When telephoning, please ask for: Liz Reid-Jones Direct dial 9148214

Email Ireid-jones@rushcliffe.gov.uk

Our reference: Your reference:

Date: 1 July 2013

To all Members of the Council

Dear Councillor

A meeting of the CABINET will be held on Tuesday 9 July 2013 at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Pavilion Road, West Bridgford to consider the following items of business.

Yours sincerely

Executive Manager Operations and Corporate Governance

AGENDA

- Apologies for absence
- Declarations of Interest
- 3. Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 11 June 2013 (previously circulated)

Key Decisions

4. New Homes Bonus

The report of the Chief Executive is attached (pages 1 - 4).

5. Funding for Affordable Housing

The report of the Executive Manager - Neighbourhoods is attached (pages 5 - 8).

Non Key Decisions

6. Member Champions 2013/14

The report of the Executive Manager - Operations and Corporate Governance is attached (pages 9 - 15).

Budget and Policy Framework Items

7. Financial Outturn 2012/13

The report of the Executive Manager – Finance and Commercial is attached (pages 16 - 23).

Matters referred from Scrutiny

None

Membership

Chairman: Councillor J N Clarke

Vice-Chairman: Councillor J A Cranswick

Councillors D G Bell, J E Fearon, N C Lawrence, D J Mason

Meeting Room Guidance

Fire Alarm Evacuation: in the event of an alarm sounding please evacuate the building using the nearest fire exit, normally through the Council Chamber. You should assemble in the Nottingham Forest car park adjacent to the main gates.

Toilets are located opposite Committee Room 2.

Mobile Phones: For the benefit of others please ensure that your mobile phone is switched off whilst you are in the meeting.

Microphones: When you are invited to speak please press the button on your microphone, a red light will appear on the stem. Please ensure that you switch this off after you have spoken.



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CABINET TUESDAY 11 JUNE 2013

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, N C Lawrence and D J Mason

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillors A MacInnes, R Jones, G R Mallender 1 Member of public

OFFICERS PRESENT:

D Mitchell Executive Manager - Communities L Reid-Jones Democratic Services Manager

P Steed Executive Manager – Finance and Commercial

D Swaine Executive Manager - Operations and Corporate Governance

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

There were no apologies for absence.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were none declared.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14 May 2013 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3. Future Delivery Of Positive Futures In Rushcliffe

Councillor Fearon presented a report of the Executive Manager - Communities regarding the future delivery of Positive Futures in Rushcliffe. The report set out progress made since the decision of Cabinet on 4 December 2012 to continue with Positive Futures and establish its geographical scope and focus.

By reference to the report Councillor Fearon informed Cabinet that a new delivery model had been developed in conjunction with the Positive Futures Team, part of the Community Development Team at Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club which would achieve real outcomes for Rushcliffe's young people. The approach, focussing on the identified areas of most need, mirrored the approach taken when the Cotgrave project was designed.

The report identified that whilst there were minimal levels of youth crime within Rushcliffe, when combined with the issues of child poverty and anti-social behaviour, there was a higher level of risk in Cotgrave, Radcliffe on Trent,

Bingham West and Keyworth South. Councillor Fearon informed Cabinet that the vast majority of young people from the areas identified attended one of three secondary schools: South Nottinghamshire Academy, Toothill or South Wolds and that youth workers from Positive Futures were currently working with young people in both South Nottinghamshire Academy and South Wolds.

He went on draw attention to particular cohorts of young people who had been identified in three different age groups: transition – year six age group; intervention – year eight age group; and aspiration – young people aged 16 to 21 who were not in education, employment or training. In continuing, Councillor Fearon stated that the report detailed performance standards required to be met in order to deliver the arrangement with the Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club and these were set out in paragraph 16 of the report. He added that these indicators would be used to ensure that value for money had been obtained from the project and that outcomes had been achieved. He stated that the project was built on the excellent work of Positive Futures in Cotgrave.

Councillor Cranswick stated that the proposed scheme had been improved based on the experience from Cotgrave Positive Futures, and that feedback from those involved over the last four years had been encouraging. In relation to anti-social behaviour Councillor Cranswick believed that it had been reduced considerably in Cotgrave and this was good news. He stated that it was important to have a service level agreement in place which set out targets in detail and drew Cabinet's attention to the performance measures set out in paragraph 16 of the report. He reminded Members that Cabinet had agreed in December 2012 to convert £90,000 per annum of the existing loan into a grant for each of the four years should the targets be met. He added that if the targets were not fully met this would need to be addressed.

Councillor Mason endorsed the comments made by other Cabinet Members and highlighted the link to the YouNG project which was launched in September 2012. She believed that the development in the use of social media to link young people in the Borough was a positive step. She added that it was not only children who benefitted from the Positive Futures project, but also young adults and this was beneficial for the Borough.

Councillor Fearon informed Cabinet that the Trent Bridge area had not been included in the extension of Positive Futures as an analysis of the statistics showed that the young people involved were not from the Borough.

Councillor Clarke commented that the Council was not funding the Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club but was seeking their assistance in investing in young people in the Borough. He stated that factors were in place for the service level agreement and this would demonstrate measurable outcomes arising from the investment.

Councillor Cranswick added that there was also a peripheral advantage arising from such schemes, particularly in terms of impact of family and friends of those directly participating.

RESOLVED that:

- the Positive Futures project be extended beyond Cotgrave to include the target areas of Radcliffe on Trent, Bingham West and South Keyworth wards by 2014/15;
- the work of Positive Futures be targeted to include a cohort of young people aged between 10 and 24 from each of the identified areas over the next 4 years;
- c) the Positive Futures team's intention to deliver its work in partnership with South Nottinghamshire Academy, South Wolds and Toothill secondary schools in the form of mentoring and behavioural support for identified young people, and also within the community to provide increased sport and physical activity provision in the identified geographical areas for all young people, be supported;
- d) the Section 151 Officer be given delegated authority to approve the future loan to grant conversions based on the achievement of the outputs outlined in the performance management framework which will be monitored by the Positive Futures Management Board, in consultation with the Chief Executive and the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Resources.

