When telephoning, please ask for: Direct dial Email Laura Webb 0115 914 8511 constitutionalservices@rushcliffe.gov.uk

Our reference: Your reference: Date: Monday, 1 October 2018

To all Members of the Cabinet

Dear Councillor

A Meeting of the Cabinet will be held on Tuesday, 9 October 2018 at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber Area B, Rushcliffe Arena, Rugby Road, West Bridgford to consider the following items of business.

Yours sincerely

Sanjit Sull Monitoring Officer

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for Absence
- 2. Declarations of Interest
- 3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 July (Pages 1 8)
- 4. Opposition Group Leaders' Questions

To answer questions submitted by Opposition Group Leaders on items on the agenda.

5. Citizens' Questions

To answer questions submitted by citizens on the Council or its services.

- 6. Proposal for the Abbey Road Site (Pages 9 14)
- 7. Report on the 5 year Housing Supply in Rushcliffe

Report to follow.



Rushcliffe Community Contact Centre

Rectory Road West Bridgford Nottingham NG2 6BU

In person Monday to Friday

8.30am - 5pm First Saturday of each month 9am - 1pm

By telephone Monday to Friday 8.30am - 5pm

Telephone: 0115 981 9911

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www.rushcliffe.gov.uk

Postal address Rushcliffe Borough Council Rushcliffe Arena Rugby Road West Bridgford Nottingham NG2 7YG



8. Revenue Capital Budget Monitoring Period 4 (Pages 15 - 28)

The report of the Executive Manager – Finance and Corporate Services.

9. Business Rates Pilot Update (Pages 29 - 36)

The report of the Executive Manager – Finance and Corporate Services.

<u>Membership</u>

Chairman: Councillor S J Robinson Vice-Chairman: Councillor D Mason Councillors: A Edyvean, G Moore and R Upton 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 at the far side of the plaza outside the main entrance to the building.

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CABINET TUESDAY, 10 JULY 2018

Held at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber Area B, Rushcliffe Arena, Rugby Road, West Bridgford

PRESENT:

Councillors S J Robinson (Chairman), D Mason (Vice-Chairman), A Edyvean, G Moore and R Upton

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillors R Jones, A MacInnes and R Mallender

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

D Banks

J Crowle A Graham D Mitchell L Webb S Whittaker Executive Manager -Neighbourhoods Monitoring Officer Chief Executive Executive Manager - Communities Constitutional Services Officer Financial Services Manager

APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies.

9 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

10 Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 June 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 12 June 2018 were approved as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

11 **Opposition Group Leaders' Questions**

There were no questions.

12 **Citizens' Questions**

a) Question from Carys Thomas to Councillor Upton

"Why has outline planning permission for the land South of Clifton not yet been granted, despite the fact that authority to do so was delegated to the Executive Manager (Communities) on 25 January 2018? Delay on this site is negatively affecting the housing land supply calculations, meaning that East Leake is subject to explosive housing growth far in excess of the minimum level stated in the Core Strategy."

Councillor Upton responded that the granting of planning permission was dependent on the signature of the associated Section 106 Agreement. It was noted that the agreement was substantially complete and was currently with the applicants solicitors for final agreement. It was anticipated that outline planning permission would be granted in the near future.

Councillor Robinson noted that he and the Chief Executive had recently met with the applicant and developers and that they were keen to proceed with outline planning permission as soon as possible.

b) Question from Conrad Oatley to Councillor Upton

"Why is the Council taking so long to implement CIL? Are you aware that while you are delaying this, the pooling rules mean that East Leake is losing large amounts of developer S106 contributions which could be used for much needed infrastructure such as a new Health Centre and sports pavilion?"

Councillor Upton noted that the Council's proposals for the introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) would be discussed at that evening's Cabinet meeting. It was noted that the introduction of CIL had been linked to the work associated with the development of the Local Plan Part 2 which still required further consultation and external examination before its adoption.

It was also noted that the Council had supported East Leake Parish Council by objecting to several planning applications but that these applications had been granted on appeal. Councillor Upton advised that planning applications that had already been approved could not be made retrospectively liable for CIL, but that the Council would progress to implement CIL as fast as it reasonably could if the first initial steps to enable the process to implement CIL were approved by Cabinet later that evening.

c) Vivien Stickland to Councillor Debbie Mason

"Could you advise how the Council ensures that it meets its Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act across all Council departments, and has it ever failed to meet this requirement? In addition could you also advise how progress in this area is monitored and reported to Councillors."

Councillor Mason responded that the Council ensured that all employees received equality awareness training. It was also noted that the Council ensured that the Council paid due regard to its Equality Duty. Councillor Mason advised that the Council also produced Equality Impact Assessments when considering new policies and initiatives. It was noted that the Council also had an Equalities scheme which set out the aims of the Council, what the Council had achieved and what the Council's objectives were in the future with regard to equalities. Councillor Mason advised that all relevant and monitoring data was reported back to the Performance Management Board on an annual basis and was available for the public to view on the Council's website. It was noted that every public sector organisation was working hard to ensure that the equality requirements were met.

13 **Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Charging Schedule**

The Portfolio Holder for Housing, Planning and Waste Management presented the report of the Executive Manager – Communities to provide an update on the latest position in the development of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) in Rushcliffe Borough following consultation on the preliminary draft charging during in February and March 2017.

The Portfolio Holder advised that the Government had introduced the legislation in 2010 that enabled local authorities to introduce a Community Infrastructure Levy which would fund new infrastructure required to support growth. It was noted that CIL was intended to sit alongside Section 106 and other legal agreements in order to fund new infrastructure to support development. The two would operate together, on the basis that, generally, Section 106 agreements would be used to secure new infrastructure that is required to support individual development schemes (particularly on-site facilities) and CIL would be used to fund new infrastructure that was required to support a number of developments. The Portfolio Holder advised that CIL was a charge levied on new buildings and extensions to buildings according to their floor area, with the rate changed being based upon a charging schedule set by the local authority. The charging schedule is set only after a formal process, concluding in an Examination in Public.

