

## Policy Committee

**Wednesday, 17 March 2021 at 10:30**

Virtual meeting, <https://www.youtube.com/user/nottsccl>

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### AGENDA

- |    |  |         |
|----|--|---------|
| 1  | Minutes of the last meeting held on 10 February 2021   | 1 - 6   |
| 2  | Apologies for Absence  |         |
| 3  | Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers:- (see note below)<br>(a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests<br>(b) Private Interests (pecuniary and non-pecuniary)           |         |
| 4  | Update on the work of East Midlands Councils   | 7 - 22  |
| 5  | East Midlands Development Corporation - Update on the setting up of the interim vehicle (EM DevCo LTD) and the establishment of the core team structure and associated posts | 23 - 36 |
| 6  | Delivering Major Programmes of Work and Bids for Funding - Place Department  | 37 - 40 |
| 7  | A Zero Carbon Energy Future for the UK: potential sites in Nottinghamshire for energy production   | 41 - 52 |
| 8  | Provision of a replacement primary school and new secondary school, West Bridgford and expansion of Rushcliffe School  | 53 - 60 |
| 9  | Proposed Lease of North Worksop Children's Centre (Rhodesia Site)  | 61 - 68 |
| 10 | Youth Violence and Child Criminal Exploitation   | 69 - 74 |

11	Disposal of Bailey's Field, Newark	75 - 80
12	Work Programme	81 - 84

### 13 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

The Committee will be invited to resolve:-

“That the public be excluded for the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that the discussions are likely to involve disclosure of exempt information described in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.”

#### **Note**

If this is agreed, the public will have to leave the meeting during consideration of the following items.

#### **EXEMPT INFORMATION ITEMS**

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 14 | East Midlands Development Corporation - Update on the setting up of the interim vehicle (EM DevCo LTD) and the establishment of the core team structure and associated posts - Exempt appendix |
|    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings;</li> </ul>                            |
| 15 | Disposal of Bailey's Field, Newark - Exempt appendix   |
|    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information);</li> </ul>       |

### **Notes**

- (1) Councillors are advised to contact their Research Officer for details of any Group Meetings which are planned for this meeting.
- (2) Members of the public wishing to inspect "Background Papers" referred to in the reports on the agenda or Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act should contact:-

Customer Services Centre 0300 500 80 80

- (3) Persons making a declaration of interest should have regard to the Code of Conduct and the Council's Procedure Rules. Those declaring must indicate the nature of their interest and the reasons for the declaration.

Councillors or Officers requiring clarification on whether to make a declaration of interest are invited to contact Jo Toomey (Tel. 0115 977 4506) or a colleague in Democratic Services prior to the meeting.

- (4) Councillors are reminded that Committee and Sub-Committee papers, with the exception of those which contain Exempt or Confidential Information, may be recycled.
- (5) This agenda and its associated reports are available to view online via an online calendar - <http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/dms/Meetings.aspx>



Meeting POLICY COMMITTEE

Date Wednesday 10 February 2021 (commencing at 10.30 am)

**membership**

Persons absent are marked with 'A'

**COUNCILLORS**

Mrs Kay Cutts MBE (Chairman)  
Reg Adair (Vice-Chairman)

Chris Barnfather  
Richard Butler  
John Cottee  
Kate Foale  
Stephen Garner  
Glynn Gilfoyle  
Tony Harper  
Richard Jackson  
John Knight

Bruce Laughton  
Rachel Madden  
David Martin  
Philip Owen  
John Peck JP  
Mike Pringle  
Alan Rhodes  
Muriel Weisz

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Anthony May Chief Executive's Department  
Marjorie Toward  
Angie Dilley  
Keith Ford  
David Hennigan  
James Silverward  
Sue Summerscales

Colin Pettigrew Children & Families Department

Adrian Smith Place Department  
Neil Gamble  
Sally Gill  
Matthew Neal  
Kevin Sharman

**1 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 13 January 2021, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

## **2     APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None.

## **3     DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS.**

Councillor David Martin declared a private, non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 11 - Disposal of Land at Westdale Lane and agenda item 14 - Disposal of Land at Westdale Lane – Exempt Appendix, as the land in question was in his Division and featured within the Local Neighbourhood Plan for Selston Parish Council and the previous version of the Local Plan of Ashfield District Council and he has been a member of the Local Plan groups at both Councils.

## **4     SCHOOLS AND EARLY YEARS FUNDING – AGREEMENT OF THE LOCAL FUNDING FORMULA FOR 2021-22**

**RESOLVED: 2021/011**

That the recommendations of the Schools Forum, as outlined in Appendix 1 to the committee report, to distribute available funding between Nottinghamshire schools, academies and early years providers in 2021-22, be approved.