4. Community Governance Review – Edwalton

Councillor Clarke presented a report of the Executive Manager - Operations and Corporate Governance regarding a Community Governance Review in Edwalton. He informed Cabinet that Council had received a valid petition in September 2012 from residents requesting the establishment of a parish council for Edwalton. Progressing the petition had been deferred until completion of the Borough wide electoral review, undertaken by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England. He explained that the electoral review had now concluded and that the Council was required to carry out a Community Governance Review in the Edwalton Village Borough ward in accordance with Part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. The report set out the key issues to be considered and the area being reviewed was the area on which the petition was based, this primarily being the Borough's current Edwalton Village Ward and small parts of Musters, Gamston and Tollerton Wards.

Councillor Clarke stated that it would be necessary to set up a cross party Member Group in order to progress the review, with the terms of reference as set out in appendix four of the report. He highlighted the key stages in the review timetable which would begin with a consultation exercise from the end of June until 16 August 2013.

Councillor Cranswick stated that this was a detailed report and it was necessary to follow due process in order to obtain views.

Councillor Lawrence stated that he was sympathetic to the request and sought an assurance that those being consulted understood the scope of the parish council and its role. The Executive Manager - Operations and Corporate Governance explained that the consultation would include a leaflet setting out the process and giving brief details of the role of a parish council. He added that it was difficult to give an exact description of the role as it was dependent on the nature and extent of the responsibilities which it undertook, particularly in terms of asset transfer. This would be a matter for the parish council should it be established. He informed Cabinet that officers had researched best practice from other local authorities and had utilised this in preparing the terms of reference and consultation material. He reminded Cabinet that councillors had a role as community leaders to ensure residents were aware of the consultation.

RESOLVED that:

- a) the process involved for the delivery of a Community Governance Review, the proposed timetable and the associated resource implications be noted;
- a cross party Member Group be established to consider the Council's position in response to the consultation to be undertaken as part of the review;
- c) the Member Group terms of reference be endorsed and referred to Council for approval (appendix 4 of the report);
- d) the terms of reference for the Community Governance Review as set out in appendix 2 of the report be referred to Council for approval in order that the process can commence in line with the proposed timetable in appendix 3 of the report.

5. Local Government Boundary Commission Review - Implications for Rushcliffe

Councillor Clarke presented a report of the Executive Manager - Operations and Corporate Governance regarding the implications of the recent Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) Review. He reminded Cabinet that the LGBCE commenced a review of ward boundaries in Rushcliffe in January 2012 and had published its final report in February 2013. The review had recommended a reduction in the number of councillors to 44 across 25 wards. The proposals would be laid before Parliament and would come into effect at the Borough elections in May 2014. The report summarised the implications for the Boundary Commission's report and set out three key areas of work required in preparation for implementing the changes so that they were in place for the local elections in 2015. The report also outlined the three areas:

- Consideration of the impact on councillor positions as a consequence of the reduced number of councillors
- If necessary, consideration of a review of the Members' Allowance Scheme by an Independent Remuneration Panel
- The delivery of a borough wide Polling District Review in order to implement the changes to ward boundaries and ensure the correct allocation of polling districts and polling places.

Councillor Clarke informed Cabinet that officers would now need to progress the work.

Councillor Cranswick stated that the key was to ensure that any proposals were built on the new number of 44 councillors.

RESOLVED that Council be recommended to:

- consider and recognise the key areas of work required in order to implement the Local Boundary Commission for England's recommendations; and
- b) receive further reports in respect of these key work areas as and when necessary.

The meeting closed at 7.15 pm.

CHAIRMAN



Cabinet

9 July 2013

New Homes Bonus

4

Report of the Chief Executive

Cabinet Portfolio Holder – Councillor J A Cranswick

Summary

- 1. The New Homes Bonus is a grant paid by Central Government to local councils for increasing the number of homes. It is paid for a period of six years based on the amount of extra Council Tax revenue raised for new-build homes, conversions and long-term empty homes brought back into use. Additional payments are also made for affordable housing.
- 2. This report updates Cabinet on potential changes to the arrangements for the New Homes Bonus announced in the recent Comprehensive Spending Review for 2015/16. Despite previous commitments contained in the final scheme design to encourage discretionary pooling of some of the New Homes Bonus with Local Enterprise Partnerships it is now proposed to mandatorily reallocate a percentage of the New Homes Bonus to Local Enterprise Partnerships which may be offset by a reduction in the allocation to District Councils.
- 3. This potential reduction of the New Homes Bonus could limit the infrastructure improvements, business support, delivery of the Leisure Strategy and community and local initiatives the Council can support. It is still, however, proposed that from the New Homes Bonus funding already confirmed an allocation is made to enable acceleration in the delivery of affordable housing within the Borough.

Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that Cabinet:

- a. Notes the proposed pooling of New Homes Bonus from 2015/16 by Central Government
- b. Lobbies Central Government about delivering on its commitment to allocating New Homes Bonus to District Councils to ensure that communities that are affected by growth see some of the benefits.
- c. Supports the allocation of £830,000 of retained and future New Homes Bonus receipts for investment in affordable housing.

Background

4. The New Homes Bonus is a grant paid by Central Government to local councils for increasing the number of homes. It is based on the amount of extra Council Tax revenue raised for new-build homes, conversions and long-term empty homes brought back into use. The payment would be for a period

of six years in relation to each house. Additional payments are also made for affordable housing. Local councils are free to choose how they spend the New Homes Bonus but expect local councils to consult communities about how they will spend the money, especially communities where housing stock has increased.

5. The scheme started in 2011/12 and the following table illustrates the current uncommitted funds and estimates of further receipts until the end of 2014/15.