It was noted that in October 2016 Cabinet had resolved to support the principle of establishing a Community Infrastructure Levy and supported a proposed timetable for its preparation, examination and adoption (Minute No. 22, 2016/17). It was also noted that the Community Levy Infrastructure intended to sit alongside Section 106 and other agreements in order to fund new infrastructure and to support development. It was explained that Section 106 agreements would be used to secure new infrastructure that was required to support individual development schemes and that the Community Infrastructure Levy would be used to fund new infrastructure required to support a number of new developments.

The Portfolio Holder also requested Cabinet support a six week public consultation on the Community Infrastructure Levy drafting schedule and supporting documentation including the draft regulation 123 list prior to being submitted for independent examination. If endorsed by Cabinet, an additional report would be presented to Cabinet to approve a formal adoption of the Community Infrastructure Levy. The draft documents were attached as appendices to the officer's report.

The Portfolio Holder advised that the Community Infrastructure Levy for Rushcliffe would only be adopted if it supported the provision of infrastructure required to deliver the Local Plan and if it could be set at an economically viable rate. It was noted that under the Community Infrastructure Levy regulations, Parish and Town Council areas where the Community Infrastructure Levy was charged would receive a proportion of Community Infrastructure Levy receipts to spend on infrastructure that they requested.

In seconding the recommendations Councillor Edyvean thanked the officers for producing the comprehensive report and hoped that once the six-week public consultation was completed, the Community Infrastructure Levy could be adopted.

The Executive Manager – Communities advised that the receipts received from CIL could only be spent on community infrastructure improvements. It was also noted that following a public consultation, the Community Infrastructure Levy could be adopted by March 2019.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- a) the CIL draft charging schedule and supporting documentation, including the draft regulation 123 list for a six week public consultation, be approved.
- b) the Executive Manager Communities be delegated authority to make minor modifications to the draft charging schedule prior to public consultation, and to consult on the draft charging schedule in line with the statutory regulations.
- c) the Executive Manager Communities, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Planning and Waste Management, be delegated authority, to make the final decision as to whether to proceed with the submission of a draft charging schedule, representations made and evidence base, together with any proposed modifications, forward to public examination.

REASON FOR DECISIONS

To ensure that the impacts of development are mitigated as far as possible through improvements to infrastructure across the Borough.

14 Bingham Leisure Centre - Feasibility Options

The Portfolio Holder for Community and Leisure presented the report of the Executive Manager – Communities to provide information on the feasibility study and options appraisal of potential locations for a new leisure centre at Bingham, and the associated financial, operational and technical implications of the various options.

In in June 2017 Cabinet had approved the Council's Leisure Facilities Strategy for 2017 – 2027 that detailed Bingham Leisure Centre as the facility in greatest need of major improvement (Minute No. 5 2017/18). Following the leisure strategy approval, a feasibility study had taken place in November 2017 on four potential locations for a new leisure centre in Bingham along with the associated financial, operation and technical implications associated with the construction of a new leisure centre at each potential site.

The Portfolio Holder advised that potential locations had been considered on the Toot Hill School site where Bingham Leisure Centre was currently located, however, the feasibility study had concluded that all of the identified locations on the school site presented significant and prohibitive challenges due to accessibility problems and their close proximity to nearby houses. It was therefore recommended that a new stand-alone facility be built off the school site. The Portfolio Holder requested Cabinet approval for further investigations be made on the feasibility of the construction of a new leisure centre within the available Council owned land adjacent to Chapel Lane, Bingham. The Portfolio Holder presented two 'facility mix' options that outlined the options for facilities that could be available at the leisure centre. Facility mix one included sports facilities as well as office space. Facility mix two included the majority of sports facilities and office space outlined in mix one minus the sports hall and replacement track/infield.

The Portfolio Holder also asked Cabinet to consider the financial implications of the feasibility study and of the construction of a new leisure centre in Bingham and asked for approval for the allocation of £40,000 from the investment and regeneration project to undertake a business case feasibility study, site investigations and design works for an integrated leisure and commercial development on the Chapel Lane site. The financial cost estimates of facility mix one was estimated at £20.5 million - £21. 4 million and facility mix two was estimated to cost £16.1 million plus inflation at £1.4 million over two years. It was also estimated that facility mix one would return a surplus of £188.000 per annum and that facility mix two would return a surplus of £104,000, which included annualised maintenance replacement costs. It was noted that due to the Council's diminishing capital resources borrowing would be required. It was explained that based on a PWLB loan at 2.82% over 40 years for the full cost of the development; annual repayments would be approximately £944,000 for facility mix one and £709,000 for facility mix two. The development of a new leisure centre would therefore put financial pressure on the Council's budget going forward. The Portfolio Holder stated that it was expected that the wider commercial development at Chapel Lane could offset some of these costs and that costs could also be reduced by any external funding secured such as section 106 developer contributions or grants from Sport England. The Portfolio Holder advised that if approved by Cabinet the results of the feasibility study would be produced in 2019.

In seconding the recommendations Councillor Moore reiterated the financial implications of developing a new leisure centre as it would mean that the Council would no longer be debt free. However, it was noted that the £40,000 required from the investment and regeneration budget to undertake a business case feasibility study, site investigations and design works was good value for money in terms of the bigger picture in investing up to £20 million for the proposed new leisure centre.

