 1.1 The Council is required by regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2003 to produce an annual treasury management review of activities and the actual prudential and treasury indicators for 2017/18. This report meets the requirements of both the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management in the Public Services (the Code) and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code).
- 1.2 During 2017/18 the minimum reporting requirements were that Full Council should receive the following reports:
- an annual Treasury Management Strategy Statement in advance of the year;
 - a mid-year Treasury Management update report;
 - an annual review following the end of the year describing the activity compared to the strategy (this report).
- 1.3 This report provides the outturn position for the Council's treasury activities and highlights compliance with policies previously approved by Members.

2. The Economy and Interest Rates

- 2.1 Growth in the UK economy saw a modest increase in the first half of 2017/18. This followed a period of weaker performance in the latter half of 2016/17, resulting from the sharp increase in inflation caused by the devaluation of sterling after the EU referendum. The associated increase in the cost of imports into the economy caused a reduction in consumer disposable income and spending power, as inflation exceeded average wage increases.
- 2.2 Expectations rose early in 2017/18 that there would be an increase in the official bank rate set by the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee. Interest rates were raised in November 2017 from 0.25% to 0.50%.
- 2.3 Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) borrowing rates increased correspondingly to the above developments with the shorter term rates increasing more sharply than longer term rates. The Council did not undertake any new PWLB borrowing during 2017/18.

2.4 The general election held in June 2017 represented the major event in the UK political landscape during 2017/18. The inconclusive result of the general election had relatively little impact on financial markets.

3. Overall Treasury Position as at 31 March 2018

3.1 At the beginning and the end of 2017/18 the Council's treasury position was as follows:

	31 March 2017 Principal	Rate/ Return	Average Life	31 March 2018 Principal	Rate/ Return	Average Life
<u>GENERAL FUND (GF)</u>	£m	%	Years	£m	%	Years
Total external debt	19.0	3.05	23	19.0	3.05	22
Total internal debt	0			0		
Other (finance leases & negative CFR)	0.2			0.2		
Capital Financing Requirement	8.1			9.4		
Over / (under) borrowing	11.1			9.8		
<u>HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA)</u>						
Total external debt	346.7	3.35	19	346.2	3.35	18
Total internal debt	0			0		
Other (finance leases & negative CFR)	0			0		
Capital Financing Requirement	346.7			346.2		
Over / (under) borrowing	0			0		
	31 March 2017 Principal	Rate/ Return	Average Life	31 March 2018 Principal	Rate/ Return	Average Life
<u>HRA and GF</u>	£m	%	Years	£m	%	Years
Capital Financing requirement	354.8			355.6		
Total external debt*	365.9			365.4		
Total investments	81.8	0.48	0.44	92.7	0.37	0.50
Net external debt	284.1			272.7		

*including finance lease obligations

Borrowing

3.2 The Council's underlying need to borrow to finance capital expenditure is termed the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). The Council's CFR was £355.5m at the end of the year. This includes the borrowing from the Public Works Loan Board following the

introduction of Self Financing, and the borrowing taken up in 2015/16 for General Fund capital expenditure requirements. No rescheduling of debt was undertaken during the year.

