

Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Wednesday, 20 January 2021

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision	Reasons	Alternative Options
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Part A – Items considered in public

A8	Consultation on the Strategic Issues & Priorities	<p>(1) That the Strategic Issues & Priorities Document, as attached to report CAB3278 at Appendix 1, and publication and eight week public consultation under Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 be approved.</p> <p>(2) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Planning Manager, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Built Environment & Well Being, to undertake updating, drafting of any amendments and the</p>	<p>The new Local Plan is a really exciting opportunity to set out a new vision and framework for future development of the District (which lies outside the South Downs National Park). Subject to the outcome on the consultation on the White Paper, the Local Plan is likely to cover the period up to 2038. It will address local housing need, the economy, environmental considerations including the climate emergency, community infrastructure as well as strategic infrastructure needs and it has key role with assisting the Council moving towards carbon neutrality. The Plan will, at a later stage</p>	<p>The government is very clear that in order to be effective plans need to be kept up-to-date. The National Planning Policy Framework states policies in Local Plans and Spatial Development Strategies, should be reviewed to assess whether they need updating at least once every 5 years, and should then be <u>updated as necessary</u>. Current guidance is that Local Plans should cover a minimum of 15 years from the date of adoption. The time period that the Local Plan covers therefore needs to align itself with the above requirement or any changes arising from new local plan requirements.</p>
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Winchester City Council Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Wednesday, 20 January 2021

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision	Reasons	Alternative Options
		<p>visualization of the Strategic Issues & Priorities document required prior to publication and consultation on the document.</p> <p>(3) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director - Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for the Built Environment & Wellbeing, to amend the Local Development Scheme (LDS) to include consultation on the Strategic Issues & Priorities document in February/March 2021.</p>	<p>of the process, make site specific allocations to meet identified needs of the future. Once it has been through all of its formal statutory stages and we have fully engaged with the local community, it will be used to assess and determine planning applications.</p> <p>The publication of the Strategic Issues & Priorities Document for public consultation is the next important stage on this journey as it is an early stage towards preparing the new Local Plan, but it is not the actual Draft Local Plan. The purpose of the document is to explore important issues that will influence how the Local Plan is developed, giving people an early opportunity to inform and</p>	<p>Under the current system there is no formal statutory requirement to prepare a Strategic Issues & Priorities document for consultation prior to the Draft Local Plan. However, in order to be as inclusive as possible, and to be able to demonstrate to an Inspector at the Local Plan Examination that there has been every opportunity for people to be able to engage with the Local Plan, it is considered good practice to undertake this first step in process.</p> <p>The government continues to make it very clear that all Council's must have an up-to-date Local Plan by 31st December 2023 and hence why there is need to press on with work that would be used</p>

Winchester City Council Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Wednesday, 20 January 2021

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision	Reasons	Alternative Options
			<p>shape the direction of the Plan before it is drafted.</p> <p>Whilst it is not known at this stage whether the government’s proposed changes to the planning system will be taken forward into primary and secondary legislation and when reforms come into effect, the preparation of the Local Plan is a corporate priority. The Strategic Issues & Priorities Document has been prepared to enable the City Council to be able to pivot between a new style Local Plan or for a Local Plan to be prepared under the existing regulations and to demonstrate that progress is being made on the local plan.</p>	<p>to inform either a local plan under the current system or a new style local plan. Failure to make progress with the Local Plan is not an option as the Council will not be able to demonstrate a 5 year Housing Land Supply, policies in the existing Local Plan will be given less weight in the determination of planning applications and at appeals. In these circumstances, decisions on planning applications will have to be made in the context of the National Planning Policy Framework. There is also a risk of Government intervention if it is considered that the Council is not making significant progress with developing a new Local Plan itself but it is acknowledge that this is a real challenge</p>

Winchester City Council Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Wednesday, 20 January 2021

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision	Reasons	Alternative Options
				<p>given that the government has recently consulted on some major changes to the way that local plans need to be prepared.</p>
<p>A9</p>	<p>Air Quality Supplementary Planning Document (AQ SPD)</p>	<p>That an eight week public consultation on the proposed Air Quality Supplementary Planning Document be commenced, as set out within Appendix A of report CAB3279, the findings of which will then be reported back to a future Cabinet meeting.</p>	<p>Report CAB3279 seeks Cabinet approval to commence the public consultation stage of the adoption of an Air Quality Supplementary Planning Document (AQ SPD), which is one of the core measures set down within the Council's Air Quality Action Plan, approved on the 26th April 2017 CAB2906. Officers commissioned environmental consultants AECOM, who have considerable experience in the area of air quality, to lead on the development of an AQ SPD for the council covering the area in and around</p>	<p>The option of working with other Local Authorities to adopt a sub-regional AQ SPD was explored and abandoned after jurisdictional differences stalled the process of delivery.</p> <p>The only other option is not to adopt an AQ SPD, which would not support 'future proofing' the mitigation of air quality burdens for the residents of Winchester.</p>

Winchester City Council Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Wednesday, 20 January 2021