	Annual Income (£M)	Total Uncommitted (£M)
2013/14	0 .956	1.216
2014/15	1.242	2.458

- 6. It should be noted that the £2.458 million is the uncommitted balance and hence is in addition to the £525,000 that has already been allocated to the dualling of the A453 (£500,000) and the 2013/14 Councillor Community Support Scheme (£25,000).
- 7. As part of the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) for 2015/16 announced on 26 June the Chancellor announced that £2 billion would be placed in a new Single Local Growth Fund that would be accessed on a bid based basis via the Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs). Further details provided on 27^t June stated that as part of this allocation "£400 million from the New Homes Bonus will be pooled within the Local Economic Partnership areas to support strategic housing and economic development priorities". At this stage further details have not been provided on how this pooling will work, how authorities such as Rushcliffe will access funding, or the impact that the changes will have upon the Council's future New Homes Bonus Receipts.
- 8. Prior to the CSR announcement it was projected that, after allowing for current commitments, reserves and projected income, between 2013/14 and 2017/18 Rushcliffe's total unallocated New Homes Bonus funding would total £8.3 million. It is now anticipated that this figure will be significantly reduced with reductions applying from 2015/16 onwards.
- 9. It is also important to note that the CSR included an announcement that overall funding for local government will decrease by 10% in 2015/16 and that overall public expenditure will continue to reduce in 2016/17 and 2017/18. Until further details are provided about the scale of the reductions and what service areas will be affected (i.e. whether the impact is focussed on district or county functions) it is difficult to estimate how these changes will impact upon Rushcliffe and the scale of the resultant budget pressure which will result. In this context it is, therefore, vital that the Council carefully considers opportunities to secure additional permanent or time limited funding such as that identified at paragraph 12.

Allocation of Resources

10. It had been intended that this report would provide a framework against which proposed uses of this £8.3 million could be considered. This comprised the following broad principles:

Infrastructure Improvements and Provision of Business Support:

The Council's emerging Core Strategy, which is currently being finalised, provides the policy framework for growth to take place, including the delivery of up to 13,550 homes between 2013 - 2028. This principle would enable the New Homes Bonus to be made available for infrastructure or services and help ensure that existing and new businesses continue to see Rushcliffe as a great place to develop and grow

Contribution to delivering the Council's Leisure Strategy:

This principle would support the delivery of the Council's Leisure Strategy which, in the first instance, comprises the extension and refurbishment of the Rushcliffe Arena to become the flagship leisure facility for West Bridgford. Subject to meeting the conditions in the Leisure Strategy this would be followed by the replacement of Bingham Leisure Centre; where the location of any new facility would be subject to agreement with other partners and the identification of a suitable site

Community Fund for local services and initiatives:

Whilst allocation mechanisms would need to be agreed, such funding could potentially be made available to support one off projects, directly support services or area based initiatives

Support the delivery of new affordable homes:

The funding the Council set aside for affordable housing following the Large Scale Voluntary Transfer of its housing stock has been fully committed. This allocation would enable the Council to supplement this funding and assist in meeting any shortfall in affordable housing numbers in line with the Housing Strategy.

11. However, in light of the uncertainty created by the CSR announcement over levels of future funding and the role of the LEP in supporting future "strategic housing and economic development" it is not recommended that this framework is adopted at this time but that instead a decision be deferred until clarity has been provided over the extent of future funding from internal and external resources.

Current Opportunities

12. Notwithstanding the above position it is important to note that future New Homes Bonus receipts are dependent upon a continued growth in the level of housing within the Borough. As detailed elsewhere on the agenda subject to sufficient funding being available opportunities exist for the Council to deliver an additional 36 affordable homes, in Gotham, Keyworth and Cotgrave. It is therefore proposed that whilst adoption of the above framework be deferred, an allocation of £830,000 be made as a revenue contribution to the capital programme for affordable housing. Such an allocation would reduce the levels of uncommitted New Homes Bonus to 2014/15 from £2.456 million to £1.63 million. The delivery of additional housing will have a positive impact upon the level of future New Homes Bonus receipts.

Financial Comments

There remains much uncertainty in terms of how local government is financed in the future. The Government's funding strategy is based upon growth (as opposed to need) and the level of central government grant is falling and is being displaced by 'growth funding regimes' such as the localisation of business rates and the New Homes Bonus.

The announcements made in the CSR could result in significant reductions to the levels of resources available to the Council both in terms of the New Homes Bonus but also with regards to the levels of central government funding that will be available moving forward. This uncertainty makes the agreement of distribution principles problematic. However it is clear that future funding levels will remain linked to growth and the early delivery of schemes will help the Council mitigate the impact of other funding reductions. It should be noted that whilst not reflected in the current Medium Term Financial Strategy these and future funding changes could ultimately result in the Council having to commit a proportion of New Homes Bonus funding to maintaining current core services.

The proposed allocation of £830,000 to affordable housing can be met from projected New Homes Bonus funding for 2013/14 and 2014/15. Based on the current model it is anticipated that the delivery of 36 affordable homes will result in an additional New Homes Bonus payment to the authority of £240,000 over six years. However due to the changes in funding arrangements from 2015/16 onwards it is likely that the final receipts retained by Rushcliffe will be significantly lower than this amount.

Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act

There are no direct implications for Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act however this protocol includes opportunities for projects to be agreed that would support Crime and Disorder initiatives.

Diversity

There are no direct implications for Diversity however this protocol includes opportunities for projects to be agreed that would support Diversity initiatives.

Background Papers Available for Inspection: Nil



Cabinet

9 July 2013

Funding for Affordable Housing

Report of the Executive Manager - Neighbourhoods

Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Councillor D G Bell

Summary

- In order to meet identified housing needs the Council has funds in the capital programme to support Registered Providers in delivering affordable homes on small developments and exception sites. This is in addition to the principal source of affordable housing which is delivered as part of planning agreements (Section 106) on large new private housing developments. However the reality is that the delivery of such schemes is being inhibited due to current market conditions and viability issues.
- 2. This report outlines an opportunity for an additional programme of affordable housing development in the borough through the existing Metropolitan Housing Partnership that could be funded via the New Homes Bonus. If agreed this programme will deliver an additional 24 affordable homes by March 2015. In addition the report also updates Cabinet on potential developments within Gotham which would result in 12 additional affordable homes being developed.

Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that Cabinet:

- a. Agree the addition of the affordable housing schemes outlined in this report to the Capital Programme, and
- b. Increase funding for Affordable Housing in the 2013/14 to 2017/18 capital programme by £830,000, the costs of which will be met from current and future New Homes Bonus receipts.

