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**Our reference:** LRJ  
**Your reference:**  
**Date:** 26 August 2011

To all Members of the Council

Dear Councillor

A meeting of the CABINET will be held on Tuesday 6 September 2011 at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Pavilion Road, West Bridgford to consider the following items of business.

Yours sincerely

Head of Corporate Services

## ***AGENDA***

1. Apologies for absence
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 9 August 2011 (previously circulated)
4. Governance Arrangements and Concordat for Regeneration Project in Cotgrave

The report of the Chief Executive is attached (pages 1 - 7).

5. Proposed Air Quality Management Area – Detailed Assessment for Nitrogen Dioxide

The report of the Chief Executive is attached (pages 8 - 11).

6. Potential for Installation of Photovoltaic Panels on Council Owned Buildings

The report of the Head of Community Shaping is attached (pages 12 - 17).

7. Refresh of the Leisure Facilities Strategy 2011

The report of the Head of Partnerships and Performance is attached (pages 18 - 23).

## Membership

Chairman: Councillor J N Clarke

Vice-Chairman: Councillor J A Cranswick

Councillors D G Bell, J E Fearon, D J Mason, Mrs J A Smith

<b>Meeting Room Guidance</b>
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**MINUTES  
OF THE MEETING OF THE  
CABINET  
TUESDAY 12 JULY 2011**

Held At 7.00pm in The Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Pavilion Road, West Bridgford

**PRESENT:**

Councillors J N Clarke (Chairman), D G Bell, J A Cranswick, J E Fearon, D J Mason, Mrs J A Smith

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Councillors Councillor S J Boote, G Davidson and A MacInnes.

**OFFICERS PRESENT:**

A Graham	Chief Executive (AG)
C Bullett	Deputy Chief Executive (CB)
S Griffiths	Deputy Chief Executive (SG)
P Randle	Deputy Chief Executive (PR)
S Goodrich	Head of Revenues and ICT Services
D Swaine	Head of Corporate Services

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

There were no apologies.

**11. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**12. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 21 June were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**13. Financial Out-turn 2010/11**

Councillor Cranswick presented the report of the Head of Financial Services setting out the revenue out-turn. He explained that the out-turn was subject to audit and appendix one of the report indicated that the Council had achieved its activities within the allocated resources with an overall saving on services. These savings amounted to £884,000, which reduced to £653,000 when a windfall refund of VAT was taken into account.

Commenting further Councillor Cranswick stated that the savings had been brought about by the hard work of officers and these had been highlighted through both the budget monitoring and budget setting processes. The largest of these savings related to £135,000 of energy costs and the rebasing of charges for the management of the leisure centres. Other savings included a number of grants received in 2010/11 that were proposed to be carried forward to be spent in the current year. The report indicated that officers had been aware of the savings targets included in the Financial Strategy going forward

and therefore had deliberately reduced expenditure to ensure that ongoing savings were achieved.

Councillor Cranswick stated that with regard to revenue carry forwards these were set out at appendix two of the report and paragraph seven detailed the proposal to transfer £429,278 to reserves. He added that paragraph seven also set out the significant items making up the proposed transfer to reserves with £100,000 being earmarked for capital reserve. This sum related to the amount collected with the West Bridgford Special Expense in 2010/11 for capital purposes, primarily play areas and it was intended to use this to finance such schemes within the capital programme.

In respect of capital expenditure this was set out at paragraph eleven of the report with gross capital expenditure being £4.034m against a revised programme of £5.292m, excluding contingency. This equated to 76% of the revised gross capital budget. The table at paragraph eleven set out the category of capital schemes detailing the budget, actual spend, variance and the amount to be carried forward.

Councillor Mrs Smith welcomed the report and commented that it was favourable to see an interest rate of 1.4% being obtained compared to a budgeted rate of 1%. Whilst she recognised that interest rates remained very low it was positive to see that the £86,000 received in interest rates, above what had been anticipated, together with the overall savings on services, ensured no transfer was required from the equalisation reserve.

In conclusion Councillor Cranswick stated that he believed the report evidenced the effectiveness of the Council's robust financial management arrangements and also clearly demonstrated the excellent work undertaken by Council officers to ensure resources were used properly.

RESOLVED that:-

- a. the outturn be noted;
- b. a proposed carry forward of £50,260 to 2011/12 in respect of revenue items listed in Appendix 2 be supported and referred to Council for approval;
- c. a transfer of £429,278 is made to earmarked reserves;
- d. the net capital carry forward of £1,175,930 is approved.

**14. ICT SHARED SERVICES ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN RUSHCLIFFE, BROXTOWE AND NEWARK AND SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCILS**

Councillor Cranswick presented the report of the Head of Revenues and ICT Services setting out proposals for the Council to enter into an arrangement with Broxtowe Borough Council and Newark and Sherwood District Council to create a shared Chief Information Officer (CIO) post.

The report stated that the Council's Information Systems Strategy 2009-12, which had been approved by Cabinet in September 2009, recommended that the Council introduced more corporate guidance in the use of ICT to ensure a consistent approach to its application and usage. In order to achieve this objective a Corporate ICT Project Commissioning Group, chaired by a Deputy

Chief Executive had been established. Additionally the Head of ICT and Corporate Services at Broxtowe Borough Council had been working with the Council's Head of Revenues and ICT Services in the role of Chief Information Officer (CIO) to provide guidance and advice on strategic ICT issues.

Subsequently Newark and Sherwood District Council had indicated that they were keen to collaborate with Rushcliffe and Broxtowe Borough Councils in the same way. This was in view of the advantages arising from improved ICT service levels, expertise and the potential benefits from joint procurement and rationalisation of infrastructure. As such the report set out detailed proposals for implementing a shared CIO post between Broxtowe, Rushcliffe and Newark and Sherwood District Councils.

The Chief Executive explained that the implementation of the shared CIO post was fundamental to moving both the ICT service and function forward. He recognised that such an approach needed to be carefully co-ordinated to ensure the arrangements were effective and maximised the benefits for each Council involved.

By referring to the report the Chief Executive indicated that the Nottinghamshire Transformational Government Group, of which the Borough Council was an active member and which was chaired by the proposed shared CIO postholder, had produced a report. This report highlighted 12 strands of activity through which collaboration on ICT issues between all authorities in Nottinghamshire, could bring about significant benefits. The first step towards achieving further progress in implementing these activities was to create a shared CIO post between Broxtowe, Rushcliffe and Newark and Sherwood District Councils. Although the cost of this shared post equated to £20,000 the expertise and strategic guidance it would provide would cost sufficiently more if it were procured externally.

The Chief Executive added that it was also anticipated that by merging the help desk facilities immediate revenue savings would be available to the Council. As such the proposal ensured the best use of resources and further strengthened resilience across the Councils and the capacity to maximise future efficiencies through joint working, sharing best practice and procurement.

In conclusion Councillor Cranswick stated that the proposed shared CIO post would provide a record of efficiency savings achieved as a result of their activities for each authority. This would ensure that the financial and service benefits which were gained from the shared arrangements outweighed the costs involved. He added that the proposal presented an opportunity to develop an aligned strategy across the three Councils, identifying a clear way to achieve efficiencies and improve resilience, where it made economic sense to do so.

RESOLVED that Cabinet agrees to enter into an arrangement with Broxtowe Borough Council and Newark and Sherwood District Council to create a shared Chief Information Officer post, with Rushcliffe and Newark and Sherwood each contributing £20,000 per annum towards the cost of the post.