General Fund

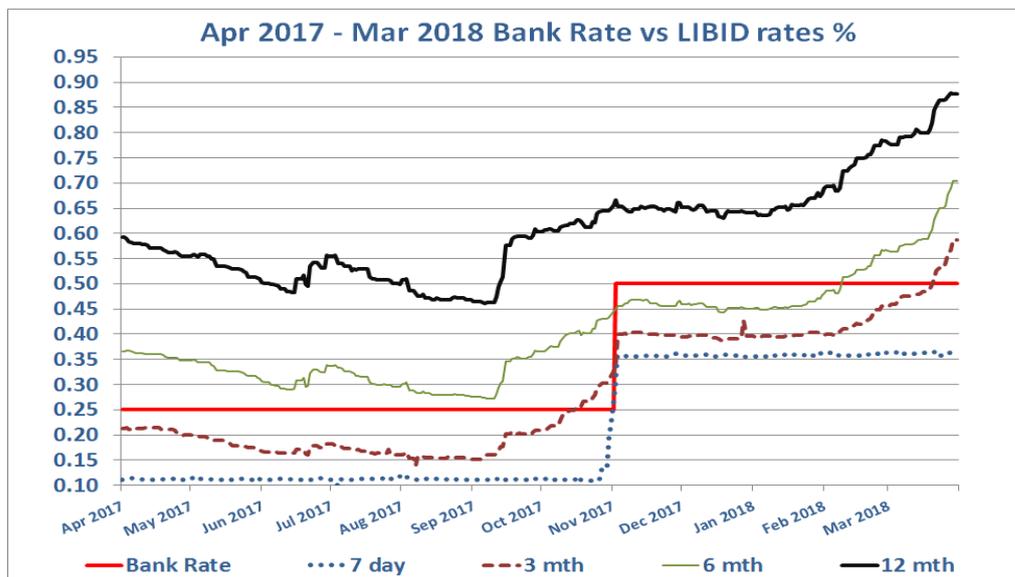
3.3 The positive Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) indicates that the Council had a need to borrow. The General Fund increase of £1.0m in 2017-18, from £8.1m to £9.1m, relates to the financing of in-year expenditure on the Capital Programme.

Housing Revenue Account

3.4 HRA funds available for the future financing of the Capital Programme are held outside of the CFR in the Major Repairs Reserve and Earmarked Reserves, totalling £27.1m.

4. Investment Rates and Outturn in 2017/18

4.1 Investments rates for 3 months and longer have been on a rising trend during the second half of the year in the expectation of Bank Rate increasing from 0.25%, and reached a peak at the end of March. Bank Rate was raised from 0.25% to 0.50% in November and remained at that level for the rest of the year. Further increases are expected over the next few years. Deposit rates continued into the start of 2017/18 at previous depressed levels due, in part, to a large tranche of cheap financing being made available under the Term Funding Scheme to the banking sector by the Bank of England; this facility ended in February.



4.2 The Council's investment policy, approved by Council in February 2017, sets out the approach for choosing investment counterparties. It is based on a system of credit ratings provided by the three main credit rating agencies, and supplemented by additional market data (such as rating outlooks, credit default swaps and bank share prices) provided by Capita, the Council's treasury advisors.

4.3 The Council maintained an average balance of £96.8m of internally managed funds throughout 2017/18, earning an average rate of return of 0.37% compared with the

budget assumption of average investment balances of £81.6m at 0.54% investment return.

4.4 The weighted average maturity (WAM) for investments held by the Council at 31 March 2018 was 162 days. This compares to a weighted average maturity at 31 March 2017 of 154 days.

4.5 Investment activity during the year conformed to the approved strategy, and the Council had no liquidity difficulties.

5. Prudential and Treasury Indicators

5.1 During 2017/18, the Council complied with its legislative and regulatory requirements set out in the Treasury Management Strategy. The key actual prudential and treasury indicators detailing the impact of capital expenditure activities during the year, with comparators, are as follows:

Actual prudential and treasury indicators	2016/17 Actual	2017/18 Original Budget Estimate	2017/18 Actual
	£000	£000	£000
Capital expenditure			
• General Fund	21,690	11,852	9,711
• HRA	19,236	40,940	24,591
• Total	40,926	52,522	34,302
Capital Financing Requirement:			
• General Fund	8,065	14,518	9,370
• HRA due to housing finance reform	346,740	346,172	346,172
• Total	354,804	360,690	355,542
External debt*	365,745	365,379	365,186
Investments			
• Longer than 1 year			
• Under 1 year	81,780	63,557	92,750
• Total			

*excluding finance lease obligations

5.2 In order to ensure that borrowing levels are prudent over the medium term, Local Authority external borrowing can only be for capital purposes, i.e. it cannot be used to support revenue expenditure. Gross borrowing should not, therefore, exceed the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR), i.e. the Council's need to borrow. This indicator allows the Council some flexibility to borrow in advance of its immediate capital needs. The advance borrowing shown above by external debt exceeding the CFR is due to the General Fund borrowing in advance of need to take advantage of historically low interest rates.