Councillor Upton advised that the current Bingham Leisure Centre was built in the 1960s and was only intended to have a 60-year life span, therefore, it was critical for the Council to explore feasibility options for a new leisure centre as the current site was no longer fit for purpose. Councillor Upton highlighted the importance of the Council investing in the land at Chapel Lane and how much of a valuable asset it was for developing new facilities for residents. Councillor Robinson noted that some of the financial implications of developing a new leisure centre would be mitigated by the commercial investments planned for the land at Chapel Lane. It was also noted that the position of Bingham Leisure Centre was strategically placed to target the new housing developments in Bingham and the villages both within and outside of the Borough.

The Chief Executive advised Cabinet that the Council would work tirelessly to minimise the financial impact of the development of a new leisure centre and that the public sector partnerships model would be explored which would maximise the number of feasibility options.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- a) the findings of the Bingham Leisure Centre options appraisal and feasibility study and the associated significant financial implications, be noted.
- b) detailed investigations of the feasibility of constructing a new leisure centre at Chapel Lane, Bingham on land owned by the Council as part of a wider commercial development of the site, be commenced.
- c) £40,000 be allocated from the investment and regeneration project budget to undertake a business case feasibility study, site investigations, and design works for an integrated leisure and commercial development of the site.
- d) a further report be brought to Cabinet before the end of financial year 2018/19 covering the financial, business and community outcomes of an integrated leisure and commercial development at Chapel Lane.

REASON FOR DECISIONS

To further investigate and assess the feasibility of the various options for future leisure centre provision in Bingham.

15 **Revised Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy**

The Portfolio Holder for Community and Leisure presented the report of the Executive Manager – Communities on proposed revisions to the Council's Contaminated Land Strategy to reflect changes in Government policy since the strategy had last been reviewed in 2010.

The Portfolio Holder advised that Contaminated Land was land that posed a significant risk to people, underground waters, surface waters, ecological systems and property because of substances contained within it. It was noted that local authorities were required by law to inspect their areas to identify Contaminated Land, and that if Contaminated Land was found, the Council must take steps to control the risks caused by the contamination.

The revised strategy was attached as an appendix to the officer's report and proposed that in line with Government policy changes that responsibility to fund the inspection of contaminated land would fall on the on the landowner and their insurance companies through the planning regime. It was noted that the Council would still investigate reports of contaminated land and may take immediate and direct action in extreme cases for example if the contamination was to arise on Council owned land.

In seconding the recommendation, Councillor Upton advised that it was important that the Council updated its contaminated land strategy in line with new government policy and funding. Councillor Robinson noted that it was important that the Council's contaminated land strategy was kept up to date to fulfil the Council's duty to inspect and identify areas of contaminated land in order to reduce the risk that contaminated land possessed to residents.

It was **RESOLVED** that the revised Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy be approved and implemented.

REASON FOR DECISION

Local authorities are required by law to inspect their areas to identify Contaminated Land. If Contaminated Land is found, the Council must take steps to control the risks caused by the contamination.

The meeting closed at 7.35 pm.

CHAIRMAN

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Report of the Executive Manager, Transformation

Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Business and Economic Growth: Councillor Andy Edyvean

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The Council has a long-held ambition to vacate the depot at Abbey Road. This would enable the site to be available for housing growth in the borough. Work is being undertaken by officers on how the services that operate from the site can be delivered from alternative locations and a report will be presented to November Cabinet on those options.
- 1.2. This report considers the work being undertaken to prepare the site for the delivery of future housing and sets out a route to market for Cabinet to agree. There are several things that can be achieved from the delivery of housing on the site:
 - Much needed additional housing numbers (both private and affordable) to assist with the 5 year housing land supply
 - The potential for a landmark scheme that showcases great design
 - A capital receipt for the Council that will assist in the costs of providing the depot services from alternative sites.

2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that Cabinet

- a) Agrees that officers undertake the necessary work to submit an outline planning application for housing on the Abbey Road site, accompanied by a design code
- b) Dependent on an appropriate planning permission for the site being secured, authorises the Deputy Chief Executive to undertake a marketing exercise for the disposal of the site with the benefit of a planning permission for housing
- c) Requests a follow up report with the results of the marketing exercise and detailing any other options for the Council to consider with regards the future development of the site.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

When the Council attains its ambitions of vacating the depot site, then it will have a land holding that is likely to be surplus to operational requirements. The site is in a residential area and designated as a brownfield site. As such it could be suitable for conversion to a housing site. This report does not ask for approval to dispose of the site, rather to put together a scheme for a potential housing development which can then be marketed and considered by Cabinet at a future date.

4. The Abbey Road Site

- 4.1. The Abbey Road site is currently used for storage of refuse trucks, vehicle maintenance and sorting of some recyclables. It has some contamination from previous uses and is also home to a nuclear bunker. The R2Go office team and Streetwise are based from the site as well as the County Council transport service. The site is approximately 1.8 ha, forming a loose rectangular shape as seen on the below plan. The site is relatively flat in topography and there are however a number of existing buildings on site, the most notable of which is the brick-built former bus depot.
- 4.2. The land is bounded on all sides by housing, save for the lower eastern boundary which abuts local allotment gardens. Vehicular access to the site from the north is via Abbey Road, and from the south is onto Buckfast Way. Although the site is located in the heart of the residential neighbourhood, it is only a short walk to the centre of West Bridgford and its local amenities. The adjacent western access road, to the rear of Abbey Road, may be considered for inclusion within a scheme, but access to existing properties would need to be retained.



5. Homes England Land Release Fund

- 5.1. The Council has secured £300k of Homes England Land Release Funding (LRF) for the Abbey Road site. This money is specifically allocated to Local Authorities who are in a position to release land for housing by March 2020. The funding allocated to the Council can be allocated to preparing Abbey Road for disposal or development. This could include surveys, site remediation works and design work to get to the stage of securing planning permission on the site.
- 5.2. According to the Homes England requirements, a site supported by an LRF funding award can count as released at the point at which any one of the below occur (whichever occurs first):
 - An unconditional contract, development agreement or building licence with a private sector partner is signed or freehold transfer takes place (whichever is sooner)
 - It has transferred to a local development vehicle
 - Housing starts on site.