## 15. TACKLING CHILD POVERTY IN RUSHCLIFFE

Councillor Mrs Smith presented the report of the Head of Community Shaping which indicated that the Child Poverty Act 2010, which had received Royal Assent on 25 March 2010, introduced new statutory duties on local authorities and their named local partners. These duties were:

- Co-operate to put in place arrangements to work with partners to reduce, and mitigate the effects of child poverty.
- Prepare and publish a local child poverty needs assessment to understand the drivers of child poverty in their local area and the characteristics of those living in poverty.
- Prepare a joint child poverty strategy setting out measures that the local authority and each named partner propose to take to reduce, and mitigate the effects of, child poverty in their local area.
- Local Authorities to take their duty to reduce child poverty into account when preparing and revising their Sustainable Community Strategies.

A strategic partnership had been established by Nottinghamshire County Council to lead on these new duties across Nottinghamshire. The partnership, entitled the 'Nottinghamshire Child Poverty Reference Group' had completed a comprehensive needs assessment and was now preparing Nottinghamshire's Child Poverty Strategy. This required involvement from the Borough Council in shaping a local strategy for Rushcliffe that brought together its priorities and addressed recommendations highlighted in the needs assessment. As such the partnership was asking all Local Authorities and all named partners to provide at least one measurable pledge which will form the actions in the Nottinghamshire Child Poverty Strategy.

At paragraph seven the report set out the Nottinghamshire child poverty pledge as follows:

*We will work together to reduce levels of child poverty and to mitigate the effects of child poverty on children, young people and families, as well as on future generations. We will ensure that there are less than 10% of children in Nottinghamshire who live in households with less than 60% of median income (in 2010/11 that equates to less than £361 per week before housing costs for a couple with two children)"*

Referring to the Nottinghamshire pledge Councillor Mrs Smith stated that as a whole Rushcliffe had an overall child poverty figure of 7.9% so it made sense to focus activities on the wards that were above the 10% target, which were Bingham West, Cotgrave, Edwalton Village, Keyworth South and Trent. She added that there were many factors associated with child poverty including poor educational attainment, childhood obesity, mental health and drug and alcohol dependency issues and teenage pregnancies. Therefore it was paramount to target interventions in the areas of greatest need in order to help address child poverty and the many subsequent and associated factors which negatively impacted on a child's physical and mental wellbeing. It was also important to ensure that parents were equipped to make the right choices for children so that measures to address child poverty had a positive impact on the child and their environment.

Councillor Mason welcomed the pledge and the Borough Council's continued commitment to tackling child poverty. She stated that the actions within the Council's pledge were indicative of its long-standing commitment to the matter and targeting specific areas would address areas of greatest need. She added that it was important that mechanisms were in place to ensure delivery of the pledge across the region was monitored and evaluated and its effect measured.

In response to Councillor Mason's comments the Chief Executive stated that it was important for Cabinet to consider how collective delivery of the pledge across Nottinghamshire would be monitored and managed. On this basis it would be prudent to seek assurance from the County Council of the mechanisms in place to ensure the pledge was delivered and its effects measured and also how this was linked to the Joint Needs Assessment process. It was suggested by the Chief Executive that a letter be sent by the Cabinet portfolio holder to highlight that this assessment, and subsequent monitoring, should be undertaken through the work of the health and well-being board.

In conclusion Councillor Mrs Smith stated that appendix three of the report set out the Borough Council's proposed pledges to be submitted to the Nottinghamshire Child Poverty Reference Group. Furthermore the recommendation within the report stated that performance against these pledges should be monitored by the Performance Management Board annually.

RESOLVED that Cabinet approves the proposed pledges which will be submitted to the Nottinghamshire Child Poverty Reference Group and agrees that these will be monitored by the Performance Management Board on an annual basis.

**16. Local Government Act 1972**

RESOLVED that the public be excluded from the meeting for consideration of the following items of business pursuant to section 100A (4) of the above Act on the grounds that it is likely that exempt information may be disclosed as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

**17. LAND AT SHARPHILL, EDWALTON – APPOINTMENT OF VALUATION SURVEYOR**

Councillor Cranswick presented the report of the Head of Revenues and ICT Services setting out a proposal to appoint a specialist valuation surveyor to represent the Council when the overage agreement in relation to the land at Sharphill, Edwalton was triggered. The purpose of appointing a specialist valuer was to independently and transparently ensure that the benefits of the Council's financial interests in this land were protected.

RESOLVED that Bruton Knowles be appointed as the Council's independent valuer in relation to the overage agreement for the land at Sharphill, Edwalton; and the terms of the instruction, be determined as set out in the report.



**CABINET**

**6 SEPTEMBER 2011**

**GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS AND  
CONCORDAT FOR REGENERATION PROJECT IN  
COTGRAVE**

**4**

## **REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

### **CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDER – COUNCILLOR J E FEARON**

#### **Summary**

Reports at the February and June Cabinet meetings updated on progress of the Cotgrave Regeneration project. This report provides a further update regarding the proposed governance arrangements to support the regeneration of the town centre area, whilst ensuring that all partners are engaged in the decision making arrangements.

Key to the project will be the successful collaboration of all the major public sector partners. Rushcliffe Borough Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, Nottinghamshire Police, Principia and the GP practice who all have clear property and service interest in the town centre area.

It is essential therefore that all partners are committed and fully engaged in influencing the key strategic direction of the project whilst being able to remain independent in making operational decisions designed to minimise costs whilst maximising outcomes for the community of Cotgrave.

Previous reports have identified the need for governance arrangements which engage the political decision makers of the three Local Government tiers in the Cotgrave area and the remainder of this report attempts to reflect this following a meeting of the Leaders of Nottinghamshire County Council, Cotgrave Town Council and Rushcliffe Borough Council on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2011.

#### **Recommendation**

It is RECOMMENDED that:

- (a) The proposed governance arrangements are endorsed;
- (b) Cabinet makes an appointment to sit on the Member Board;
- (c) Cabinet endorses the principle of the Concordat agreement and delegated Authority to the appointed Cabinet Member to make representations for amendments or revisions through the Member Board as necessary.

#### **Governance Arrangements**

1. The focus of the regeneration project to date has been to ensure that the proposed development of the colliery site has been linked to the opportunity to regenerate the Town Centre.



2. This has required significant engagement to promote a co-ordinated approach of a number of statutory agencies including the East Midlands Development Agency and Homes and Communities Agency. The approach has also been consistently focused upon a “community budget” approach to ensure that the project maximises the opportunity to reduce the duplication of costs whilst maximising the future opportunity to modernise and bring together cost effective services required for the community.
3. This has been achieved by the formation of an officer steering group chaired by the Chief Executive of Rushcliffe Borough Council. The Chief Executive has sought to ensure all key stakeholders have been kept informed and involved through personal briefings, presentations and reports either individually or by reference to appropriate groups, e.g. Cabinet, Local Strategic Partnership, etc.
4. It would now be timely and appropriate to ensure that the officer group is linked to and engaged with the key political decision makers responsible for the Cotgrave area. It is therefore proposed that the Chairman of the steering group will report directly to a Member Panel comprising an elected member from each of: Nottinghamshire County Council, Rushcliffe Borough Council and Cotgrave Town Council.
5. **Appendix A** provides a diagrammatic illustration of the proposed Governance arrangements for the project as it enters its next phase. It should be noted that the regeneration project will be long term (5–10 years) and therefore this proposed arrangement has been designed to foster close collaborative working whilst providing confidence that key decisions will still be taken with reference to the respective organisations’ decision making bodies. It is hoped however that as collective learning and confidence grows that future responsibility for collective decisions will be taken directly by the Member Board.
6. The proposed governance arrangements have been designed to ensure that progress is maintained. However, it is key that support, direction and engagement with the community of Cotgrave is led by the Member Board. This engagement and leadership is vital to facilitate the scope and detail of the regeneration programme which will be implemented and monitored through the Steering Group. The Steering Group’s role will also include reporting progress whilst identifying key decisions which need to be considered by the Member Board.