5.3 The **Authorised Limit** - the authorised limit is the “affordable borrowing limit” required by s3 of the Local Government Act 2003. The Council does not have the power to borrow above this level. During 2017/18 the Council has maintained gross borrowing within its authorised limit.

5.4 The **Operational Boundary** – the operational boundary reflects the current borrowing position with an allowance for additional borrowing for cash flow purposes during the year. Periods where the actual position is either below or over the boundary is acceptable subject to the authorised limit not being breached.

2017/18	
Authorised limit	£379.000m
Operational boundary	£366.320m

5.5 **Actual financing costs as a proportion of net revenue stream** - this indicator identifies the trend in the cost of capital (borrowing and other long term obligation costs net of investment income) against the net revenue stream.

Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream	31 March 2017 Actual	2017/18 Original Limits	31 March 2018 Actual
Non - HRA	0.79%	1.11 %	1.04%
HRA	20.08%	20.26%	20.17%

5.6 The reduction on the General Fund ratio since the original estimate reflects the reduced financing costs due to slippage on the capital programme.

5.7 The following table shows the **net debt position** for the Council. There has been no material change in net debt between years.

	31 March 2017 Principal	Rate/ Return	Average Life	31 March 2018 Principal	Rate/ Return	Average Life
Fixed rate funding:	£m	%	Years	£m	%	Years
-PWLB and Finance Leases	365.9	3.33		365.4	3.33	
Total external debt	365.9	3.33	20	365.4	3.33	19
CFR	354.8			355.6		
Over/ (under) borrowing	11.1			9.8		
Total investments	81.8	0.48	0.44	92.7	0.37	0.50
Net debt	284.1			272.7		

5.8 The following table shows the **maturity structure of the debt portfolio**:

	31 March 2017 actual	31 March 2018 actual
Under 12 months	0.94m	2.8m
12 months and within 24 months	2.43m	3.94m

24 months and within 5 years	£12.70m	£10.47m
5 years and within 10 years	£18.76m	£22.52m
10 years and above	£330.92m	£325.45m

5.9 The following table shows the **maturity structure of the investment portfolio**:

	2016/17 Actual £	2017/18 Actual £
Investments		
Longer than 1 year	-	-
Under 1 year	81.8m	92.7m
Total	81.8m	92.7m

5.10 The following table shows the **exposure to fixed and variable rates on investments** at year end:

	31 March 2017 Actual	2017/18 Original Limits	31 March 2018 Actual
Fixed rate (principal or interest)	83%	100%	81%
Variable rate (principal or interest)	17%	40%	19%