Details

- 3. The principal mechanism for the creation of new affordable homes in the borough is through Section 106 agreements on large private developments. However in recent times delivery has been hindered by current market conditions and the reluctance of developers to bring forward sites due to ongoing viability issues. The viability factor has also strongly influenced negotiations that have taken place resulting in lower agreed levels of affordable housing below the target of 30%.
- 4. The target for affordable homes to be delivered in 2013/14 is 30 units and this takes into account 18 units being started on existing developments and an

- exception site development in Cropwell Bishop of 12 units. Those larger sites with affordable housing which have gained planning permission are currently not forecast to start in the foreseeable future.
- 5. Therefore in the short-term the delivery of affordable housing within the borough will be wholly reliant upon new sites purely for affordable housing being delivered. This is not unique to Rushcliffe but mirrors the national picture and Local Authorities are being actively encouraged to think creatively regarding how they can stimulate local growth by supporting the building of affordable units.

Current Opportunity

6. Given this situation work has been undertaken with Metropolitan Housing Partnership (MHP) to identify opportunities to increase the supply of affordable housing. This work has resulted in a scheme being drawn up which proposes the re-development of eight garage sites in the Borough which will deliver 30 affordable homes by March 2015. The identified sites are listed as follows:

Village	Location	Units
Cotgrave	Sandside and Grassmere	6
Cotgrave	Broadmeer	4
Cotgrave	Ringleas	4
Cotgrave	Cartbridge	2
Cotgrave	Chennel Nook	1
Cotgrave	Avondale	5
Cotgrave	Woodview	5
Keyworth	Manor Road	3

- 7. The total build cost of the scheme would be £3,733,553 of which Rushcliffe would contribute £975,600 (26%). It is estimated that the whole programme will secure £1.2m in external funding from the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA). In accordance with our current partnership arrangements the schemes would be owned and managed by MHP and let at affordable rents (80% market rent) with the Council retaining nomination rights.
- 8. Of the eight schemes one, Sandside and Grassmere, will be funded from within the existing programme. To facilitate the delivery of the remaining seven schemes MHP would require a capital grant of £818,100 being added to the capital programme.
- 9. Discussions are also underway with Gotham Parish Council as part of the Rural Exception Site Programme to deliver a further 12 affordable homes (subject to securing a suitable site and planning permission). This would require additional capital funds of £159,600.
- 10. The existing capital programme which has been agreed up until 2017/18 includes £1.718m for affordable housing which is funded from the capital receipt set aside from the stock transfer in 2003, and monies allocated from existing S106 planning agreements. In addition there is a further £357,000 unallocated which has been retained to fund activity from 2018/19 onwards. This provides a total available funding of £2.075m against which there are known commitments of £827,000 leaving £1.25m uncommitted at this time.

- 11. The schemes in paragraph 8 and 9 will require £977,700 of financial support in year 2014/15 which would have a significant impact on the Council's ability to fund other affordable housing activity in the short to medium term.
- 12. To alleviate this issue it is proposed to increase funding for the 2013/14 to 2017/18 capital programme from resources allocated from current and future New Homes Bonus receipts. This allocation will meet 85% of the costs associated with the MHP and Gotham Parish Council schemes with the balance being met from existing capital allocations. This proposal is subject to the agreement of the allocation of New Homes Bonus detailed elsewhere on this agenda.

Key considerations

- 13. The provision of additional funding for affordable housing in the capital programme supports the Council's corporate priorities. The key benefits include:
 - Support economic growth and regeneration. In this it supports the further aims of regenerating Cotgrave Town Centre
 - Ensure continued supply of affordable homes to meet local housing need
 - Maximising funding opportunities and outcomes through partnership working.
- 14. A large proportion of the existing housing in Cotgrave was built as social housing two thirds of which has subsequently been sold under the right to buy scheme. MHP's involvement in managing the majority of the social housing stock, including the new Colliery Site development, will provide a consistency in the management arrangements, ensuring a joined up approach to the wider Cotgrave regeneration aims.
- 15. The re-development of the garage sites supports MHP's commitment to use existing land and recycled capital grant funds to ensure that regeneration proposals are a success. The schemes will be let on an affordable rent ensuring a mixed tenure approach to the provision of affordable housing in the locality.
- 16. As outlined in the latest Strategic Housing Market Assessment (April 2012) there is a considerable and growing need for affordable housing in the borough. In addition as previously identified the rate at which major schemes are built out is unpredictable, and dependent on the state of the market and mortgage availability.
- 17. Lack of alternative options available to households including those facing the loss of their home, could impact on homelessness and further service pressures in the form of temporary accommodation usage which is currently increasing mirroring national trends.
- 18. Subject to support from the Borough Council a report will be presented to the Board of MHP to seek their final approval for the scheme on 22 July 2013. Any further delay in the decision making process would result in the schemes not going ahead as all of the sites must achieve practical completion by

<u>December 2014</u>. This is a condition in the use of the HCA funding (Recycled Capital Grant Funding and re-let subsidy) which is required to ensure the overall financial viability of the programme.

Financial Comments

Subject to the agreement of proposals elsewhere on this agenda £830,000 has been allocated from current and future New Homes Bonus receipts to support the delivery of additional affordable housing within Rushcliffe. This funding will, along with the unallocated £1.25m referred to at paragraph 10, enable the Authority to not only deliver this scheme but to also maintain an on-going programme of works in this area. Based on the current model it is anticipated that the delivery of 36 affordable homes will result in an additional New Homes Bonus payment to the authority of £240,000 over six years. However, as reported elsewhere on this agenda, on the 27 June 2013 the Chancellor announced that from 2015/16 onwards a proportion of New Homes Bonus would be allocated to Local Enterprise Partnerships via the Single Local Growth Fund and, as a result it is likely that the final receipts retained by Rushcliffe will be significantly lower than this amount.

It is understood that changes to the New Homes Bonus are not scheduled to commence until April 2015 and as a result the proposed allocation of £830,000 to affordable housing can be met from projected New Homes Bonus funding for 2013/14 and 2014/15. Although the primary source of funding for this programme would be from the New Homes Bonus work would continue to identify alternate funding streams, such as Section 106 agreements, enabling further investment to made into affordable housing activity.