6. Work to Date

- 6.1. In November 2017 Cabinet considered a report on property company options which also covered the Council's desire to facilitate the delivery of more housing and as part of that report set out some options for Abbey Road following the adoption of Local Plan part 2.
- 6.2. In the event, the Abbey Road site was not included in Local Plan part 2 primarily because as a brownfield site listed on the Council's brownfield register, it is already deemed to be a developable site for housing.
- 6.3. A number of surveys have been undertaken on the site and the next step is to consider how to bring the housing forward. The following options are available to the Council:
 - Dispose of the site as straight land sale with or without overage
 - Work up a scheme for the site and dispose of it with the benefit of planning permission once an acceptable scheme is approved by the planning authority
 - Work up a scheme for the site and then act as the developer itself
 - Set up a joint venture company with a developer partner.
- 6.4. It is recommended that in order to have some certainty over the quality and standard of a future housing development, and to facilitate a prestige legacy site following the depot vacating the site the following actions are undertaken:
 - the Council works up a scheme for the site,
 - the Council submits this for planning permission
 - the Council then has the option to either

- a) sell the site with the benefit of planning permission or
- b) develop the site itself with or without a joint venture partner.

7. Indicative Timeline

- 7.1. Subject to Cabinet agreement to progress designing a residential scheme for Abbey Road, the following gives an indicative timeline to delivery:
 - November-December 2018 procure architects to develop and submit an outline planning application and design code for the site
 - June 2019 planning application to go to Planning Committee for determination
 - September 2019 subject to appropriate planning permission having been granted, the site is marketed
 - October/November 2019 results of the marketing exercise are presented to Cabinet along with any other options for the delivery of the site.
- 7.2. It is important to state that any planning application submitted by the appointed architects on behalf of the Council will be subject to the Council's planning policies and will be determined by the Planning Committee, objectively, on its merits.

8. Alternative Options Considered and Reasons for Rejection

- 8.1. The Council could market the land as a developable site without the benefit of an outline planning permission and design code. The reason this option is not recommended is that the Council would have less influence on the design and layout of the final scheme with this option.
- 8.2. The Council could promote a different use for the site other than housing eg industrial or employment units. This is not recommended because the site is in a residential area, and because the Council is keen to promote additional housing due to the challenges of delivering 5 year housing land supply. The Council operates employment sites elsewhere in Cotgrave and is acquiring some units in Bingham.
- 8.3. How the site is ultimately delivered will be subject to a further Cabinet report and decision. Cabinet will then be able to consider any bids submitted for the purchase of the site in comparison to it developing the site itself.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

9.1. The future development of the Abbey Road site is subject to achieving vacant possession. Currently the land is an operational asset providing depot services for Rushcliffe, as well as housing tenants such as Streetwise and Nottinghamshire County Council transport services. A further report will be submitted in November setting out the proposals for relocating these services.

9.2. The £300k of Land Release Funding is dependent on releasing the site for housing as set out in paragraph 5.2. The Council has received this funding already. Any delays in delivering the site past March 2020 could result in the government asking for this funding to be returned.

10. Implications

10.1. Financial Implications

- The £300k of Land Release Funding will be allocated to the surveys, architect's fees and remediation works (eg demolition of existing buildings) required to enable the Council to get to a position to market the site. This is additional funding since the capital programme was set in March 2018 and increases project viability.
- The capital receipt for the site will assist with the costs of relocating the depot operations to alternative location(s), including the revenue consequences of relocating R2Go.
- The capital budget has always presented the depot relocation as ideally being cost neutral ie the development of Abbey Road is not earmarked to create a capital receipt in excess of covering the costs of relocation. Any uplift on this would be a helpful, but unbudgeted capital receipt. There is also a risk that the cost of relocation could exceed the capital receipt secured which would result in additional financial pressure on the Council's medium term financial strategy. This would need to be mitigated by either re-phasing existing schemes or by internal/external borrowing.

10.2. Legal Implications

• There are no legal implications arising from this report.

10.3. Equalities Implications

• The design code will include reference to building homes for life and the scheme will be designed with accessibility in mind. In addition, the affordable housing element of the scheme (30 percent) will be designed with local need in mind.

10.4. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Implications

• The design code will include reference to designing out crime.

11. Link to Corporate Priorities

- Redevelopment of the Abbey Road site will support the delivery of the Council's Corporate Priorities by:
 - Delivering economic growth to ensure a sustainable, prosperous and thriving local economy; and

• Maintaining and enhancing our residents' quality of life.

12. Recommendations

It is RECOMMENDED that Cabinet:

- a) Agrees that officers undertake the necessary work to be able to submit an outline planning application for housing on the Abbey Road site, accompanied by a design code
- b) Dependent on an appropriate planning permission for the site being secured, authorises the Deputy Chief Executive to undertake a marketing exercise for the disposal of the site with the benefit of a planning permission for housing
- c) Requests a follow up report with the results of the marketing exercise and detailing any other options for the Council to consider with regards the future development of the site.

For more information contact:	Kath Marriott Executive Manager - Transformation an Operations Tel: 0115 9148291 kmarriott@rushcliffe.gov.uk	d
Background papers available for Inspection:	Nil	
List of appendices:		



Cabinet

Tuesday 9 October 2018

Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Period 4

Report of the Executive Manager – Finance and Corporate Services

Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Finance Councillor Gordon Moore

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. This report presents the budget position for revenue and capital as at 31 July 2018 along with the appropriate recommendations. The report was considered by the Corporate Governance Group (20 September 2018) with no significant issues raised. Given the current financial climate, it is imperative that the Council maintains due diligence with regards to its finances and ensures necessary action is taken to maintain a robust financial position.
- 1.2. Overall, the financial position is relatively stable with revenue efficiencies and additional grant income of £98k offset by a slightly worse than anticipated business rates position of £161k. The net position of £63k represents a 0.6% variation against the net expenditure budget, in essence a broadly balanced budget position. Positively, £1.19m is expected to be transferred to reserves, so the Council can meet the significant financial challenges and risks going forward.
- 1.3. The capital programme shows a planned underspend of £10.237m due to reasons such as a 'slow down' in asset investment (with there being much property market risk) and awaiting the position on the Depot project being finalised.