## **Terms of Reference**

7. The terms of reference for the Member Board will be agreed by the board and will complement the terms of reference already developed for the officer steering group, the main aim of which is detailed below:

MAIN AIM:

To provide strategic leadership to the development and delivery of the Cotgrave Regeneration project which encompasses four inextricably linked phases:

- The mixed use redevelopment of the Colliery site
- The redevelopment of Cotgrave Town Centre
- The balancing of existing social housing stock
- The partnership delivery of actions to address underlying socio economic issues

To oversee the work of the project delivery group and other sub groups set up as required during the course of the Cotgrave Regeneration project.

### **Timespan**

8. It is envisaged that the board will continue to operate for as long as is necessary. However, given the phasing for on the ground development which has been identified it is likely that this board will operate for at least 10 years. Membership of the group will be subject to annual review.

### **Concordat**

9. It has already been identified and accepted that the major stakeholders have a long term interest in maintaining and improving the facilities which support the future wellbeing of Cotgrave. The focus has been essentially identified as needing to improve three key areas. 1. Public Sector and Community Asset utilisation, 2. Improved integrated service provision and intervention and 3. Redesigned and improved trading facilities. To achieve these aims it will require all agencies to commit to a common purpose and vision.
10. It is known that there are some key outcomes that will be required if the regeneration of Cotgrave is to be successful including ensuring that the key front line services incorporating the Library, Health Centre and Police presence is maintained but in a way which minimises the cost to the public purse but maximises engagement and outcomes of the community. It is suggested that to ensure this vision and commitment is communicated and recorded effectively, that a draft concordat is submitted to the Member Board when formed for comment, amendment and approval. A draft example of this concordat is attached in **Appendix B**.

### **Financial Comments**

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

It is intended that the project will be facilitated and funded through external resources and the public land holding within the area. To this end the Council has secured:

- £650,000 growth point funding to be spent by January 2012;
- Up to £2m from the Homes and Community Agency; and
- £930,000 of section 106 monies from the Colliery site development allocated to improved public sector services within the shopping centre area.

In addition, approval was given to utilise the Council's capital budget for support to registered housing providers for housing acquisitions in the town centre area.

Rushcliffe Borough Council, Nottinghamshire County Council and the Police authority have land holdings within the regeneration area that will form part of the project.

Contributions of the Council's resources to the scheme are therefore limited to use of the existing budget for housing purposes and its land holding within the area. However, Cabinet also authorised (June 2011) the Chief Executive to "investigate the potential opportunity for utilisation of the Council's own capital funds within the project" to secure best value for money and maximise any potential return on investment. Any such proposal would need to be submitted to full Council for approval.

### **Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act**

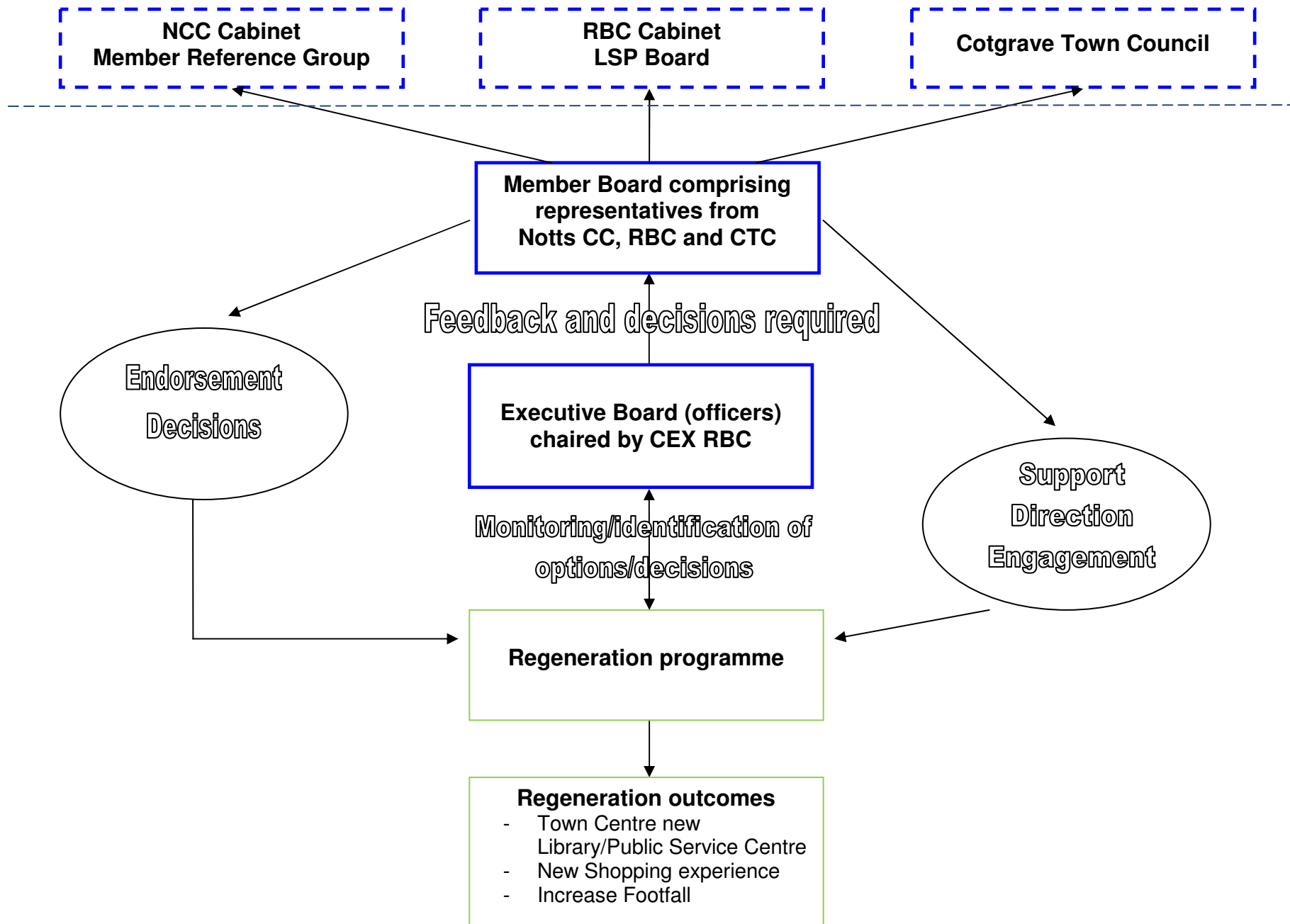
The Council has been working with partners on an area based initiative in Cotgrave over the past 18 months which has seen significant reductions in crime and anti social behaviour. This work will be linked in to the regeneration project.

### **Diversity**

There are no diversity implications at this point.

**Background Papers Available for Inspection: Cotgrave Master Plan – Report to Cabinet February 2011**

**FUTURE GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS**



### Concordat Agreement

**Nottinghamshire County Council, Rushcliffe Borough Council,  
Nottinghamshire Police, Belvoir Health Group/Principia,  
Cotgrave Town Council**

#### **Regeneration Project, Cotgrave Candleby Lane Shopping Centre**

##### **Our vision:**

The purpose of the concordat is focused upon the vision for all parties to facilitate the environment to create a vibrant centre in Cotgrave, linked to the regeneration of the colliery site.

The successful achievement of this vision will be measured through the physical creation of a revised and integrated service provision to efficiently and effectively provide a presence for Nottinghamshire County Council, Nottinghamshire Police, Principia, Cotgrave Town Council and Rushcliffe Borough Council. The design and positioning of the required infrastructure and buildings will be undertaken in consultation with the public and working with a private sector developer partner (to be appointed Spring 2012). More importantly the success will be measured by reduced revenue expenditure, improved customer satisfaction with the range and ease of access to the partner services.

