

Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Thursday, 13 March 2025

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

<p>A8</p>	<p>Central Winchester Regeneration; Development Delivery Plan (less exempt appendix)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the updated version of the Development Delivery Plan be approved in accordance with clause 5.2. of the Development Agreement (see paragraph 12 of report CAB3484). 2. That the Infrastructure Delivery Plan, the Public Realm Delivery Plan, the Phase Delivery Plan and the initial Financial Model be approved in accordance with clause 5.4 of the Development Agreement (see paragraph 12 of the report). 3. That the ringfencing of 	<p>Central Winchester Regeneration (CWR) is a once in a lifetime opportunity to transform the centre of our historic city, bringing homes for local families, providing jobs for local people, making a visit to this heritage city one which will be remembered. The council has a unique opportunity to bring forward sensitive development, adapting to the challenges faced by a new generation and critically to be delivered through the lens of responding to climate change.</p> <p>After extensive work to develop a Development Brief</p>	<p>The option of not confirming that the DDP meets the obligations set out in the DA was considered.</p> <p>The DDP was submitted to the council on the 14th February 2025 and has been reviewed against and considered to have met the obligations set out in the DA.</p> <p>As such, the option of not confirming that the DDP meets those objectives has therefore been rejected.</p>
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		<p>£4.5m of CIL receipts be approved, comprising £4m from the District fund and £0.5m from the Transport and Active Travel fund, to be used for exemplary public realm and green/blue and bus/highway infrastructure works in the Central Winchester Area in line with the Development Delivery Plan.</p> <p>4. That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director with responsibility for CWR, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Asset Management, to approve amendments to the Development Delivery Plan as the design develops.</p>	<p>(Appendix A of report CAB3484) that outlines the councils' objectives, a comprehensive procurement process to find a Development Partner that shares the council's vision and values was undertaken and Partnerships & Places LLP (Jigsaw) was subsequently appointed in March 2023.</p> <p>The Development Agreement (DA) was signed in April 2024 and the first milestone set out in the DA is approval of the Development Delivery Plan (DDP) (Appendix B), a document that shows how Jigsaw will design and deliver a scheme in line with the council's development brief, and as specified in the DA. An initial DDP was</p>	

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		<p>5. That the submission of the Initial Financial Model be noted and that work will continue on this during the detailed design pursuant to a planning application.</p>	<p>appended to the DA as Schedule 3. The DDP will continue to be reviewed and updated as the scheme progresses through design, the planning process, satisfaction of the DA conditions, through to delivery and completion.</p> <p>It is important to note that the DDP is not a masterplan for the CWR site but the “what, when, who and how” Jigsaw will deliver the CWR site.</p> <p>Report CAB3484 highlights how the content of the initial DDP has been updated in accordance with the requirements set out in the DA.</p> <p>In addition to the DDP, the report seeks a Cabinet commitment to the future</p>	

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			allocation of Community Infrastructure Levy funding to enable Central Winchester Regeneration infrastructure works.	
A9	Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Funding Allocations for 2024 BIDS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That an increase of £60,619 to the existing £700,000 budget for CIL funded Community Projects be approved, with the total budget to re-profiled to 2025/26. 2. That a funding allocation of £760,619 from Winchester City Council CIL income receipts and the expenditure under Financial Procedure rule 7.4 for the following community-led projects be approved: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Badger Farm Community Centre - 	<p>Report CAB3498 provides an update on the CIL funding programme including the amount of CIL collected and the current value of the CIL funds available to support infrastructure delivery. It covers the council's, transport and active travel and community funds.</p> <p>It also seeks approval to allocate CIL to the next round of community and council-led projects.</p> <p>Bids for community projects were received between 1st September and 30th November 2024 as well as</p>	<p>Various options were considered for the allocation of grant funds to applicants. All applications were assessed against the approved scheme criteria and the recommendations represent the best balance of maximising support for projects while retaining a sufficient level of resilience in case of a reduction in CIL collected in future years.</p>