2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that Cabinet note:

- a) the projected revenue position for the year with a minor 0.6% variation (£63k) in the revenue position (due to the expected business rates position); and
- b) the capital underspend of £10.237m as a result of capital scheme rephasing and projected savings.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

3.1. To demonstrate good governance in terms of scrutinising the Council's ongoing financial position and compliance with Council Financial Regulations.

4. Supporting Information

Revenue Monitoring

- 4.1 The revenue monitoring statement by service area is attached at **Appendix A** with detailed variance analysis as at 31 July 2018 attached at **Appendix B**. This shows projected net efficiency savings for the year to date of £83k and additional funding of £15k in Individual Elector Registration (IER) grant, more than offset by the reduction in the collection fund surplus against the budgeted position (£161k) due to business rates variation. The overall £63k variation represents 0.6% against the net expenditure budget and we currently anticipate £1.19m to be transferred to reserves to meet in particular business rates risk going forward (see paragraph 5.3). This position is likely to change throughout the remainder of the year as managers continue to drive cost savings, and raise income, against existing budgets.
- 4.2 **Appendix A** includes a Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) of £1m. This is a provision that the Council is required to make each year to cover the internal borrowing costs for the Arena which will be funded by the New Homes Bonus.
- 4.3 As documented at **Appendix B**, the financial position to date reflects a number of positive variances totalling £378k including additional income from planning applications, the Garden Waste Scheme, salary savings and the additional recovery of Housing Benefit Overpayments. There are several adverse variances totalling £363k including Planning public inquiries, the rising costs of diesel, and an increase in the Streetwise Contract (mainly due to flytipping), and the slowing of asset investments as the Council continues to review its position in light of a volatile property market.

Capital Monitoring

4.4 The updated Capital Programme monitoring statement as at 31 July 2018 is attached at **Appendix C.** This provides further details about the progress of the schemes, any necessary re-phasing and highlights savings of £10.237m A summary of the projected outturn and funding position is shown in the table below:

CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING - JULY 2018								
Current Budget £000	Projected Actual £000	Projected Variance £000						
9,387	6,552	(2,835)						
2,936	2,950	14						
764	749	(15)						
11,271 87 24 445	3,870 87 14 208	(7,401) -						
	Budget £000 9,387 2,936 764 11,271	Budget £000 Actual £000 9,387 6,552 2,936 2,950 764 749 11,271 3,870 87 87						

			(10,237)
FINANCING ANALYSIS			
Capital Receipts Government Grants	(14,079) (1,018)	(8,007) (1,018)	6,072 -
Other Grants/Contributions	(1,719)	(1,754)	(35)
Use of Reserves Internal Borrowing	(600) (7,030)	(600) (2,829)	- 4,201
	(24,445)	(14,208)	10,237
NET EXPENDITURE	-	-	-

4.5 The original Capital Programme of £11.91m has been supplemented by a net brought forward and in-year adjustments of £12.55m giving a revised total of £24.45m. The net efficiency position of £10.237m is due to some slippage of the Cotgrave Multi-Service Centre (MSC) into 2019/20, a delay in the outcome of the Depot relocation project (a report is due to be presented at Cabinet, likely to be in October), and a slow down with regards to Asset Investments. This has a corresponding impact on the funding required during the year.

4.6 **Conclusion**

The overall financial position for both revenue and capital is currently positive. It should be noted that opportunities and challenges can arise during the year which may impact on the projected year-end position. There remain external financial pressures from developing issues such as business rates retention, the fair funding review, and continued uncertainty surrounding BREXIT. Against such a background, it is imperative that the Council continues to keep a tight control over its expenditure, identifies any impact from changing income streams and maintains progress against its Transformation Strategy.

5. Alternative options considered and reasons for rejection

5.1. There are no alternative options.

6. Risks and Uncertainties

- 6.1. Failure to comply with Financial Regulations in terms of reporting on both revenue and capital budgets could result in criticism from stakeholders, including both Councillors and the Council's external auditors.
- 6.2. Areas such as income can be volatile responding to external pressures such as the general economic climate. For example, planning income is variable according to the number and size of planning applications received dependent on factors such as business and housing growth..
- 6.3. Business rates is subject to specific risk given the volatile nature of the taxbase with a small number of properties accounting for a disproportionate amount of tax revenue, notably in Rushcliffe Radcliffe-on-Soar power station. Furthermore, changes in central government policy influences business rates received and their timing, for example policy changes on small business rates relief.

6.4. The Council needs to be properly insulated against such risks hence the need to ensure it has a sufficient level of reserves, as well as having the ability to use such reserves to support projects where there is 'upside risk'.

7. Implications

7.1. Financial Implications

Financial implications are covered in the body of the report.

7.2. Legal Implications

None

7.3. Equalities Implications

None

7.4. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Implications

None

7.5. Other implications

None

8. Link to Corporate Priorities

Changes to the budget enable the Council to achieve its corporate priorities.

9. Recommendations

It is RECOMMENDED that Cabinet note:

- a) the projected revenue position for the year with a minor 0.6% variation (£63k) in the revenue position (due to the expected business rates position); and
- b) the capital underspend of £10.237m as a result of capital scheme re-phasing and projected savings.