##### **Aims and objectives:**

- Facilitate the Cotgrave regeneration (master plan) project in Cotgrave town centre
- Provide better facilities for the residents of Cotgrave with increased resilience and capacity for future population growth particularly with respect to library and health services
- Deliver higher performance
- Make best use of resources
- Create exemplar public service facilities to act as a beacon for Nottinghamshire, and nationally.

##### **Principles of the Concordat:**

The concordat has been founded upon the following principles designed to foster enhanced confidence in each other's commitment to meet the stated objectives:

- Independent organisations but equal partners within the concordat
- A willingness to compromise for the common good
- Openness within the organisations to generate trust and a better working understanding
- Common communications with consistent clear key messages
- Recognition that each party to the concordat has different levels of capital investment (land) it is able to contribute to the project
- Recognition that each party has different outputs it needs to achieve and that the operating model for future integrated services will need careful consideration

- All parties will seek to compromise on a financially sustainable operating model for the exemplar public service facilities within the parameters of their own organisation's principles, objectives and constraints.

### **Concordat Agreement**

We the undersigned acknowledge the vision, ambition and strategy of this concordat agreement and are committed to progressing this arrangement to a suitable point for each party to make a formal decision regarding its formalisation.

Organisation	Elected Representative	Officer
Nottinghamshire County Council	Councillor K Cutts Leader  _____	Mick Burrows Chief Executive  _____
Rushcliffe Borough Council	Councillor N Clarke Leader  _____	Allen Graham Chief Executive  _____
Nottinghamshire Police	Councillor Jon Collins Chair Nottinghamshire Police Authority  _____	Julia Hodson Chief Constable  _____
Principia	Chair  _____	Head of Belvoir Group Practice  _____
Cotgrave Town Council	Councillor Ian Shaw Chairman  _____	Julie Stephenson  _____

## Standard Checklist for Reports

Meeting: Cabinet - 6 September 2011

Report Title: Governance Arrangements and Concordat for Regeneration Project in Cotgrave

Author: KM

The following issues are relevant to this report and have been properly considered in its preparation and in the recommendations made. Appropriate consultation has been made and advice sought on these issues as required. (See notes on the intranet)

Financial	<input type="checkbox"/>	Human Rights	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Equal Opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Crime and Disorder	<input type="checkbox"/>
Risk Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	Environment/EMAS	<input type="checkbox"/>

(Mark all appropriate boxes)

Has the relevant Deputy Chief Executive signed off the report Yes/No

Has this report been considered by SMT Yes/No

Comments:

If you do not think your report needs to consider any of the above categories please state why.

Name of Officer Completing Form:

*This form must be completed and sent to the relevant Member Support Officer together with the Report by the agreed deadline. It will also be appropriate to complete this form when producing reports for certain officer meetings, e.g. Management Team*

**Notes for completion of this form can be found on the intranet**







**CABINET**

**6 SEPTEMBER 2011**

**PROPOSED AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA -  
DETAILED ASSESSMENT FOR NITROGEN  
DIOXIDE**

**5**

## **REPORT OF THE HEAD OF ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE MANAGEMENT**

### **CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDER – COUNCILLOR J E FEARON**

#### **Summary**

Under the provisions of the Environment Act 1995, all Local Authorities are under a duty to review air quality within their area, in line with national guidelines. The Air Quality Progress report produced by the Council in April 2010, highlighted a need for more detailed assessment work to be undertaken on nitrogen dioxide at the Stragglethorpe junction on the A52. The result of the detailed assessment report identified exceedences of the National Air Quality Objectives for nitrogen dioxide within the Borough. These findings have been reported to the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and following their approval the Council is now under a statutory duty to declare Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) before 1<sup>st</sup> November 2010. The main issue is to consider the proposed boundaries of the AQMA and to consider the outcome of formal consultation.

#### **Recommendation**

It is RECOMMENDED that

- a) The outcome of the Detailed Assessment report for nitrogen dioxide be noted;
- b) The outcome of the consultation for the proposed Air Quality Management Areas for nitrogen dioxide be noted;
- c) The proposed draft Air Quality Management Area boundaries for nitrogen dioxide, detailed within **Appendix 1**, be approved and an Order be made under the provisions of Section 83(1) of the Environment Act 1995 formally designating the area as an Air Quality Management Area.

#### **Background**

1. Road Transport is the major source of air pollution in the UK. Up to 35,000 people die prematurely in the UK each year as a result of exposure to air pollution. Under the provisions of the Environment Act 1995, all Local Authorities are required to undertake a review and assessment of air quality within their area. The National Air Quality Strategy details the Governments proposals for tackling air quality on a national basis. The Air Quality Regulations 2000, as amended, lay down air quality objectives, including a timetable for achieving these, for 7 key pollutants. (benzene, 1,3 butadiene, carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter and sulphur dioxide)

2. As part of this process the Council undertook an Updating and Screening Assessment exercise in 2009 and an Air Quality Progress report in 2010, which reviewed air quality for the whole Borough. These reports concluded that a detailed assessment was required for nitrogen dioxide at the Stragglethorpe junction on the A52. Technical guidance produced by DEFRA on how to undertake these detailed assessments has been followed.

### **Nitrogen dioxide**

3. The detailed assessment for nitrogen dioxide concentrated on road traffic emissions from the Stragglethorpe junction on the A52.
4. There are two objectives for nitrogen dioxide, a 1 hour mean and an annual mean, both to be achieved by 31 December 2005. The detailed assessment involved both the modelling and monitoring of emissions within the vicinity of the area. The modelling was under taken by consultants from the Air Quality Management Resource Centre at the University of West of England – this was fully resourced by successfully attaining an Air Quality Monitoring Grant. The additional monitoring was carried out by officers of the Council.
5. The outcome of the assessment was that the 1 hour objective will not be exceeded, however it is predicted that the annual mean objective is likely to be exceeded at the residential properties close to the road. The detail of the predicted exceedence areas are outlined within **Appendix 2** of this report, and are basically within a maximum of 20m from the kerbside. The affected properties are highlighted within **Appendix 1** of this report.

### **Proposed Air Quality Management Areas**

6. Upon completion of the detailed assessment for nitrogen dioxide, the results had to be reported to DEFRA. Following their approval of the report findings in July 2011, the Council must now declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) before 1st November 2011. This will require the preparation of designation orders and following declaration, the Council must also develop associated action plans which will identify steps to improve air quality within the AQMA. However the first stage in the declaration process is for the Council to define the relevant AQMA boundary.
7. **Appendix 1** outlines the proposed AQMA for nitrogen dioxide.
8. The AQMA is designed to include potential nitrogen dioxide impacts within the area and this will all be road traffic related. This is why the proposed boundary covers the road and the affected properties. However, there are difficulties with precisely defining the area due to the accuracy of modelling and measurements from the monitoring points. To overcome these difficulties it is open to the Council to extend the area further to ensure adequate action plans can be formulated covering a wider area. It is however recommended that only the area as proposed in Appendix 1 is adopted.

## **Consultation**

9. The Council must consult and advertise the proposed AQMA before it is approved. We have written to the residents at the properties on the Stragglethorpe junction and asked for their comments and opinions regarding the air quality issues. Details of the Proposal along with the detailed assessment, the Updating and Screening Assessment 2009 and the Progress Report 2010 have been posted on Rushcliffe Borough Councils website. The consultation requirements are set out at Schedule 11 of the Environment Act 1995 and have been followed. The following persons and agencies have been consulted in relation to this proposal.
  - a. The Secretary of State
  - b. The Environment Agency
  - c. The Highways Agency
  - d. Bordering Nottinghamshire Local Authorities – Gedling, Newark and Sherwood, Nottingham City Council and Broxtowe
  - e. Charnwood Borough Council
  - f. The County Council - Local Transport Planners
  - g. Natural England
  - h. Nottinghamshire Air Quality Steering Group
  - i. Bus Companies operating in the area
  - j. Susan Harley – Head of Planning and Place Shaping – RBC
  - k. RBC Members (Gamston Ward) and Relevant Parish Councils.