## **5     GIVING CHILDREN THE BEST START: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE BEST START STRATEGY 2021-2025**

**RESOLVED: 2021/012**

That the Nottinghamshire Best Start Strategy 2021-2025 be approved.

## **6     DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

In moving the recommendations, the Leader proposed an amendment to add a further recommendation as follows:

- 3) Asks the Corporate Director for Place to continue efforts to support take-up of super-fast packages and those premises which are not yet served by super-fast broadband.

**RESOLVED: 2021/013**

- 1) That authority be delegated to the Corporate Director for Place, subject to consultation with the Chair or Vice Chair and the Group Manager, Legal and Democratic Services and the Section 151 Officer, to agree the terms for the lease to be entered into with Newark & Sherwood District Council for the Gateway Lodge to be used as a location dedicated to offer a year-round immersive attraction at Sherwood Forest.

- 2) That a report to formalise the Council's participation in the World Wide Wildfire Workforce project, in the event of the University of Leicester's application being successful, be submitted to a future meeting.
- 3) That the Corporate Director for Place be asked to continue efforts to support take-up of super-fast packages and those premises which are not yet served by super-fast broadband.
- 4) That further reports be submitted to future meetings should any further project opportunities aligned with the Council's digital priorities emerge.

## **7 GRANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITY TO STRENGTHEN RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH**

In response to queries raised by Members during discussions, officers agreed to:

- provide updated data on the types of issues that informed the County's ranking within the Social Mobility Commission's 'State of the Nation' report of November 2017;
- include an item within the Committee's work programme about health inequalities, linked into the Council's strategic approach to tackling poverty.

### **RESOLVED: 2021/014**

- 1) That the Expression of Interest submitted to the Health Foundation's Economies for Healthier Lives funding programme, in line with the proposal detailed in the committee report, be endorsed.
- 2) That subject to the Expression of Interest being supported by the Health Foundation, a full application be developed and submitted to a future meeting in line with the proposed timetable detailed in Appendix B to the committee report.

## **8 HIGH SPEED 2 (HS2) ANNUAL UPDATE**

### **RESOLVED: 2021/015**

- 1) That a single reporting process on the East Midlands Development Corporation / EM DevCo Limited and HS2 Growth Delivery be agreed.
- 2) That no further actions were required in relation to the detail contained within the committee report.
- 3) That the work of the Council in supporting and hosting the delivery of the east Midlands HS2 Growth Strategy ambitions, alongside the Council's partners, be recognised.

**9      SUPPORT TO NOTTINGHAMSHIRE BUSINESSES: POST-BREXIT  
TRANSITION ON TRADE AND OTHER ISSUES**

In response to a query raised by Members during discussions, officers asked for further information about the specific impacts of Brexit on 'one person provider' type businesses to enable this issue to be referred onto relevant networks.

**RESOLVED: 2021/016**

That the business support proposal outlined in the committee report be agreed and the appropriate allocation from the Council's Brexit reserve fund be approved.

**10     TRANSFORMING CITIES FUND – SCHEME UPDATE AND FUNDING  
AGREEMENTS**

**RESOLVED: 2021/017**

- 1) That the grant offer from the Transforming Cities Fund Bid be accepted and the capital programme be varied by £7.910m, in order to enable the delivery of those public transport programme elements which affect the County network.
- 2) That the overall approach of the proposals and next steps in project delivery, as detailed in paragraphs 9-12 of the committee report, be supported in principle.
- 3) That the Transforming Cities Programme Steering Board be added to the Register of Outside Bodies and an appointment to the Board be arranged via the Ruling Group Business Manager.

**11     DISPOSAL OF LAND AT WESTDALE ROAD, JACKSDALE**

**RESOLVED: 2021/018**

That approval be given to the disposal of the site at Westdale Road, Jacksdale in accordance with the terms outlined in the exempt appendix to this report.

**12     WORK PROGRAMME**

During discussions, it was agreed that the proposed item on health inequalities and poverty raised during the debate on agenda item 7 be added to the work programme.

In response to a request from Members, officers also agreed to give further consideration to including an item about the Council's longer term COVID Recovery Plan (in terms of the wider impacts of the pandemic on Nottinghamshire communities) in the work programme of Policy Committee or the COVID Resilience, Recovery and Renewal Committee as appropriate.

**RESOLVED: 2021/019**

That the Work Programme be updated as appropriate



**13     EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED: 2021/020**

That the public be excluded for the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that the discussions were likely to involve disclosure of exempt information described in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

**14     DISPOSAL OF LAND AT WESTDALE ROAD, JACKSDALE – EXEMPT APPENDIX**

**RESOLVED: 2021/021**

That the information contained in the exempt appendix be noted.