For more information contact:	Peter Linfield						
	Executive Manager – Finance and Corporate						
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	plinfield@rushcliffe.gov.uk						
Background papers available for	Council 8 March 2018 – 2018-19 Budget and						
Inspection:	Financial Strategy						
	Cabinet 12 June 2018 – Revenue and Capital						
	Budget Monitoring Outturn 2017-18						
	Corporate Governance Group 20 September						
	2018 - Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring						

	2018/19 – Financial Update
List of appendices:	Appendix A – Revenue Outturn Position 2018/19
	– July 2018
	Appendix B – Revenue Variance Explanations
	Appendix C – Capital Programme 2018/19 – July
	2018 Position

Appendix

Appendix A

	Period 4						
	Original Budget £'000	Revised Budget £'000	Projected Actual £'000	Variance £'000			
Communities	1,103	1,306	1,261	-45			
Finance & Corporate Services	3,470	3,491	3,404	-87			
Neighbourhoods	4,611	4,673	4,617	-56			
Transformation	2,502	2,738	2,843	105			
Sub Total	11,686	12,208	12,125	-83			
Capital Accounting Reversals	-2,234	-2,234	-2,234	0			
Minimum Revenue Provision	1,000	1,000	1,000	0			
Total Net Service Expenditure	10,452	10,974	10,891	-83			
Grant Income (including New Homes Bonus & RSG)	-1,632	-1,632	-1,647	-15			
Business Rates (including SBRR)	-2,990	-2,990	-2,990	0			
Council Tax	-6,346	-6,346	-6,346	0			
Collection Fund Surplus	-1389	-1389	-1228	161			
Total Funding	-12,357	-12,357	-12,211	146			
Surplus (-)/Deficit on Revenue Budget	-1,905	-1,383	-1,320	63			
Capital Expenditure financed from reserves	129	129	129	0			
	0		.20	I			
Net Transfer to (-)/from Reserves	-1,776	-1,254	-1,191	63			

Revenue Outturn Position 2018/19 – July 2018

Revenue Variance Explanations (over £15k)

ADVERSE VARIANCES in excess of £15,000	Projected Outturn Variance £'000
Communities	
Planning - Legal costs from Public Enquiries	30
Finance & Corporate Services	
Communications – Lamp post banners and Rushcliffe Reports April (for 2017/18)	16
Finance additional staffing costs, offset by saving below	34
Legal - Employee costs higher than budgeted for	16
Neighbourhoods	
Streetwise - Additional items in the prime contract	56
Fleet & Garage - Diesel	30
Waste & Fleet - Overtime	16
Car Parks - Equipment	20
Transformation	
Asset Investment, hold on investments	85
Property Staffing to meet increased asset base	30
Occupational health counselling	30
Total Adverse Variances	363

FAVOURABLE VARIANCES in excess of £15,000	Projected
	Outturn Variance £'000
Communities	
Planning Income (fee increases and more demand)	-75
Finance	
Investment Income	-15
Merchant banking	-15
Vacant post salary saving	-49
HB Overpayments	-80
Neighbourhoods	
Waste Collection and Recycling - Green waste	-40
income above target	_
LEX Leisure Payments	-34
East Leake Leisure contract cost saving Pest Control	-20 -15
Repaid Disabled Facilities Grants	-18
	10
Transformation	
Economic Development - ERDF Digital Growth	-17
Total Favourable Variances	-378
Sum of Minor Variances	-68
	-83

Appendix C

Capital Programme 2018/19 – July 2018 Position

CAPITAL PROGRAMME							
	Original	Current	Budget	Actual	Projected		
	Budget	Budget	YTD	YTD	Actual	Variance	Explanation
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£'000	
TRANSFORMATION							
Cotgrave Regeneration & MSC	-	3,189	790	791	2,689	(500)	Works have started on site but there has been some slippage. £0.5m to carry forward into 2019/20
Contemporation of the second s	-	387	-	-	387		As agreed by Cabinet 12 June 2018
Bingham Land off Chapel Lane	438	645	110	8	645		Land acquisition completed in 2017-18. Remediation costs still to be incurred.
Manvers Business Park	100	100	-	-	100		Roof refurbishment work needed
Property Heating Upgrades		180	-	-	180		One provision created to commission priority works more efficiently
The Point	-	19	-	-	19		Works commenced at the end of last year
Arena Car Park Enhancements	-	465	60	62	465		Work has commenced.

Colliers Way Industrial Units	-	20	-	-	20		Interdependent with housing developer
New Depot	2,500	2,485	-	3	150	(2,335)	Options currently being assessed, projected actual for professional costs. Report to Cabinet (likely in October) which will inform the future capital programme.
RCCC Enhancements	-	100	-	-	100		Works to be commissioned
Finch Close	-	50	50	39	50		Fees on the acquisition
Trent Boulevard	-	1,450	1,450	1,445	1,450		Acquisition and professional fees
Ingrmation Systems Strategy	130	297	40	40	297		-
24	3,168	9,387	2,500	2,387	6,552	(2,835)	
NÉIGHBOURHOODS							
Wheeled Bins	80	80	14	15	80		Budget to be fully spent by year end
Vehicle Replacement	200	200	170	167	179	(21)	Refuse freighter purchased, Facilities van to be ordered
Support for Registered Housing Providers	250	1,146	-	-	1,146		£896k brought forward from 2017-18, no commitments at this stage, some schemes being scoped
Hound Lodge - Heating	40	-	-	-	-		Provision moved to Property Heating Upgrades