## **Result of Consultation**

10. Following the consultation we have had only one response from a neighbouring Local Authority. An Officer visited the residents at Holme House and provided information and answers to frequently asked questions with regard to Air Quality Action areas. At that time their response to the proposal was positive and they have not returned any further feedback.

## **Formal Designation of the Air Quality Management Area**

11. Following the completion of the consultation of the proposed Air Quality Management Area, the Council is now under a duty to formally designate this area. Subject to Cabinet approval of the recommendations, the Air Quality Management Order will be drawn up by the Borough Solicitor, affixed with the Council Seal and attested in line with the Council's standing orders. A copy of the Order must then be sent to DEFRA and publicised locally.

## **Next Steps**

12. Following designation of the Air Quality Management Areas, the Council will need to formulate action plans to define the main actions the Council and key partners can take in 'pursuit of the air quality objectives'. This will take place over a period of 12 – 18 months after designation, during which time there will be a need to continue with further monitoring and modelling of air quality within each AQMA.

13. Overall the completion of the detailed assessment, the designation of AQMAs and the development of action plans demonstrates that the Council is taking positive steps, in partnership with other stakeholders, to identify and improve air quality levels within these areas over the medium to long term.

#### **Financial Comments**

Any direct financial implications will be assessed once the AQMA action plan has been drawn up following declaration

#### **Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act**

No direct implications

#### **Diversity**

The declaration of the AQMA and the development of subsequent action plans to improve air quality will have a positive impact on vulnerable groups. There is no known negative impact.

#### **Background Papers Available for Inspection:**

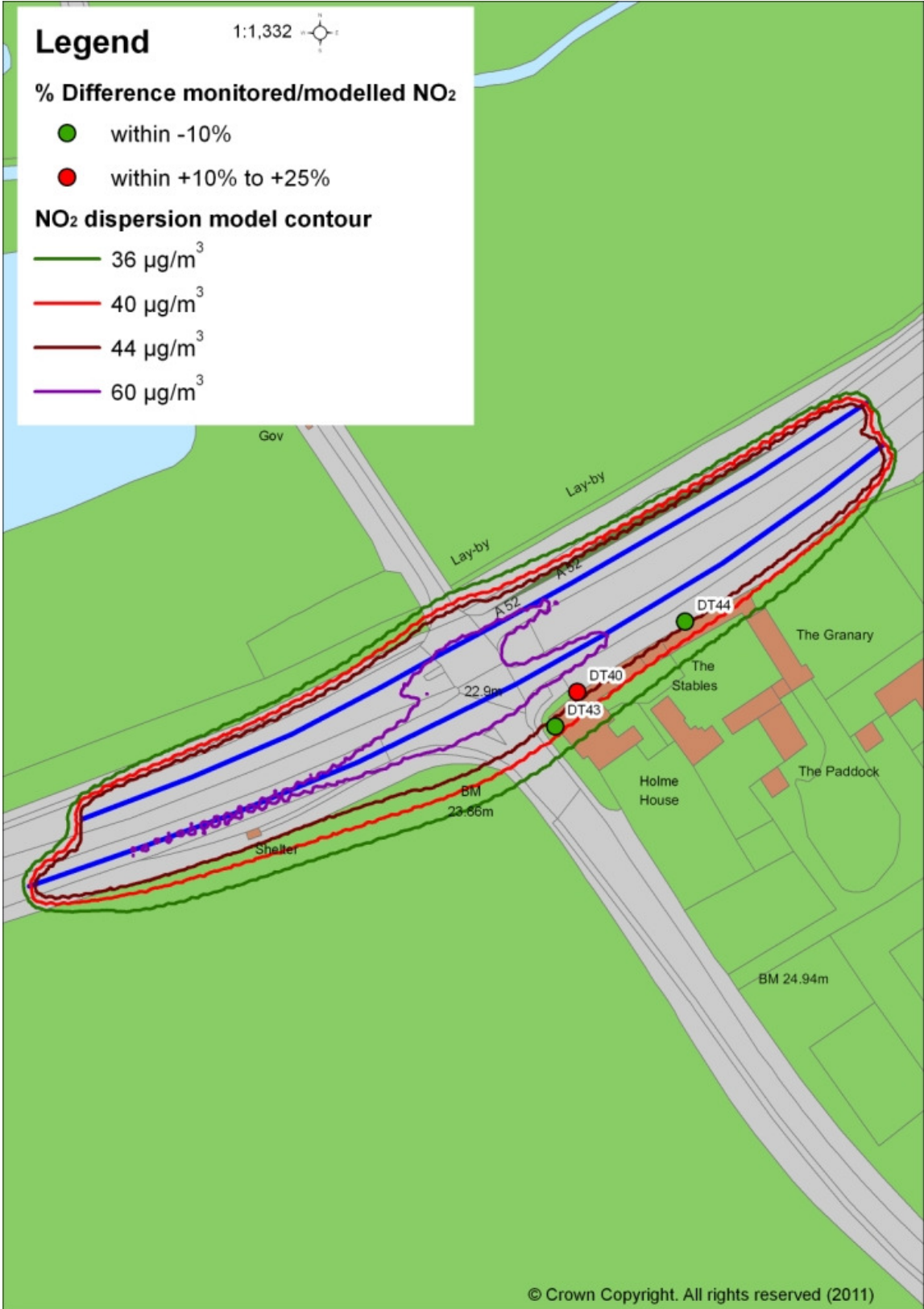
Detailed assessment of nitrogen dioxide – April 2011  
Updating and Screening Assessment 2009  
Progress Report 2010

**Appendix 1:**

**Recommended minimum AQMA boundary (Source Detailed Assessment, RBC, 2011)**



Dispersion Model Contour Maps



Dispersion model contour map of Stragglethorpe, Rushcliffe, showing %difference between monitored and modelled NO<sub>2</sub> at diffusion tube sites

(source Detailed Assessment Modelling Report, UWE, 2011)

## Standard Checklist for Reports

Meeting: Cabinet - 6 September 2011

Report Title: Proposed AQMA - detailed assessment for nitrogen dioxide

Author: Head of Environment and Waste Management

The following issues are relevant to this report and have been properly considered in its preparation and in the recommendations made. Appropriate consultation has been made and advice sought on these issues as required. (See notes on the intranet)

Financial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Human Rights	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Equal Opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Crime and Disorder	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Risk Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	Environment/EMAS	<input type="checkbox"/>

(Mark all appropriate boxes)

Has the relevant Deputy Chief Executive signed off the report Yes

Has this report been considered by SMT No

Comments:

If you do not think your report needs to consider any of the above categories please state why.

Name of Officer Completing Form: Sarah Cairns

*This form must be completed and sent to the relevant Member Support Officer together with the Report by the agreed deadline. It will also be appropriate to complete this form when producing reports for certain officer meetings, e.g. Management Team*

**Notes for completion of this form can be found on the intranet**



**CABINET**

**6 SEPTEMBER 2011**

**POTENTIAL FOR INSTALLATION OF  
PHOTOVOLTAIC PANELS ON COUNCIL OWNED  
BUILDINGS**

**6**

## **REPORT OF THE HEAD OF COMMUNITY SHAPING**

### **CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDERS – COUNCILLOR MRS D J MASON & COUNCILLOR J A CRANSWICK**

#### **Summary**

Rushcliffe Borough Council's Corporate Strategy identifies Sustainability as one of its six key priorities. In September 2010 Council resolved to review options available to the Council to produce renewable energy from our own assets. Following on from this in June 2011 Cabinet approved the Carbon Management Plan which referred to the potential to install photovoltaic panels on Council owned assets. A review of the viability of generating electricity from Council buildings by installing photovoltaic panels has been carried out. This report recommends that these should be installed on specified community facilities and that any decision on relation to Leisure Centres should wait until the review of the Leisure Facilities strategy has been completed. Installation is not recommended for installation at the Civic Centre or the Depot for practical reasons.