It would be possible for the additional costs of £977,700 to be met from within current resources. However this would result in just £270,000 being available to support affordable homes activity to 2017/18 and no funds after that date. As a result, whilst this approach would provide a short term solution, in the medium term it would have a significant impact on the Council's ability to meet future affordable housing needs.

If these schemes are approved then a revised capital programme will need to be produced and this will form the basis of reporting for the remainder of this financial year.

Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act

The programmes of sites identified at paragraph 6 are former domestic garages owned by Metropolitan Housing which are can attract vandalism and other forms of anti-social behaviour. The conversion of the sites into housing will therefore remove this risk.

Diversity

There are no direct implications from this report

Background Papers Available for Inspection:

Strategic Housing Market Assessment Update - April 2012



Cabinet

9 July 2013

Member Champions 2013/14



Report of the Executive Manager - Operations and Corporate Governance

Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Councillor J N Clarke

Summary

This report sets out details of the proposed introduction of 'Member Champions' who it is intended will support relevant Cabinet Portfolio holders as necessary. Following Cabinet's consideration it is proposed to refer the matter to the Corporate Governance Group in order that the necessary changes to Article 7 – The Cabinet, within the Council's Constitution can be determined.

Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that Cabinet:

- a) Considers the proposal to introduce Member Champions and the associated changes to 'Article 7 The Cabinet' within the Council's Constitution (attached as **appendix A**),
- b) Requests that the Community Governance Group considers the necessary changes to the Constitution in order that these be referred to Council for agreement.

Background

- 1. At the request of the Leader of the Council work has been undertaken to identify how 'Member Champions' could be introduced. This was because over time the Cabinet Portfolio Holder role has required a greater need to assimilate a significant and diverse range of information. Therefore it is intended that 'Member Champions' will assist Cabinet Portfolio Holders meet these increasing demands. In turn this will help to ensure the Executive retains focus on delivery of the Council's priorities as set out in the Corporate Plan.
- 2. It is intended that the role of the 'Member Champion' will complement and support the responsibilities of Cabinet Portfolio Holders. The roles will carry no additional allowance and as such they are not reflected in the Council's Members' Allowance Scheme. Member Champions cannot be decision makers but may act as information gatherers, challengers and advisors in support of the designated Portfolio Holder. 'Member Champions' will be appointed by the Leader in line with the existing constitutional arrangements for the appointment of Cabinet Members.
- 3. 'Member Champions' will remain in place until they are replaced by the Leader or if they resign from office or cease to be a Councillor. It is intended that each

'Member Champion' will be allocated a theme to reflect their alignment with a particular Cabinet Portfolio. The role and remit of the 'Member Champions' as reflected is set out as follows:

To fulfil their role effectively a Member Champion will:

- Act in the wider interest of the Council and not merely represent the interests of their wards or local community groups
- Be sensitive to Council priorities; although they may be advocating the opinions of a particular group of people or bodies, they should not do so at the expense of Council Policy and Corporate Policies
- Lead and respond to the relevant wider range of issues rather than focussing upon their own specific issues within the topic area

Champions will retain focus on the thematic topic they have been allocated by:

- Raising and championing the profile of the topic/issue both internally and externally whilst continuing to act in accordance with existing Council policy
- Fostering the engagement of a wider range of Members in the review, support and development of the issue.
- Promoting effective communication and positive working relationships both within the Council and amongst partners, stakeholders and community groups
- Promoting the positive work that is being undertaken within the Borough, at a local, regional and national level
- Through agreed communication arrangements with the Portfolio Holder and Senior Management Team provide positive support, and on occasions, constructive challenge to officers in driving forward the Council's agenda on the assigned issue
- 4. It is intended that the Cabinet Portfolio Holder who the 'Member Champion' supports will allocate and communicate their activity, responsibilities and actions to the Chief Executive or the Executive Manager Operations. In their absence the Chief Executive, will assign a relevant Executive Manager as required or appropriate to facilitate the 'Member Champions' role. The role of the 'Member Champions' will operate within the established 'Councillor: Staff Protocol' which sets out rules and guidance on the relationship between Councillors and Staff.
- 5. As set out at paragraph two of this report 'Member Champions' will be appointed by the Leader in line with the existing constitutional arrangements for the appointment of Cabinet Members. There are a number of themes or areas of work where a 'Member Champion' may support a Cabinet Portfolio Holder and where necessary the Leader may, in due course appoint, to these positions. Examples of potential themes for 'Member Champions' are:
 - Business and Economic Development
 - Promoting and developing Young people
 - Recycling
 - Rural Communities (incorporating Public Houses, Post Offices and Agriculture

- 6. **Appendix A** to the report sets out the necessary changes to 'Article 7 The Cabinet' within the Council's Constitution that are required to facilitate the introduction of 'Member Champions'. The table at paragraph 7.2 of the appendix reflects the Cabinet Portfolios as updated by the Leader at the Council meeting in May 2013. This table also provides a column for inserting details of the relevant 'Member Champion' and their associated themes. Details of the role and the remit of the 'Member Champions' are set out in paragraphs 7.5 and 7.6 in the underline text. Any other changes proposed are also set out in underlined text. The text highlighted as 'striked through' reflects changes that are required to remove reference to Councillors' suspensions that were part of the now repealed provisions within the Local Government Act 2000.
- 7. As reflected in the report's recommendations Cabinet are requested to consider the proposal to introduce Member Champions and the associated changes to 'Article 7 The Cabinet' within the Council's Constitution (appendix A). Cabinet are also requested to refer the proposed changes to the Constitution to the Community Governance Group in order that these be referred to Council for agreement.

Financial Comments

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report as the Member Champions will receive no additional Members' Allowance for the role.

Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act

There are no direct implications arising from this report.

Diversity

There are no direct implications arising from this report.

ARTICLE 7 – THE CABINET

THE ROLE OF THE CABINET

7.1 Role

The Cabinet will carry out all of the local authority's functions which are not the responsibility of any other part of the local authority, whether by law or under this Constitution.