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision	Reasons	Alternative Options
			<p>Winchester.</p> <p>The proposed draft as set out in Appendix A, is the culmination of AECOM's work supported by Environmental Heath, Development Management, Strategic Planning and relevant Cabinet members in an effort to ensure that the AQ SPD will help to reduce air pollution emissions from new development and protect people occupying development from poor air quality. To this end the draft document will supplement the policies in the Local Plan which are currently used to determine planning applications and, in particular, policies WIN2 and DM19 which deal with air quality.</p>	

Winchester City Council Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Wednesday, 20 January 2021

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision	Reasons	Alternative Options
			<p>In addition to seeking to mitigate air pollution impacts, this AQ SPD will have the secondary benefits of reducing carbon emission thereby assisting Winchester City Council in delivering a carbon neutral district by 2030.</p>	
A10	Biodiversity Action Plan	<p>That the draft Biodiversity Action Plan be approved, as set out in appendix A-C of report CAB3280 and that the Natural Environment and Recreation Team Manager be authorised to make minor changes to enable updates that may occur from the cabinet meeting and any other minor editing changes, in consultation with Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency.</p>	<p>To consider and approve the Biodiversity Action Plan as set out in appendix A of report CAB3280(draft document).</p> <p>The Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) sets the strategic direction for how the City Council will deliver actions which protect, enhance and restore key biodiversity within the district, with a particular focus on the Council’s own operations. This document replaces the Winchester City</p>	<p>Continue with current arrangement. Whilst the work the Council has been undertaking is making a difference, work programmes have not been set within a strategic framework, thereby potentially limiting their benefits and the Council’s ability to make the best decisions going forward.</p>

Winchester City Council Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Wednesday, 20 January 2021

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision	Reasons	Alternative Options
			<p>Council Biodiversity Action Plan written in 2005 which is out of date and no longer fit for purpose.</p> <p>It is primarily a document for internal Council use and focuses on those actions the City Council has direct control over and can deliver within its work programmes. This will allow the council to undertake direct action in a timely manner. It will also ensure the Council can monitor and report on work undertaken through Key Performance Indicators and quarterly highlight reports.</p>	
A11	Car Parks Major Work Programme	1. That, subject to Full Council approval of the Budget and Capital Investment Strategy in February 2021 expenditure of £368,000	The purpose of report CAB3284 is to consider and agree the proposed Car Parks Major Works Programme for 2021/22 and an indicative programme for	Not investing in Council car parks and their infrastructure may lead to financial loss if car parks are not able to be used or are unattractive to drivers. Losses may also

Winchester City Council Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Wednesday, 20 January 2021

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision	Reasons	Alternative Options
		<p>for the car park major works programme 2021/22 be approved as outlined in appendix A of report CAB3284.</p> <p>2. That the indicative programme for 2022/23 totalling £410,000 be noted as a basis for planning and preparing future works.</p> <p>3. That authority be delegated to the Head of Programme in consultation with the Corporate Head of Asset Management and Cabinet Member for the Service Quality and Transformation, to make minor adjustments to the programme in order to meet maintenance and operational needs of the</p>	<p>2022/23.</p> <p>The programme consists of both capital and revenue expenditure and is part of the Council’s Asset Management Plan.</p> <p>The Council’s Parking and Access Strategy has achieved the aim of increasing the use of edge of city centre parking and park and ride with the majority of car parks now operating at or near to full capacity at times of peak demand (pre-Covid).</p> <p>The City of Winchester Movement Strategy recognises the importance of parking as a means to help manage traffic movements through the city and, as part of this objective, the need for additional park and ride</p>	<p>result if accidents occur which generate successful claims against the Council. There is also a risk of reputational damage to the Council, and an adverse impact on the city and market towns’ economies, through lack of good quality parking provision which help to underpin these locations in terms of meeting business and visitor needs.</p> <p>The question of whether ANPR (automatic number plate recognition) technology should be introduced more widely when purchasing new or replacement machinery has been considered. However whilst two of the Council’s barrier controlled car parks have ANPR systems, this can only be used on a limited basis, and</p>

Winchester City Council Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Wednesday, 20 January 2021

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision	Reasons	Alternative Options
		<p>car park service throughout the year, as required.</p>	<p>provision has been identified. Parking management is also a tool to support wider traffic management which enables us to address the Climate Emergency and improve air quality.</p> <p>The report also covers progress made on the 2020/21 programme for maintaining and improving parking assets and sets out additional proposals for maintenance and enhancements of car parks for 2021/22 as well as proposals for digital transformation and customer service improvements for parking services.</p> <p>An update is provided within the report on any works that have still to be delivered or are no longer required as the</p>	<p>it is stipulated by the DfT that local authorities may not use ANPR or other camera technology to carry out enforcement in car parks (this is not the case with private operators).</p>

Winchester City Council Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Wednesday, 20 January 2021

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision	Reasons	Alternative Options
			<p>business needs have changed. A key part of this has been the impact of, and the response to, COVID 19 which has had a significant effect on traffic levels, parking patterns, and driver behaviour. It has also had a direct impact on progress on a number of projects.</p>	