#### **Recommendation**

It is RECOMMENDED that Cabinet:

- a. approves the installation, subject to full surveys and a tender process, of photovoltaic panels on the Community Facility assets as specified in this report;
- b. Approves an allocation from contingency of £350,100 to undertake the works in 2011/12;
- c. Receives a further report on the application of photovoltaic panels to Leisure Centres following the outcome of the Leisure Facility strategy review.

#### **Background**

##### **Carbon Management Plan**

1. In March 2010 Cabinet approved the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan. One of the key actions within the plan is the development of a Carbon Management Plan. In June 2011 Cabinet approved the Carbon Management Plan which sets out the Council's intentions to reduce emissions from its own operations, as opposed to the wider issues of emissions more generally in the Borough, which remains part of the Climate Change Strategy.



2. The Carbon Management Plan demonstrates that the three key areas of emissions for the Council are leisure facilities, fleet and buildings and estate. It is proposed that the interim target will be achieved in relation to these three areas through changing people's behaviours and awareness, managing our properties efficiently and considering the environmental impact of our services.
3. The Carbon Management plan sets out the Council's intentions to meet the target of 15% by 2015 and 30% by 2020 and this includes the potential to generate electricity from Council owned assets, such as the Community Facilities, Leisure Centres and other buildings including the Civic Centre and the Depot through the use of photovoltaic panels.

## **Council**

4. In August 2010 the law banning Councils from selling renewable energy was repealed. Local Authorities can now benefit from selling electricity back to the grid. Feed in Tariffs (FITs) came into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010. FITs are payments made by the Government, via electricity supply companies, to other producers of electricity who install equipment to produce electricity from renewable sources. This is to encourage the expansion of such installations. FITs are currently paid over a 25 year period at a rate fixed when the installation begins to produce electricity into the grid. However, to encourage early participation in the scheme, the Government is reducing the fixed rate level of payment each year.
5. On 23 September 2010 Council resolved that 'in light of the decision of the Secretary of State for Energy to remove the ban on Council's selling renewable energy, this Council recognising that there is scope to produce renewable energy from its land and premises, will review as soon as is practicable the available options and the associated costs and income in the short and long term.'

## **Photovoltaic Panels**

6. The installation of Photovoltaic panels is a method of generating electrical power by converting solar radiation into electricity. This is achieved through the use of panels which can be attached to the roof or walls of buildings. The benefits of photovoltaics include:
  - Reduced carbon footprint: solar electricity is green, renewable energy and doesn't release any harmful carbon dioxide or other pollutants.
  - Reduced electricity bills: sunlight is free, so once the initial installation is paid for the electricity costs will be greatly reduced
  - Ability to sell unused electricity back to the grid, which benefits the Council financially and residents through generating green energy.

## Work undertaken

7. Following the Council's resolution, an initial survey of potential sites for photovoltaic technology was undertaken by Rushcliffe Solar, commencing in late 2010. Rushcliffe Solar are a community project whose members have significant technical expertise in the subject. The survey included Council owned buildings assets, excluding the pavilion at Alford road as there is a potential capital scheme to redevelop this facility in the programme. East Leake Leisure Centre is not owned by the Council and is subject to a very complex Public Finance Initiative agreement and so has been excluded. Rushcliffe Solar reported on the feasibility and potential for income and electricity generation at each of the sites shown in the Appendix to this report, which, for convenience, are broken down into three groupings:
- Community Facilities (including Rushcliffe Country Park)
  - Leisure Centres
  - The Civic Centre and Depot

## Findings

8. In summary, the estimated costs, income, payback period and impact on CO2 emissions for each of these groupings is as shown in the table below:

### Summary – Potential for fitting PV Panels on Council owned assets (more detail is contained in **Appendix 1**)

	<b>Total capital cost</b> £	<b>Total return if installed in 2011/12</b> £	<b>Payback if installed in 2011/12</b> years	<b>Annual saving (CO2)</b> tonnes
Community Facilities	346,100	34,900	10	46
Leisure Centres	1,089,500	88,800	10*	165.4
Civic Centre	26,600	2,600	10	3.1
Depot	132,900	11,800	12	15.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,595,100</b>	<b>138,100</b>		<b>230.2</b>

\* With the exception of Rushcliffe Arena where pay back would be over 15 years

9. The installation of photovoltaic panels on all the specified assets would represent a reduction in carbon emissions of 230 tonnes. This amounts to a 4.1% reduction overall against the Council's target of reducing carbon emissions by 15% by 2015 or 30% by 2020.
10. The cost of installing panels on the roofs of all of these buildings is currently estimated to be £1,595,000. Figures provided are on the basis that panels are mounted in racks (as opposed to flush with the roof) as this is advised as the most efficient arrangement. However as there are other options and it would be necessary to determine the precise installation parameters with the contractor, when appointed, to get the best result for each building. This has the potential to alter costs and income to some extent. In the unlikely event of such changes significantly altering the viability of the project a further report may be necessary. Some cost will also need to be incurred in relation to a

survey of each building (to ensure the structure is capable of supporting the panels) and building control fees. The total return per annum (including the Feed in Tariffs payments, the estimated income from sales to the grid and the estimated costs saved) would total £138,100 if the panels were installed in 2011/12. Using these estimated costs it would take the Council between 10 and 11 years to recoup the costs.

## **Analysis and proposals**

11. The return on capital of installing photovoltaic panels is generally greater than the investment return (historically around 5% p.a. and much lower currently) and investment analysis over 25 years indicates that, with the exception of the Arena, a good return is achieved, although this viability is heavily dependent on the receipt of FITS. This is best for Community Facilities. There are the added advantages of achieving an overall revenue saving that is valuable in the current economic climate and also contributing to the Council's target for CO2 reduction. However the long payback period (generally 10 years plus) means that conditions need to stay unchanged for a long time to ensure financial viability. Panels are usually warranted for 20 – 25 years and are expected to last up to 30 years.
12. It is proposed that, subject to structural surveys, photovoltaic panels be installed at West Bridgford Community Hall, West Park Cricket Pavilion, Sir Julien Cahn Pavilion, Gresham Sports Pavilion, Gamston Community Hall, and Rushcliffe Country Park- Education Centre. It is not anticipated that planning permission will be required for the installation of panels, however each case will be considered on a site by site basis. To facilitate the installation of panels an allocation from Capital contingency of £346,000 will be required. The installation of photovoltaic panels on Community Facilities would represent a reduction in carbon emissions of 46 tonnes. This amounts to a 0.8% reduction overall against the Council's target of reducing carbon emissions by 15% by 2015 or 30% by 2020. On Community Facilities the total capital cost would be £346,100, plus fees of £4,000 with an annual return of £34,900.
13. Due to the long payback periods involved and the current uncertainty in relation to the future of Leisure Centres, it is suggested that any immediate decision in relation to the installation of photovoltaic panels at Leisure Centres should be deferred pending the completion of the review of the Leisure Facilities strategy. Once this has been agreed, Members will have more certainty over the viability of the buildings to be used. It should also be noted that currently, some Leisure Centres are owned by the County Council and that energy costs generally are the responsibility of the service provider (Parkwood). However, these matters can be resolved once the strategy has been approved.
14. With regard to the Depot, it is highly unlikely that the garage roof would support the weight of the panels. In addition, the Council has had a long term objective to relocate when an opportunity arises. Installation is therefore not recommended.
15. As reported to Cabinet at the time the Rushcliffe Community Contact Centre was considered, the Civic Centre is relatively nearing the end of its economic life and there will be a need for major financial investment within 5 to 10 years

if the Council does not relocate. Therefore it is proposed not to install panels at the Civic Centre.