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		<p>£21,230</p> <p>b) Colden Common Parish Council - £80,000</p> <p>c) Curdrige Parish Council - £48,000</p> <p>d) Kings Worthy Parish Council - £17,835</p> <p>e) Wickham Community Centre - £31,589</p> <p>f) Allegra's Ambition - £55,000</p> <p>g) Unit 12 - £28,465</p> <p>h) Hampshire County Council - £146,000</p> <p>i) Weeke Primary School - £32,500</p> <p>j) Kings School - £300,000</p> <p>3. That it be noted that three applications were refused.</p> <p>4. That it be noted that £300,000 was previously allocated to the Winchester Upper High</p>	<p>bids for schemes directly delivered by the council and county council which can be received throughout the year. The Informal Panel has considered these funding requests, in accordance with the agreed spending protocol and have endorsed the recommendations in this report as to which schemes should be allocated funding and included in the programme of CIL supported projects for this year.</p> <p>Subject to this funding being approved by Cabinet, the projects detailed in the report will become part of the rolling programme of schemes, wholly or partly funded by CIL, in line with the protocol agreed in September 2018, (CAB3071 refers) and reviewed and updated in July</p>	

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		<p>Street contra-flow cycle route scheme, which is no longer going ahead, so can be released back to the fund for future allocation.</p> <p>5. That a funding allocation and capital budget and expenditure of £150,000 be approved in 2025/26 from the Winchester City Council CIL receipts ring-fenced to support transport and active travel projects, for the provision of a zebra crossing on Winchester Road in Waltham Chase and additional pedestrian measures for other locations in Waltham Chase.</p> <p>6. That authority be delegated to the</p>	<p>2023 (CAB3385 refers).</p>	

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		<p>Corporate Head of Economy and Community to approve grant payments (in instalments where appropriate) based on evidence of spend provided by the applicant.</p> <p>7. That authority be delegated to the Service Lead Legal to enter into the grant funding agreements in accordance with the council’s funding criteria.</p> <p>8. That authority be delegated to the Corporate Head of Economy and Community, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Place and Local Plan, to make procedural improvements to the</p>		

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		approved CIL funding process.		
A10	Air Quality Strategy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the adoption of the proposed Air Quality Strategy 2025 – 2030 be approved as set out in Appendix 1 of report CAB3461. 2. That the Corporate Head of Service – Regulatory, be given delegated powers to make minor amendments to the Air Quality Strategy 2025 – 2030 as necessary. 	<p>In November of 2003, the Council declared an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) which covers Winchester City Centre. This AQMA, has been subject to a series of 5 yearly Air Quality Action Plans (AQAP), the latest of which was adopted in 2017 (CAB2906) which set out a series of 9 actions intended to improve air quality within the AQMA.</p> <p>Over recent years there has been a steady improvement in air quality within the City, with the ‘Annual Status Reports’ required by Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), reporting compliance with national</p>	<p>The Air Quality Strategy was developed in response to the Government’s policy guidance and the relevant legislation described above that Local Authorities are required to:</p> <p><i>‘have regard to the Air Quality Strategy for England when exercising any function of a public nature that could affect the quality of air’.</i></p> <p>There is a corresponding expectation by central government for Local Authorities <i>‘to develop their own AQS’, to set out how they will improve air quality.</i></p> <p>For the Council to demonstrate compliance with this duty, it has considered</p>

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			<p>levels for both particulates and Nitrogen Dioxides, since 2015 and 2020 respectively. Although the 5 year term for the current AQAP elapsed in 2022, due to current levels of compliance, DEFRA have allowed Winchester an additional period of assessment in expectation that Winchester will be in a position to revoke its AQMA in the Spring of 2025 and importantly that it will commence the adoption of a new 'Air Quality Strategy' (AQS) to press for further improvements in air quality for the district, in line with the government's national Air Quality Strategy for England.</p> <p>Report CAB3461 sets out the background to Winchester City Council's new Air Quality Strategy and asks for</p>	<p>and rejected the option of not adopting a new Air Quality Strategy.</p> <p>The air quality standards proposed in the AQS were subject to several steering group meetings, which generated considerable cross party discussion on what WHO level to pitch within the strategy. Further the development of the strategy was subject to multiple interventions by officers and members with the final presentation to the group made on 14th November 2024, with comments and feedback appropriately taken into account.</p> <p>On December 16th, 2024, the government issued its English Devolution White</p>