7.2 Form and composition

The Cabinet will consist of the Leader together with at least two, but not more than nine, Councillors appointed by the Leader at the annual Council meeting, following the local government elections, at which the Leader is appointed.

The current composition of the Cabinet comprises the Leader and five members. One member is designated as the Deputy Leader and will act in the absence of the Leader. The Leader will retain the overall leadership and strategic role and the Deputy Leader and four Cabinet Members will be allocated a portfolio for the following functions:—

Title	Portfolios	Member
		Champion(s)
Strategic	Overall Direction Focus and Vision	
Direction	Corporate Strategy	
(Leader)	Medium Term Financial Strategy	
	(MTFS)	
	 Budgetary Policy (linking MTFS 	
	and four year plan)	
	 Economic and Business Growth 	
Resources	Finance (Budget and Debt	
(Deputy	Management)	
Leader)	Benefits	
	 Procurement 	
	 Asset Management 	
	 ICT Business Continuity 	
	Member Services	
	 Transformation 	
Safety and	Community Safety	
Wellbeing	 Public Health Protection 	
	 Performance Management 	
	Licensing	
	 Police and Crime Panel 	
	 South Notts Crime Prevention 	
	Member Development	

Community Services	 Leisure Strategy Community Engagement Young People Customer Access and Communications Cultural Services
Environment	 Waste Management Waste Services Fleet Management Streetwise Environmental Protection Recycling Community Emergency Planning
Sustainability	 Planning Policy (Local Plan) Strategic Housing Policy Environmental Protections in Developments Development Control Building Control

7.3 Leader

The Leader will be a Councillor elected by the Council at their annual meeting following the local government elections for a period of four years or until the Leader's term of office as a Councillor ends.

The Leader shall otherwise continue to hold office as above unless:

- The Council by resolution removes the Leader during his or her term of office whereupon his or her term of office as Leader shall end on the day of that Council meeting; or
- He/she resigns from the office; or
- * He/she is suspended from being a Councillor under Part III of the Local Government Act 2000 (although he/she may resume office at the end of the period of suspension).

If the Council removes a Leader by resolution, the Council must elect a new Leader at the same meeting.

The Leader shall determine the number of Councillors who may be appointed to the Cabinet subject to a maximum of ten, including the Leader. The Leader will appoint Councillors to the Cabinet positions.

The Leader shall appoint one of the Members of the Cabinet to be his or her Deputy. The Deputy Leader shall hold office for the same term as the Leader unless:

- a) He/she is removed from office by the Leader; or ceases to be a Councillor; or
- b) He/she resigns from the office; or
- c) He/she is suspended from being a Councillor under Part III of the Local Government Act 2000 (although he/she may resume the role of Deputy Leader at the end of the period of suspension).

The Leader shall allocate Cabinet portfolios to other Cabinet Members. The Leader may also appoint Member Champions to support and assist the Cabinet positions.

The Leader shall report to the Council on all appointments to, and changes to, the Cabinet and Member Champions positions.

If for any reason the Leader is unable to act, or the office of Leader is vacant, the Deputy Leader must act in place of the Leader.

If for any reason the Leader and Deputy Leader are both unable to act or their offices are vacant, then the Cabinet must act in the Leader's place or arrange for a Member of the Cabinet to do so.

7.4 Other Cabinet Members

Other Cabinet Members will be appointed by the Leader on his/her appointment at the annual Council meeting and shall hold office until:

- (a) they are replaced by the Leader at any time; or
- (b) they resign from office; or
- (c) they cease to be a Councillor; or
- (d) he/she is suspended from being a Councillor under Part III of the Local Government Act 2000 (although he/she may resume office at the end of the period of suspension)

7.5 **Member Champions**

'Member Champions' will remain in place until:

- (a) they are replaced by the Leader at any time; or
- (b) they resign from office; or
- (c) they cease to be a Councillor.

Each 'Member Champion' will be allocated a theme to reflect their alignment with a particular Cabinet Portfolio.

7.6 The role of and remit the Member Champions is:

To fulfil their role effective a Member Champion will:

- Act in the wider interest of the council and not merely represent the interests of their wards or local community groups.
- Be sensitive to Council priorities; although they may be advocating the opinions of a particular group of people or bodies, they should not do so at the expense of Council Policy and Corporate Policies.

• <u>Lead and respond to the relevant wider range of issues rather than</u> <u>focussing upon their own specific issues within the topic area</u>

<u>Champions will retain focus on the thematic topic they have been allocated by:</u>

- Raising and championing the profile of the topic/issue both internally and externally whilst continuing to act within the accordance with existing Council policy.
- <u>Fostering the engagement of a wider range of Members in the review, support and development of the issue.</u>
- Promoting effective communication and positive working relationships both within the Council and amongst partners, stakeholders and community groups.
- <u>Promoting the positive work that is being undertaken within the Borough, at a local, regional and national level.</u>
- Through agreed communication arrangements with the portfolio holder and senior management team provide positive support, and on occasions, constructive challenge to officers in driving forward the Council's agenda on the assigned issue.

7.7 Proceedings of the Cabinet

Proceedings of the Cabinet shall take place in accordance with the Executive Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution.

7.8 Responsibility for Functions

The Leader shall allocate Cabinet portfolios to other Cabinet Members.

The Council will determine any delegation of responsibility to individual members of the Cabinet, committees of the Cabinet, officers or joint arrangements for the exercise of particular executive functions. The delegations arrangements are set out in Part 3 – Responsibility for Functions of this Constitution.

