

East Herts Council Report

Council/Executive/Committee

Performance, Audit & Governance Oversight Committee

Executive

Council

Date of Meeting:

14th January 2020 PAGO

21st January 2020 Executive

29th January 2020 Council

Report by: Councillor Geoff Williamson, Deputy Leader & Executive Member for Financial Sustainability

Report title: CAPITAL STRATEGY 2020 Onwards

Ward(s) affected: All

Summary

- The Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government have revised the Investment and Minimum Revenue Provision Guidance, which includes the introduction of a capital strategy.
- This report includes the second capital strategy since the revisions.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PERFORMANCE, AUDIT & GOVERNANCE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE:

To endorse that the Executive considers the following for recommendation to Council, that:

- (a) the Capital Strategy 2020 onwards as shown in Appendix 'A'

be approved;

1.0 Proposal(s)

- 1.1 The report includes the East Herts Capital Strategy for 2020 onwards which members of the Performance, Audit & Governance Oversight Committee are asked to consider and, with or without amendment, endorse for consideration by the Executive.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The East Herts Council Capital Strategy provides a valuable opportunity for engagement with Full Council to ensure that overall strategy, investment ambition, risk appetite and governance procedures are fully understood by all elected Members and other Council stakeholders.
- 2.2 The East Herts Council Capital Strategy is intended to be a strategic corporate document which will both be influenced by and in turn influence policy and decision making in respect of capital investment.
- 2.3 The Strategy will continue to develop and evolve as external influences do and will be updated as required in order that this Strategy is responsive to the challenges, opportunities, priorities and objectives that the Council must consider.

3.0 Reason(s)

- 3.1 Revised reporting is required from the 2019/20 reporting cycle due to revisions of the MHCLG Investment Guidance, the MHCLG Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Guidance, the CIPFA Prudential Code and the CIPFA Treasury Management Code. The primary reporting changes included the introduction of a capital strategy, to provide a longer-term focus to the capital plans, and greater reporting requirements

surrounding any commercial activity undertaken under the Localism Act 2011.

- 3.2 This report includes the second capital strategy since the revisions. The first version of the report was welcomed by members last year and no comments or suggestions for improvement have been received from either internal or external audit.

4.0 Options

- 4.1 Update the Capital Strategy as required, at least once annually

5.0 Risks

- 5.1 Risks are discussed in detail, within the Capital Strategy, including the uncertainty around future funding, both from Government and other areas.

6.0 Implications/Consultations

- 6.1 No.

Community Safety

No

Data Protection

No

Equalities

No

Environmental Sustainability

No

Financial

All financial implications are included in this report.

Health and Safety

No

Human Resources

No

Human Rights

No

Legal

All statutory requirements have been considered in preparing this report

Specific Wards

No

7.0 Background papers, appendices and other relevant material

- 7.1 Appendix A - East Herts District Council Capital Strategy 2020 Onwards

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