The meeting closed at 1.03 pm.

CHAIRMAN



## **REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL UPDATE ON THE WORK OF EAST MIDLANDS COUNCILS**

### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To inform members of the work of East Midlands Councils

### **Information**

2. Members have requested a regular update report on the work and activities of East Midlands Councils. The Executive Director of East Midlands Councils has agreed to produce a quarterly report for Members. The latest report on the work of East Midlands Councils is attached at Appendix A.

### **Other Options Considered**

3. None

### **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

4. Members have requested regular updates on the work of East Midlands Councils.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

5. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

### **Financial Implications**

6. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

That Policy Committee:

- 1) considers the information and decides if there are any further actions required;
- 2) agrees to receive a further update to a future meeting.

**Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts MBE**  
**Leader of the Council**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

Jo Toomey, Advanced Democratic Services Officer, Democratic Services

### **Constitutional Comments (EKH)**

7. Policy Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of the report. If Committee resolves that any actions are required it must be satisfied that such actions are within the Committee's terms of reference.

### **Financial Comments (SES)**

8. There are no specific financial implications arising directly from this report.

### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- None

### **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

- All

## **Policy Committee Report (March 2021)**

### **East Midlands Councils**

#### **1. Background**

- 1.1 East Midlands Councils (EMC) is the membership organisation for the region's local authorities. It is a voluntary membership body that focuses on issues of significance and common priorities for councils in the East Midlands and where a collective approach is likely to be effective.
- 1.2 It also provides training and development programmes for councillors and staff of councils in EMC membership (at no additional or marginal cost), access to low-cost services and consultancy, e.g., recruitment and HR, and governance and organisational change support.
- 1.3 EMC also hosts lead members networks including for 'portfolio holders' of Children's Services and runs a number of member and officer training programmes.
- 1.4 The following policy report includes detail on:
- A Summary of EMC's Support to Councils (section 2)
  - Growth, Productivity & Investment in the East Midlands (section 3)
  - Asylum and Refugee Resettlement Programmes (section 4)
- 1.5 Nottinghamshire County Council is a key partner in this work, and EMC welcomes the advice on these and any other matters of policy development and delivery.

#### **2. A Summary of EMC's Support and Service Provision to Councils**

- 2.1 The Covid-19 pandemic is unprecedented. Since the March 2020 lockdown, but also in advance of that in relation to preparatory planning, EMC has worked closely across Local Government, and with Government officials, in supporting the development and delivery of key programmes including local economy support and recovery programmes, shielding, local elections, and the sharing of data on epidemiology and vaccinations.
- 2.2 It has been the most testing time for the sector. What has been evident, however, is the way in which local government in this region has stepped up and acted as a beacon of sound planning and organisation, constructive and innovative problem solving and

the ability to flex and stand-up their resources (including staff) in responding to these challenges.

- 2.3 Since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, EMC has focused support to councils on issues arising from the pandemic, including informing and sharing best practice, and providing advice on:
- Impact of employees with childcare and home-schooling issues.
  - Categorisation of local government staff as key workers for the purposes of children attending school.
  - Testing and vaccination of employees.
  - Working from home policies/allowances.
  - Managing annual leave allowances.
  - Returning to work – how councils can reset this to gain benefits found from new ways of working and to support service redesign.
  - Supporting mental health and wellbeing.
- 2.4 EMC has seen an increase in participation in its services and in requests for support. Activities have successfully transferred to virtual platforms and have been focused on supporting the sector with the workforce implications of Covid-19 and new ways of working. Advice and support have been provided to support councils affected by Local Government Reorganisation in Northamptonshire, particularly in relation to the impact on senior staff.
- 2.5 The Government's Kickstart scheme, which funds work experience placements for young people at risk of long-term employment was restricted to employers who could offer a minimum of 30 placements (although this threshold has now been removed). East Midlands Councils has applied to be a gateway organisation to co-ordinate a smaller number of placements that councils could provide and then access the funding. This offer has been taken up by several councils in the region.
- 2.6 In addition to hosting bi-weekly, region-wide Chief Executive meetings, EMC's low-cost Continuous Professional Development (CPD) programmes for council officers continue to be offered through a series of webinars, covering themes and issues that have been identified by the respective steering groups. EMC has also been directly supporting the work of the Regional Covid Convenor, Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and several regional workshops for senior officers of councils and wider partners have been held to support the collective response to the pandemic.