Appendix A – HRA External Borrowing

Lender	Principal	Type	Interest Rate	Maturity
PWLB	£2,068,572	Fixed interest rate	1.76%	1 Year
PWLB	£3,585,697	Fixed interest rate	1.99%	2 Years
PWLB	£4,590,217	Fixed interest rate	2.21%	3 Years
PWLB	£3,480,273	Fixed interest rate	2.40%	4 Years
PWLB	£1,370,129	Fixed interest rate	2.56%	5 Years
PWLB	£2,309,505	Fixed interest rate	2.70%	6 Years
PWLB	£3,334,576	Fixed interest rate	2.82%	7 Years
PWLB	£4,442,038	Fixed interest rate	2.92%	8 Years
PWLB	£5,637,006	Fixed interest rate	3.01%	9 Years
PWLB	£5,110,074	Fixed interest rate	3.08%	10 Years
PWLB	£6,339,797	Fixed interest rate	3.15%	11 Years
PWLB	£7,664,605	Fixed interest rate	3.21%	12 Years
PWLB	£9,089,448	Fixed interest rate	3.26%	13 Years
PWLB	£10,620,253	Fixed interest rate	3.30%	14 Years
PWLB	£12,546,288	Fixed interest rate	3.34%	15 Years
PWLB	£14,313,519	Fixed interest rate	3.37%	16 Years
PWLB	£16,205,585	Fixed interest rate	3.40%	17 Years
PWLB	£18,230,083	Fixed interest rate	3.42%	18 Years
PWLB	£20,394,596	Fixed interest rate	3.44%	19 Years
PWLB	£32,380,217	Fixed interest rate	3.46%	20 Years
PWLB	£35,524,201	Fixed interest rate	3.47%	21 Years
PWLB	£38,864,428	Fixed interest rate	3.48%	22 Years
PWLB	£42,416,950	Fixed interest rate	3.49%	23 Years
PWLB	£45,654,253	Fixed interest rate	3.50%	24 Years

General Fund External borrowing

Lender	Principal	Type	Interest Rate	Maturity
PWLB	£370,984	Fixed interest rate	1.53%	0 Years
PWLB	£363,563	Fixed interest rate	1.78%	1 Years
PWLB	£356,292	Fixed interest rate	2.00%	2 Years
PWLB	£349,166	Fixed interest rate	2.19%	3 Years
PWLB	£342,183	Fixed interest rate	2.35%	4 Years
PWLB	£335,340	Fixed interest rate	2.48%	5 Years
PWLB	£328,633	Fixed interest rate	2.59%	6 Years
PWLB	£326,082	Fixed interest rate	2.68%	7 Years
PWLB	£334,821	Fixed interest rate	2.76%	8 Years
PWLB	£344,062	Fixed interest rate	2.83%	9 Years
PWLB	£353,799	Fixed interest rate	2.90%	10 Years
PWLB	£364,059	Fixed interest rate	2.95%	11 Years
PWLB	£374,799	Fixed interest rate	3.00%	12 Years
PWLB	£386,043	Fixed interest rate	3.05%	13 Years
PWLB	£397,817	Fixed interest rate	3.09%	14 Years
PWLB	£410,110	Fixed interest rate	3.12%	15 Years
PWLB	£422,905	Fixed interest rate	3.16%	16 Years
PWLB	£436,269	Fixed interest rate	3.18%	17 Years
PWLB	£450,142	Fixed interest rate	3.21%	18 Years
PWLB	£464,592	Fixed interest rate	3.23%	19 Years
PWLB	£479,598	Fixed interest rate	3.24%	20 Years
PWLB	£495,137	Fixed interest rate	3.26%	21 Years
PWLB	£511,279	Fixed interest rate	3.27%	22 Years
PWLB	£527,997	Fixed interest rate	3.27%	23 Years
PWLB	£545,263	Fixed interest rate	3.28%	24 Years
PWLB	£563,148	Fixed interest rate	3.28%	25 Years
PWLB	£581,619	Fixed interest rate	3.28%	26 Years
PWLB	£600,696	Fixed interest rate	3.28%	27 Years
PWLB	£620,399	Fixed interest rate	3.27%	28 Years
PWLB	£640,686	Fixed interest rate	3.27%	29 Years

Lender	Principal	Type	Interest Rate	Maturity
PWLB	£661,636	Fixed interest rate	3.27%	30 Years
PWLB	£683,272	Fixed interest rate	3.26%	31 Years
PWLB	£705,546	Fixed interest rate	3.25%	32 Years
PWLB	£728,477	Fixed interest rate	3.25%	33 Years
PWLB	£752,152	Fixed interest rate	3.24%	34 Years
PWLB	£776,552	Fixed interest rate	3.23%	35 Years
PWLB	£801,603	Fixed interest rate	3.23%	36 Years
PWLB	£728,478	Fixed interest rate	3.22%	37 Years