## Risks

16. There is a potential risk to the Council that Feed in Tariffs may be removed in the future by the Government. However, the present Government have given assurances to date that there is no intention to do so. There is an additional risk to the Council that should a decision be taken in the future to decommission or dispose of the asset the Council would need to consider how to recoup the capital expenditure. As all work is subject to a full, detailed survey there is also a potential risk that the assets would not be structurally suitable for photovoltaic panels.

Risk	Likelihood	Mitigation
1. Removal by government of FITS	Low	At present, both the current and previous government have expressed their support for the scheme
2. Slippage of the programme results in lower FITS payments	Medium	The loss of income for Community Facilities installations, if delayed into 2012/13, is £2,400 p.a.
3. Decision to decommission or dispose of asset	Medium	Any proposal to decommission or dispose of asset would require consideration to recoup the costs of the panels
4. Full structural survey indicates asset not suitable for panels	Medium	By surveying all assets at the beginning of the process this would ensure early knowledge of potential issues

### Financial Comments

The Capital contingency currently has a balance of £554,300 and therefore can accommodate the allocation of £350,100. The risks are outlined above, however until full site surveys are undertaken the precise implementation costs cannot be known.

### Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act

The Council will seek to ensure that the installation of panels has due regard to the Crime and Disorder Act and does not create additional risks in relation to vandalism and theft.

### Diversity

There are no direct diversity implications for this report.

### Background Papers Available for Inspection:

Rushcliffe Solar report

## Potential for fitting PV Solar Panels on Rushcliffe Borough Council Assets – Summary

## Appendix 1

based on figures calculated by Rushcliffe Solar

Building	Potential Number of Panels	Approximate Power Generation (kW)	Approximate Power Generation KWh p. a.	Annual saving (tCO <sub>2</sub> )	FITs payment (£) p.a.if installed in 2011/2012	Estimated Income from Sales to the Grid 2011/2012	Estimated Electricity costs saved based on costs in 2011/2012	Total Return (£) p.a. if installed in 2011/2012	Likely Cost to Fit + vat	Estimated Payback (yrs) if installed in 2011/2012
Civic Centre	27	6.35	5,620	3.1	2,124.4	£84	£365	£2,573	£26,600	10
Central Works Depot - Vehicle workshop	96	22.56	19,800	10.8	6,514.2	£297	£1,287	£8,098	£90,000	11
Central Works Depot - Offices	48	11.28	9,080	4.9	2,987.3	£136	£590	£3,713	£42,864	12
Rushcliffe Leisure Centre - Northern Buildings	110	25.85	22,700	12.4	7,468.3	£340	£1,475	£9,283	£89,000	10
Rushcliffe Leisure Centre - Southern Buildings	150	35.25	30,700	16.7	10,100.3	£460	£1,995	£12,555	£120,000	10
Rushcliffe Arena - Main building	800	188	150,000	81.6	22,500.0	£2,250	£9,750	£34,500	£507,000	15
Rushcliffe Arena - Minor building, flush fitting	320	75.2	62,000	33.7	11780.0	£930	£4,030	£16,740	£218,000	21
Keyworth Leisure Centre	80	18.8	16,900	9.2	5,560.1	£254	£1,098	£6,912	£65,800	10
Cotgrave Leisure Centre	114	26.79	21,600	11.8	7,106.4	£324	£1,404	£8,834	£89,750	10
West Bridgford Community Hall	44	10.34	9,210	5.0	3,030.1	£138	£598	£3,766	£39,000	10
West Park Cricket Pavilion	72	16.92	14,900	8.1	4,902.1	£223	£968	£6,093	£60,000	10
Sir Julian Cahn Pavilion	62	14.57	13,000	7.1	4,277.0	£195	£845	£5,317	£52,500	10
Gresham Sports Pavilion	112	26.32	21,800	11.9	7,172.2	£327	£1,417	£8,916	£90,900	10
Gamston Community Hall	84	19.74	17,200	9.4	5,658.8	£258	£1,118	£7,035	£68,000	10
Rushcliffe Country Park - Education Centre	40	9.4	8,280	4.5	3,129.8	£124	£538	£3,792	£35,720	9
			<b>422,790</b>	<b>230.2</b>				<b>£138,127</b>	<b>£1,595,134</b>	

**Note:** Potentially more panels could be fitted

**Note:** The rangers store could also be used, however security could be an issue

## Standard Checklist for Reports

Meeting: Cabinet - 6 September 2011

Report Title: Installation of photovoltaic panels on council owned buildings

Author: Head of Community Shaping

The following issues are relevant to this report and have been properly considered in its preparation and in the recommendations made. Appropriate consultation has been made and advice sought on these issues as required. (See notes on the intranet)

Financial	x <input type="checkbox"/>	Human Rights	x <input type="checkbox"/>
Legal	x <input type="checkbox"/>	Equal Opportunities	x <input type="checkbox"/>
Policy	x <input type="checkbox"/>	Crime and Disorder	x <input type="checkbox"/>
Risk Management	x <input type="checkbox"/>	Environment/EMAS	x <input type="checkbox"/>

(Mark all appropriate boxes)

Has the relevant Deputy Chief Executive signed off the report Yes/No

Has this report been considered by SMT Yes/No

Comments:

If you do not think your report needs to consider any of the above categories please state why.

Name of Officer Completing Form: Head of Community Shaping

*This form must be completed and sent to the relevant Member Support Officer together with the Report by the agreed deadline. It will also be appropriate to complete this form when producing reports for certain officer meetings, e.g. Management Team*

**Notes for completion of this form can be found on the intranet**

## REPORT OF THE HEAD OF PARTNERSHIPS AND PERFORMANCE

### CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDER – COUNCILLOR MRS J A SMITH

#### Summary

1. At the Cabinet meeting of 7 July 2009 it was recommended that Community Development Scrutiny Group (CDSG) establish a Member Panel to undertake a refresh of the Leisure Facilities Strategy, explore the emerging issues of joint use schools changing status; East Leake Leisure Centre management arrangements; increasing costs of utilities and the potential for housing growth and its impact on infrastructure requirements.
2. The first interim report was considered by the Community Development Scrutiny Group in April 2010. This report presented Members with a brief statistical analysis of the leisure facilities; drew together the findings of Members following the tours of leisure facilities; reviewed the audit of leisure provision and any national/regional strategies that may influence the council's refreshed leisure strategy. Members identified that future leisure provision should be concentrating on growing and sustaining participation in sport and recreation rather than focusing on the area of sporting excellence.
3. The second interim report of the Member Panel was considered by the Community Development Scrutiny Group in July 2011. This report detailed the findings of the investigations carried out by the Panel and is attached for reference. It details the outcomes of a very comprehensive investigation of the issues in respect of the current leisure strategy.
4. Although the work on the Local Development Framework (LDF) is yet to be completed, work is progressing well and can be used to set a framework for the location of facilities in the future.
5. The investigative work of the Member Panel has provided a focus for future decision making which will enable decisions about what, where and how many facilities should be provided, what management arrangements may be appropriate and what levels of capital and revenue funding would be necessary to support the delivery of the strategy. For these reasons the CDSG felt it appropriate to close down the Scrutiny Group Member Panel and instead to establish a Cabinet Member Group to complete the task. The proposed Terms of Reference for the Cabinet Member Group are included at **Appendix 1**. It is anticipated that the work will be completed in tandem with key stage decisions on the LDF

## **Recommendation**

It is RECOMMENDED that

- a. a Cabinet Member Group is established to complete the review of the Leisure Facilities Strategy and make recommendations for future provision taking into account consideration the content of the LDF.

### **Financial Comments**

Where actions are considered that may have a significant financial impact, thorough analysis will be undertaken and presented to assist in the decision making process.