Standard Checklist for Reports

Meeting:	Cabinet - 9 J	ary 2010		
Report Title:	Member Cha	mpions 2013-14		
Author:				
its preparation	on and in the r	ecommendations m	and have been properly co ade. Appropriate consultation equired. (See notes on the i	on has been
Financial			Human Rights	
Legal			Equal Opportunities	
Policy			Crime and Disorder	
Risk Manage	ement		Environment/EMAS (Mark all approp	inate boxes)
Has the relev	ant Deputy C	hief Executive signe	ed off the report	Yes/No
		hief Executive signe	ed off the report	Yes/No Yes/No
		•	ed off the report	
Has this repo	ort been consi	dered by SMT	ed off the report er any of the above categor	Yes/No
Has this repo	ort been consi	dered by SMT	·	Yes/No
Has this repo	ort been consi	dered by SMT	·	Yes/No
Has this repo	ort been consi	dered by SMT	·	Yes/No
Has this report Comments: If you do not state why.	ort been consider think your rep	dered by SMT	·	Yes/No
Has this report Comments: If you do not state why.	ort been consi	dered by SMT	·	Yes/No

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

9 July 2013

Financial Outturn 2012/13



Report of the Executive Manager – Finance and Commercial

Cabinet Portfolio Holder – Councillor J A Cranswick

Background

- 1. The purpose of this report is to outline the year-end financial outturn position for 2012/13, linked to the closure of accounts process. The draft statement of accounts was approved by the Executive Manager Finance and Commercial on the 28 June 2013. This enables a timely start to the formal audit process.
- 2. Work is now being carried out to prepare the Council for the audit by KPMG, the Council's external auditors.
- 3. The Council is required to categorise its income and expenditure as either Revenue or Capital. Revenue income and expenditure is included in the General Fund, with Capital included in the Capital Programme. The provisional Financial Outturn 2012/13 for Revenue (ie the General Fund) and Capital is presented below.
- 4. The report also outlines the position on reserves and the use of those reserves.

Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that Cabinet:

- a. Notes the 2012/13 year end underspend of £610,000 (paragraph 7);
- b. Note the position regarding Municipal Mutual Insurance (MMI) (paragraph 8);
- c. Approves the Capital carry forwards outlined at paragraphs 11 and 12 and **Appendix B**; and
- d. Approves the changes to the Council's earmarked reserves outlined at paragraph 13.

General Fund

- 5. The General Fund account deals with the Council's revenue income and expenditure, which is generally day to day expenditure or on items used within the year.
- 6. The projected outturn position for the General Fund has been reported to the Corporate Governance Group and Cabinet regularly during 2012/13. The year-end financial statements are subject to the audit by KPMG.

- 7. The overall position on the General Fund budget gives a £610,000 underspend (this includes £462,000 of New Homes Bonus). Additionally the Council has not had to call upon £591,000 of Reserves as planned in the original budget strategy. This is reflective of the four year savings plan taking effect. **Appendix A** details the main variances, salient points to note include:
 - Employee savings of £129,000
 - Local Development Plan underspend of £67,000
 - Net income from the Cotgrave Town Centre redevelopment of £100,000 and
 - Rental income from The Point and other investment properties of £130,000
- 8. There is an overspend in Finance and Commercial partly due to lower than budgeted interest receipts of £137,000.
- 9. The Council has a liability under the scheme of arrangement established following the transfer of the assets and goodwill of Municipal Mutual Insurance (MMI) to Zurich Municipal on 1 April 1993. The liabilities of MMI were not transferred to Zurich Municipal and the company has been exploring ways in which these liabilities can be transferred to another insurer to enable MMI to be wound up. MMI has notified the Council to inform us that there is no alternative to insolvent liquidation than to trigger the Scheme of Arrangement. A Scheme Administrator has been appointed. The Council is a Scheme creditor and has been notified that a payment is required of £43,000.
- 10. The level of the General Fund balance remains at £2.6m, which is significantly above the minimum provision outlined in the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (£1.25m). The position on the Council's earmarked reserves is covered at paragraph 14. These are important resources as the Council is likely to continue to suffer pressure on its revenue budget in the medium to long term.

Capital Programme

11. The Capital Programme deals with the Council's Capital expenditure, which relates primarily to spending on Council assets (i.e. an item with an expected life of more than one year). The table below sets out the outturn position for 2012/13. This shows the Programme is underspent by £2.1m. Underspends on capital are not unusual given the often complex nature of schemes and involvement of third parties. Explanations are stated at paragraph 12 along with the identification of balances to be carried forward. More detailed analysis is contained within **Appendix B**.

Service Area	Budget	Actual	Variance	Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000	(%)
Transformation and Innovation	5,010	4,064	(946)	-18.8
Neighbourhoods	1,576	1,014	(562)	-35.7
Communities	734	285	(449)	-61.2
Corporate Governance	150	80	(70)	-46.6
Finance and Commercial	75	31	(44)	-58.7
Contingency	52	0	(52)	-100
Total	7,597	5,474	(2,123)	-27.9
Financing Analysis				
Capital Receipts	(4,570)	(3,222)	(1,348)	-29.5
Government Grants	(2,250)	(2,074)	(176)	-7.8
Other Grants/Contributions	(86)	(35)	(51)	-59.3
S106 Contributions	(604)	(78)	(526)	-87.1
Use of Reserves	(87)	(65)	(22)	-25.3
Total	(7,597)	(5,474)	(2,123)	-27.9

12. Commentary regarding the main variances in the capital programme are as follows:

(a) Transformation and Innovation

The underspend primarily relates to the Cotgrave Masterplan, with spend to date representing strategic acquisitions and project management costs. It is proposed that the unspent balance of £858,000 is carried forward. There is also an underspend of £25,000 on footpath enhancements to be carried forward for a larger schedule of work in 2013/14.

(b) Neighbourhoods

The underspend of £562,000 arises primarily in relation to spend for Support for Registered Housing Providers. Spending plans have been reviewed and the budget is to be re-phased to 2013/14 and 2014/15 with £468,000 carried forward. There is a further £33,000 to be carried forward for expenditure in relation to the Council's private sector housing renewal strategy. A new Streetwise van has been commissioned but it will not be delivered until May 2013, the budget of £36,000 is to be carried forward.

(c) Communities

The underspend relates to the delayed outcome of the Alford Road Options re-appraisal together with predicted underspends on Partnership Grants and Community Partnership Reward Grants. Carry forwards amount to £437,000.

(d) Corporate Governance

The underspend of £70,000 relates to the ICT Strategy, in particular with regards to replacement PCs and the installation of the Uninterruptable Power Supply (UPS) carried out in April 2013, with the request that £45,000 is carried forward.

(e) Finance and Commercial

The underspend of £44,000 relates to the saving on Cotgrave Leisure Centre car park. To complete the works £3,000 is to be carried forward.