Assistive Technology	13	13	-	-	13		Provision to support
							acquisition of Home Alarms
Discretionary Top Ups	57	115	10	4	115		This enables Mandatory
	07	110	10		110		DFGs to be topped up
							from £30,000 to
							£40,000 for individual
							cases
Disabled Facilities Grants	447	348	50	100	348		£99k was accelerated
							into 2017-18, to be utilised
Arena Enhancements	_	140	_	_	175	35	
		110			110	00	identified. Part of extra
							costs will be met by a
σ							grant from NCC of up to
page							£35k,.
Car Park Resurfacing	220	220	-	-	220		-
Car Park Improvements - Lighting West Park	-	50	-	-	50		-
Car Park Improvements - Lighting	110	110	-	-	110		-
Bowls Floor & Carpet	-	65 20	-	-	65		
Keyworth Leisure Centre (KLC) Dry Change	30 30	30 30	-	-	30 30		-
KLC Filter Replacement Bingham Leisure Centre Improvements	30 159	267	-	-	267		- Necessary
Bingham Leisure Centre Improvements	159	207	-	-	207		enhancements
Cotgrave Leisure Centre Pool Handling Ventilation System	100	100	-	-	100		-
Edwalton Golf Course (EGC) Fire Alarm System		13	-	-	13		Allocation from
							Contingency
FOO Un ave de Fe cilities - Flectricel werke		~			0		
EGC Upgrade Facilities – Electrical works	- 1,736	9 2,936	- 244	2 288	9 2,950	14	
	1,730	2,930	244	200	2,950	14	

COMMUNITIES Capital Grant Funding	48	94	10	6	94	
Play Areas - Special Expense West Park Fencing and Drainage	50	<i>150</i> 11	-	-	<i>150</i> 11	
West Park Lighting	-	25	-	-	25	
West Park Public Toilet Upgrade	20	20	-	-	20	
West Park Sports Pavilion	40		-	-	-	
West Park Julien Cahn Pavilion	40	40	-	-	40	
RCP - Car Park	-	45	40	37	45	
Gresham Pavilion	35		-	-	-	
Lutterell Hall	35		-	-	-	

Outstanding commitments from 2017-18 £23k, £65k available for future allocation £50k Skateboard funding secured. Fencing element complete, drainage work to be commissioned Provision vired to Property Heating Upgrades Works to be scoped with general Car Park lighting scheme Works started at the end of the last financial year. Provision vired to **Property Heating** Upgrades Provision moved to Property Heating Upgrades

Skateboard Parks	250	250	83	-	235	(15)	Grant awards to date are £125k Radcliffe on Trent Parish Council, £50k RBC special expense (as above), £60k East Leake Parish Council
Arena Public Art	-	25	-	-	25		As agreed by Cabinet
Gamston Community Centre - Heating	30		-	-	-		Provision vired to Property Heating Upgrades
Warm Homes on Prescription	54	104	18	10	104		Better Care Funding secured.
page	602	764	151	52	749	(15)	
FINANCE & CORPORATE SERVICES							
NCCC Loan	-	822	-	-	822		The loan is being released in tranches.
Asset Investment Strategy	6,300 6,300	10,449 11,271	-	-	3,048 3,870	(7,401) (7,401)	Projected actual covers: 1 acquisition in the pipeline, potential acquisition/development of Industrial Units in Bingham, and staff costs. Remaining balance is for future potential investment in the Borough
CONTINGENCY	-,	· · , _ · ·			, .	(-,)	

Contingency	100	87	-	-	87	-	Allocation made for Fire Alarm System at EGC
	100	87			87		
TOTAL	11,906	24,445	2,895	2,727	14,208	(10,237)	



Cabinet

9 October 2018

Business Rates Retention Pilot 2019/20 Application

Report of the Executive Manager – Finance and Corporate Services

Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Finance Councillor Gordon Moore

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. To advise the Council on progress regarding an agreement with District/Borough Councils, Nottingham City Council and the Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire & Rescue Authority in applying to become a Business Rates Retention Pilot for 2019/20. The deadline for the application being 25 September 2018.
- 1.2. A bid has been prepared and discussed under delegated authority with the Finance Portfolio Holder. This report provides information regarding the bid and also the next stages.

2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that Cabinet:

- a) Supports the agreement entered into with the seven Nottinghamshire District/Borough Councils, Nottingham City Council and the Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority to progress the bid to become a Business Rates Retention Pilot for 2019/20;
- b) There is delegated authority for the Chief Executive and Executive Manager – Finance and Corporate Services to progress the final proposal if the application is successful; and
- c) Progress regarding the bid is reported through the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019/20 to all Councillors.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

3.1. To demonstrate good governance in terms of scrutinising the Council's ongoing financial position and delivering a sustainable Medium Term Financial Strategy.

4. Supporting Information

4.1. On 24 July 2018 the government issued a prospectus inviting local authorities, particularly in two tier areas, to submit applications to be pilots for the 2019/20 Business Rates Retention Scheme by 25 September 2018.

- 4.2. This will be the second year of the pilot programme. As was the case in 2018/19 the pilot will only last for one year 2019/20 with the aim of exploring the options for Local Government finance reforms, including promoting sustainability and promoting growth. It is anticipated that this will be the last year of such pilots. 2020/21 should see the introduction of the new 75% business rates retention and new funding basis being implemented across local government.
- 4.3. The 2018/19 prospectus was based on 100% business rates retention. In addition to the Pilot for London, 10 other authorities were successful in becoming Pilots:
 - Berkshire
 - Derbyshire
 - Devon
 - Gloucestershire
 - Kent and Medway
 - Leeds
 - Lincolnshire
 - Solent
 - Suffolk
 - Surrey
- 4.4. The prospectus seeks applications for areas to form business rates pilots, either for a county area, or wider. If the application is for a whole county area, then all local authorities must be supportive. As Members will recall, the seven district and borough councils and the County Council have been in a business rates pooling arrangement since April 2013 based on the existing 50% business rates retention. To date this has seen the retention of an additional £14.6 million of business rates growth retained within the County of Nottinghamshire.
- 4.5. Applications must received by the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government by 25 September 2018, and there is an expectation that the decision will be known within the Provisional Local Government Financial Settlement, likely December 2018. It is expected that there will be around 30 applications and a small proportion of these approved.
- 4.6. For 2019/20 the pool of local authorities in the pilot will be based on 75% Business Rates Retention and would be entitled to keep all of the growth in business rates since the baseline was set in 2013. At present the government imposes a levy of 50%. Across the county area the potential gain could be £10m, albeit only for 2019/20. In addition, it will allow Nottinghamshire local authorities to influence the future development of local government funding.
- 4.7. All local authorities in Nottinghamshire are experiencing severe financial pressures due to funding reductions and increases in demand for services. A Nottinghamshire wide pilot, retaining the growth in business rates since 2013 could expect to share what is a significant gain.
- 4.8. The split of the gain between the tiers will be modelled to determine an optimum level for all authorities. The split of the growth in business rates up to