### **Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act**

Full account of the issues affecting crime and disorder will be considered in developing the strategy

### **Diversity**

The Leisure Facilities Strategy will be subjected to a full equality impact assessment before implementation

### **Background Papers Available for Inspection:**

Interim reports to the Community Development Scrutiny Group  
Reports to the Leisure Facilities Strategy Member Panel



## **Cabinet Member Group – Review of Leisure Facilities Strategy**

### **Terms of Reference**

#### **OBJECTIVES**

***The objectives of the Member Group are:***

- *To finalise the Leisure Facilities Strategy.*
- *To develop and recommend to Cabinet a revised strategy for the future of the Council's leisure facilities.*

#### **METHOD**

***The Member Group will determine the meeting schedule as required.***

***The strands of the work programme will include:***

- *Utilise the findings of the Scrutiny Group Member Panel to inform future decisions*
- *Produce a strategy for the future of leisure facilities in the Borough*

#### **RESOURCES**

***The Member Group will be supported by the following key officers:***

- *Deputy Chief Executive – Sue Griffiths*
- *Head of Partnerships and Performance – David Mitchell*
- *Leisure Contract Manager – Brian Knowles*
- *Cultural Services Manager - Craig Taylor*
- *Senior Member Support Officer - Viv Nightingale*

***Background Material and External Support:***

- *Budget information*
- *Performance monitoring*
- *Local Development Framework*
- *Consultation with key stakeholders*

#### **TIMESCALE**

- *Draft Strategy for approval to Cabinet at its meeting in January 2012*

#### **OUTCOMES / DELIVERABLES**

- *The production of a draft Leisure Facilities Strategy*
- *A draft implementation plan*

## **REPORT OF THE HEAD OF PARTNERSHIPS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Summary**

6. Cabinet requested the Community Development Scrutiny Group (CDSG) to undertake a review of the Leisure Facilities Strategy. To perform this work the CDSG formed a Member Panel. A number of tasks were identified by the CDSG for investigation by the Member Panel and these have now been completed. The findings for each of the areas investigated are included below.
7. Having concluded the investigative element of the review the challenge is now to translate the findings into a strategic policy that will guide the development of leisure facilities in the future. The Member Panel has developed an understanding of the complexities and breadth of services and activities involved within the leisure portfolio which should be used to help form the new strategy.
8. The development of the strategy will require a series of decisions requiring Cabinet approval. For this reason it is suggested that a Cabinet led group may be the best way of taking this work forward.

### **Recommendation**

It is RECOMMENDED that

1. Cabinet be requested to consider setting up a Cabinet led Member Group to develop and finalise the leisure facilities strategy and
2. subject to Cabinet agreeing to set up a Member Group, the Leisure Facilities Strategy Member panel be closed down.

### **Details of the Panel's Findings**

#### **Joint Use**

9. The position in respect of the future funding of joint use facilities was agreed by Cabinet in January 2011.
  - The changing status of schools, to Foundation and Academy, is reflected in new joint use agreements. These new agreements are similar to those they replace, protecting community access to facilities and offering the same termination clauses (2 years notice by either party).

- The new agreements offer, for the first time, the opportunity to include the individual operational issues and arrangements that are specific to each site has within the agreements.

### **Community and Voluntary Enterprise Arrangements**

10. Members considered a report detailing the history and growth of such management arrangements across a broad range of facilities and businesses. Whilst there has been no attempt to identify which facilities in Rushcliffe could benefit from this type of management arrangement it serves as a potential option to be considered in the future for the management of smaller facilities.

### **Audit of Current Provision**

11. The panel hopes to establish a set of minimum standards for the level of leisure provision across the Borough. An essential tool in identifying the current level of provision and, any gaps in provision, has been the undertaking of a comprehensive audit of leisure facilities - indoor, outdoor, open space and play areas. The evidence arising from this audit can be used in developing evidence for the Community Infrastructure Levy (set to replace section 106 agreements in 2014); securing section 106 contributions in the interim period and to support funding applications by Town and Parish Councils in the future. Although Rushcliffe Borough Council is only directly responsible for the provision of play facilities and community leisure within the West Bridgford Special Expense area, members have identified that one of the key issues they wish to address through the new strategy is to provide an equal standard of play facilities across the whole Borough.

### **Housing Growth Issues**

12. Further work to determine the impact on leisure provision will be necessary as the situation in respect to housing growth becomes clearer. As identified in the previous section there will be a need to present a clear and robust case for contributions to leisure provision arising from new developments within the Community Infrastructure Levy documentation. The completion and adoption of the Councils Development Plan will be essential in guiding the future strategy.

### **Future Trends for Leisure**

13. The panel has confirmed that in the future facilities should be aimed at the 'community level' of activity and should not be aimed at providing for elite level sport such as the gymnastics centre at Rushcliffe leisure centre.
14. The Member Panel has heard how Ashfield District Council has rationalised its leisure centre provision, closing old joint use centres and building a new leisure centre in the last few years, resulting in increased usage and lower operational costs.
15. Parkwood Leisure also made a presentation to the Panel on developments across its' portfolio which has seen either new facilities built or existing facilities adapted to address the challenge of meeting future trends for leisure.

The accepted consensus on future trends is that swimming, and particularly learning to swim, will remain in high demand although no growth is being seen: health and fitness is very strong and accounts for over 30% of income generated: exercise classes continue to grow and become more varied with the current trend being for dance type classes.

16. Participation in outdoor activities is very popular and is predicted to remain so both nationally and within Rushcliffe, with three of the top five sports or recreational activities being outdoor based (walking, cycling & football). Source: National Survey of Culture, Leisure and Sport 2009
17. Any new facilities or adaptations of existing facilities should provide spaces that are flexible and versatile offering a multi-purpose solution to accommodating a variety of uses.

### **Next Steps**

18. Having concluded the investigation works the next steps in finalising the new strategy will be to determine what, where and how many facilities should be provided; what management arrangements are appropriate and what level of capital spend and revenue support will be necessary to deliver the strategy.
19. The development of the strategy will require a series of decisions requiring Cabinet approval. For this reason it is suggested that it may be more appropriate for the Member Panel to be replaced with a Cabinet led Member Group.

### **Financial Comments**

There are no direct financial implications at this time.

### **Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act**

Full account of the issues affecting crime and disorder will be considered in developing the strategy.

### **Diversity**

The Leisure Facilities Strategy will be subjected to a full equality impact assessment before implementation.

### **Background Papers Available for Inspection:**

Interim reports to the Community Development Scrutiny Group  
Reports to the Leisure Facilities Strategy Member Panel

## Standard Checklist for Reports

Meeting: CABINET - 9 AUGUST 2011

Report Title: REFRESH OF THE LEISURE FACILITIES STRATEGY 2011

Author: HEAD OF PARTNERSHIPS AND PERFORMANCE

The following issues are relevant to this report and have been properly considered in its preparation and in the recommendations made. Appropriate consultation has been made and advice sought on these issues as required. (See notes on the intranet)

Financial	X <input type="checkbox"/>	Human Rights	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Equal Opportunities	X <input type="checkbox"/>
Policy	X <input type="checkbox"/>	Crime and Disorder	X <input type="checkbox"/>
Risk Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	Environment/EMAS	<input type="checkbox"/>

(Mark all appropriate boxes)

Has the relevant Deputy Chief Executive signed off the report Yes

Has this report been considered by SMT Yes/No

Comments:

If you do not think your report needs to consider any of the above categories please state why.

Name of Officer Completing Form: B Knowles

*This form must be completed and sent to the relevant Member Support Officer together with the Report by the agreed deadline. It will also be appropriate to complete this form when producing reports for certain officer meetings, e.g. Management Team*

**Notes for completion of this form can be found on the intranet**