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			<p>Cabinet approval for its adoption and delivery over the next 5 years.</p>	<p>Paper, setting out its aspirations to devolve power to the regions through setting up Mayoral Strategic Authorities followed by Local Government reform with the abolition of 2 tiered County and District Authorities in favour of Unitary Authorities.</p> <p>Since then the County Council and the 3 Unitary Authorities of Southampton, Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight, have registered their interest to join the governments Priority Programme for Devolution, which if successful, will see the first Mayor voted in, in May of 2026. After this process has been completed there will be the adoption of the Unitary Authorities expected in 2027 or 2028. This process will take place</p>

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				<p>during the delivery term of this proposed Air Quality Strategy and could have some impact upon the delivery of some of the actions contained within it.</p> <p>However much of the Strategy seeks to deliver on aspirations which would be shared by any new Unitary Authority, indeed one of the national Air Quality Strategy objectives is to encourage regional working for the betterment of air quality across a wider area.</p> <p>In having a pre-existing AQS, this will ensure that the Council has sufficient time to deliver on several of the aspirational expectations set out in the strategy and the experiential benefits of delivering on these actions</p>

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				<p>can then be shared across the new unitary authority area.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Strategy itself is an iterative document and will be subject to an annual review during its 5 year term, so there will be opportunity to update actions and or refocus the strategy.</p>
A11	Q3 Finance & Performance Monitoring	That the progress achieved during Q3 of 2024/25 be noted and the contents of report CAB3493 be endorsed.	The Council Plan sets out the priorities of the council and this report provides a summary of the progress achieved during the period 1 October 2024 to 31 December 2024. Included within report CAB3493 are the delivery highlights from the period and a progress update against significant business plan actions that support delivery of the Council Plan priorities. Data	None.

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			<p>for the period is given against the strategic key performance indicators and a summary of the progress achieved against the tier 1 projects along with details of actions for the forthcoming quarter. An update is also provided on the council's financial position for both revenue and capital for the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account.</p>	
A12	Risk Management Policy 2025/26	That the Risk Management Policy for 2025/26, the Risk Appetite Statement for 2025/26 and the current Corporate Risk Register be approved.	<p>Report CAB3500 presents the annual review of the council's Risk Management Policy and Risk Appetite 2025/26.</p> <p>These define the council's arrangements for identifying and managing risks and its integration with corporate governance and performance management.</p>	None.

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			<p>There have been updates and amends to the key strategic risks that appear on the Corporate Risk Register over the course of 2024/25, resulting from the quarterly reviews by ELB and Audit and Governance Committee.</p> <p>The report seeks consideration and approval of the reviewed Risk Management Policy and Risk Appetite Statement for 2025/26.</p>	
A13	Venta Living Ltd business plan (less exempt appendices)	That as recommended by Cabinet Committee: Housing, the updated financial business plan set out at exempt Appendices A and B of report CAB3482(H) be approved.	Providing Homes for all is a key priority within the Council Plan, which includes supporting households who struggle to access affordable longer-term market housing. To support this priority the council has established a wholly owned local housing company, Venta Living Ltd.	No other options were considered.

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			<p>Report CAB3482(H) brings forward a financial business plan for consideration required under the shareholder agreement with Venta Living Ltd, with an illustrative business model based on leasing 41 flats in Winnall.</p> <p>Although there is no proposal to expand the remit of the company in 2025/26, the business case allows for future opportunities to be considered on a case-by-case basis and fulfils the council's policy objectives to provide homes for all.</p> <p>Approval of the updated financial business plan will allow Venta Living Ltd to continue trading in 2025/26 based on the recommended business plan.</p>	

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