75% retention will be based upon optimising the share of total retained business rates in line with tiers' need to spend and managing the risks in relation to the proposed business rates tariffs, top-ups and safety net.

- 4.9. The authorities within the pool have had to consider and agree on the use of any gain from being a pilot (the anticipated £10m). The prospectus from the MHCLG has indicated that the applications should broadly state that the proceeds will be used for financial stability and sustainability, and also for investment in economic development.
- 4.10. The prospectus for bidding is available on the MHCLG website. The application process has several conditions and assessment criteria set by MHCLG. These are summarised in the table below:

Condition	Proposed Action/ Comment
All authorities must agree to be in the proposed business rates pilot pool for 2019/20. If any one authority in an area does not agree, then it will not succeed.	Nottinghamshire Authority Leaders, Chief Executives and Section 151 Officers have agreed to progress the bid.
Arrangements must propose a split for sharing additional pooled business rates income.	Nottinghamshire Authority Section 151 Officers to lead on modelling and agreement of the split prior to bid submission.
Proposals should show MHCLG how pilots will use additional growth to promote the financial stability and sustainability of the pilot area (and expects investment of some retained growth to encourage further growth in the area).	The existing Nottinghamshire Pool is able to demonstrate our continued joint approach to investment.
While the 2018/19 pilots have a 'no detriment' clause, the 2019/20 pilots will not benefit from such a clause, applications should detail how authorities will work together to manage risk within their proposed arrangements.	The risk of this is low for Nottinghamshire based upon business rates growth from 2013 to date. Participants to the Pilot Pool will need to understand how risk will be dealt with within the Pool. There is a 'Safety Net' of 92.5% which gives some protection to councils in both the existing Pool and the Pilot.
Pool applications must nominate the lead authority. MHCLG will treat pilot pools as one entity for business rates retention with one tariff or top up and safety net threshold.	Nottinghamshire County Council act as the lead Authority (they currently are in the existing pool arrangement).
Clear outline of the proposed pooling arrangements and governance. Authorities cannot apply to be part of more than one pilot pool. Authorities in existing Business Rates pools, such as the Nottinghamshire Pool, need to state their non-pilot pool	Nottinghamshire Authority Section 151 Officers to develop pooling and governance arrangements based on the existing Nottinghamshire Pool and the existence of the Nottinghamshire Economic Prosperity Committee. The bid will indicate that failure to succeed

proposals if the pilot application is	to becoming a Pilot will fall back to the
unsuccessful.	existing Nottinghamshire Pool
	arrangement.

- 4.11. To summarise the activity to date the Nottinghamshire Authority Section 151 Officers have developed financial modelling and a draft bid for a Business Rates pilot in 2019/20. The principles of this were considered and agreed at a meeting of Nottinghamshire Local Authority Chief Executives on 14 September 2018. The Nottinghamshire Authority Section 151 Officers are the signatories to the bid.
- 4.12. For expediency (deadline of 25 September 2018) the Portfolio Holder for Finance under delegated authority has approved the principles of the bid with the Council's Section 151 Officer. Further updates on the bid and final ratification are proposed to be delegated to the Chief Executive and the Council's Section 151 Officer (Executive Manager Finance and Corporate Services). Any updates will be reported to Councillors through this year's budget setting process.

5. Alternative options considered and reasons for rejection

5.1. The alternative option is not to join the pilot scheme. This is not recommended for the reasons detailed in the report.

6. Risks and Uncertainties

- 6.1. The most significant risk of becoming a part of a 75% Business Rates Pilot is the removal of the 'no detriment' clause. This is a clause included in the agreement for the 2018/19 pilot authorities and ensured that those authorities would not be financially disadvantaged by being a member of the pool. This could occur if business rates had fallen since the baseline year of 2013.
- 6.2. For Nottinghamshire, this is a small risk as in most areas, and in total, business rates have grown in the period from 1 April 2013. Experience gained from the existing Nottinghamshire Pool is that by being a member of a pool, where district or boroughs have experienced a decline in business rates, the total gain within the pool has been shared so those authorities have also benefitted.

7. Implications

7.1. Financial Implications

7.1.1. Financial implications are covered in the body of the report particularly paragraphs 4.6 to 4.9.

7.2. Legal Implications

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

7.3. Equalities Implications

7.3.1. There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

7.4. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Implications

7.4.1. There are no Section 17 implications arising from this report.

7.5. Other implications

7.5.1. There are no other implications arising from this report.

8. Link to Corporate Priorities

8.1. Additional funding retained at the local level will enable the Council to better achieve its corporate priorities.

9. Recommendations

It is RECOMMENDED that Cabinet:

- a) Supports the agreement entered into with the seven Nottinghamshire District/Borough Councils, Nottingham City Council and the Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire & Rescue Authority to progress the bid to become a Business Rates Retention Pilot for 2019/20;
- b) There is delegated authority for the Chief Executive and Executive Manager – Finance and Corporate Services to progress the final proposal if the application is successful; and
- c) Progress regarding the bid is reported through the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019/20 to all Councillors.

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Background papers available for Inspection:	None
List of appendices:	None

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