13. After taking account of carry forwards (totalling £1.905m, see **Appendix B**) the underlying position is that the Capital Programme will have an underspend of £253,000 (3.3% of the overall programme). The carry forwards equate to 25% of the programme.

Earmarked Reserves

- 14. The position on the Council' Reserves is highlighted in the following table. The key points to note are:
 - The level of reserves has increased from £7.768m to £8.378m (by £0.61m or 7.9%)
 - The Cotgrave Regeneration Project Reserve has been created to hold surplus income from the Shopping Precinct which will be reinvested in the overall development
 - £0.462m of New Homes Bonus has been received, with the reserve now standing at £0.785m, and
 - The Organisational Stabilisation Reserve has increased by £0.518m to £2.531m. It should be noted that as detailed in the budget agreed by Council on 7 March 2013 it is scheduled that £890,000 of this reserve will be utilised in 2013/14

	Balance at 1 April 2012	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Balance 31 March 2013
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Investment Reserves				
Regeneration & Community Projects	2,101	100	65	2,136
Cotgrave Regeneration Project	0	100	0	100
Council Assets & Service Delivery	656	30	2	684
Local Area Agreement	294	0	0	294
New Homes Bonus	323	462	0	785
Invest to Save	1,161	0	500	661
Corporate Reserves				
Organisational Stabilisation Reserve	2,013	518	0	2,531
Risk & Insurance	100	0	0	100
Planning Appeals	349	0	0	349
Elections	200	0	0	200
Operating Reserves				
Planning	203	0	0	203
Leisure Centre Maintenance	213	87	120	180
Lottery	55	0	0	55
Planned Maintenance	100	0	0	100
Total	7,768	1,297	687	8,378

Conclusion

15. The Council continues to face many significant financial challenges. The 2012/13 financial outturn position demonstrates how the Council manages to balance a shrinking budget with a culture of prudence, and through the capital programme focuses on investment and growth in the Borough.

Financial Comments

The financial comments are contained within the report.

Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act

There are no direct section 17 implications

Diversity

There are no direct diversity implications.

Background Papers Available for Inspection: Statement of Accounts 2012/13

Revenue Budget 2012/13- Main Variances over £50,000

Service Area	Description	Under () / Overspends
Communities		
Development Control	Vacancies resulting in employee budget underspends.	(£57,000)
Local Development Framework	Delays in the delivery of the Local Plan.	(£67,000)
Corporate Governance		
IT Consumables	Re-negotiated contract savings and PC replacement costs being capitalised	(£98,000)
Finance and Commercial		
Corporate Management	Adjustment due to potential insolvency of Municipal Mutual Insurance (MMI) and residual write-offs arising from the 2011/12 audit of accounts	£108,000
Leisure Centres	Savings on utilities and payments to Parkwood	(£104,000)
Finance	Executive Manager, agency and secondment costs in relation to challenges in Finance	£185,000
Investment Interest	Continuing low interest rates	£137,000
Non-distributed costs	Savings on superannuation 'back funding' and pensions payments	(£135,000)
Neighbourhoods		
Streetwise	Vacancies resulting in employee budget underspends.	(£75,000)
Transformation		
Transformation	Salary and supplies and services budget underspent.	(£116,000)
Investment Properties	Additional rental income largely as a result of the The Point and Cotgrave Town Centre investments	(£230,000)

2012/13 Capital Programme Outturn Position

	Budget YTD	Actual YTD	Variance	Carry Forward	Saving	Overspend	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£'000
TRANSFORMATION & INNOVATION							
Cotgrave Masterplan	2,795	1,937	(858)	(858)			(858)
Rushcliffe Community Contact Centre	20	0	(20)		(20)		(20)
The Point	2,127	2,127	0				0
Civic Centre Energy Efficiency	20	0	(20)		(20)		(20)
Park Lodge Structural Repairs	23	0	(23)		(23)		(23)
Footpath Enhancements	25	0	(25)	(25)	0		(25)
	5,010	4,064	(946)	(883)	(63)	0	(946)
NEIGHBOURHOODS	, ,,,,,	1,001	(0.10)	(333)	(00)		(0.10)
Disabled Facilities Grants	580	571	(9)		(9)		(9)
Decent Homes Grants	33	0	(33)	(33)	0		(33)
			(33)	(00)			
Support for Registered Housing Providers	550	82	(468)	(468)			(468)
Nitrogen Dioxide Monitor	16	0	(16)		(16)		(16)
Wheeled Bins Acquisition	63	63	0				0
Vehicle Replacement	334	298	(36)	(36)			(36)
	1,576	1,014	(562)	(537)	(25)	0	(562)

	Budget YTD	Actual YTD	Variance	Carry Forward	Saving	Overspend	Total
COMMUNITIES				. o. wara			
Gresham Pavilion Legionella	75	72	(3)	(3)			(3)
Partnership Grants	111	35	(76)	(30)	(46)		(76)
Alford Road Pavilion Redevelopment	350	0	(350)	(350)			(350)
Community Partnership Reward Grants	73	19	(54)	(54)			(54)
				,			, ,
Boiler Replacement	0	35	35			35	35
Rushcliffe Country Park Climbing Frame	25	24	(1)		(1)		(1)
Skate Park Facilities, The Hook	100	100	0				0
The Hook Multi Use Games Area	0	0	0	0	0		0
	734	285	(449)	(437)	(47)	35	(449)
CORPORATE GOVERNANCE			, ,	,	,		
IS Strategy	150	80	(70)	(45)	(25)		(70)
	150	80	(70)	(45)	(25)	0	(70)
FINANCE & COMMERCIAL			(1-0)	(10)	(==)		(10)
Rushcliffe Leisure Centre Changing Room	0	0	0	0	0		0
Supply & Extraction Unit							
Cotgrave Leisure Centre Car Park Resurfacing	75	31	(44)	(3)	(41)		(44)
	75	31	(44)	(3)	(41)	0	(44)
CONTINGENCY	52	0	(52)		(52)		(52)
Total	7,597	5,474	(2,123)	(1,905)	(253)	35	(2,123)