- 2.7 A programme of Councillor Development for the coming year has been developed which started this month with a webinar on Climate Change. Assessment and support for councils seeking accreditation against the Councillor Development Charter is also being provided, with a refreshed and updated approach to the Charter.
- 2.8 EMC continues to provide a range of support for councils across the region on a low-cost, not-for-profit basis. Examples of assignments in recent months include:
- Senior recruitment, selection and assessment support
  - Chief Executive appraisal facilitation
  - HR Policy Review & Development
  - Mediation
  - Coaching
  - Investigations
  - Interim HR Management
  - Psychometric testing
- 2.9 EMC's subscription base (less than a third of its income base) supports the range of services in addition to the programme areas referred to in this report. EMC continues to provide members and officers with access to briefing events, skills development and wider CPD. The last year has seen a significant increase in the take-up of support and development programmes, with confidence that EMC will provide a return of over 3:1 against total member subscriptions.

### **3. Growth, Productivity & Investment in the East Midlands**

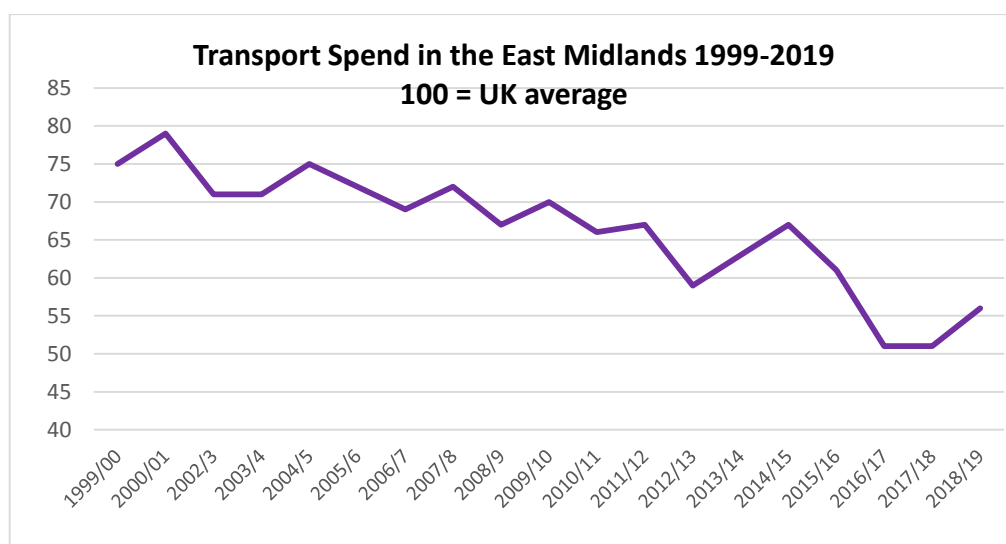
- 3.1 The East Midlands is a region of 4.8 million people and 365,000 businesses. Total regional output in 2018 was £125 billion, equivalent to 5.8% of the UK economy. The East Midlands employment rate (2020) is above the UK average at 77.3% (UK=76.4%) but median weekly earnings (2019) are below: £547 pw compared to £585 pw. 11.9% of the workforce work in manufacturing, compared with 7.6% for the UK.
- 3.2 Gross Value Added (GVA) growth in the East Midlands over the last 20 years has been better than most other regions/nations, but generally just below the UK average - 1.7% p.a. between 1999 and 2017 compared to 1.9% p.a. for the UK<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup><https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/grossvalueaddedgva/bulletins/regionalgrossvalueaddedbalanceduk/1998to2017>

3.3 Similarly, productivity has remained below the UK average over the last 20 years and has been declining relative to the UK to 85.5% in 2018<sup>2</sup>.

3.4 However, transport spend per head has been very significantly below the UK average level for the last 20 years, declining to just 55% of the UK average in 2018/19, the lowest level of any UK region or nation<sup>3</sup>.



Source: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/public-expenditure-statistical-analyses-2020>

3.5 Transport investment is a key driver of productivity and economic growth. The fact that the East Midlands has consistently delivered GVA growth close to the UK average from very low levels of transport investment is testament to commitment and ingenuity of the thousands of small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) that are the backbone of the region's economy. But declining relative productivity means even this level of performance cannot be sustained.

3.6 Whilst the economic impact of the Covid pandemic has been uneven across the UK, large areas of the East Midlands are highly dependent on vulnerable sectors such as tourism, hospitality and manufacturing<sup>4</sup>. In addition, UK experience suggests that 'economic shocks' resulting from whatever cause (for example 2008 banking crisis) tend to widen existing regional inequalities as investors become more risk averse<sup>5</sup>.

<sup>2</sup><https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/economicoutputandproductivity/productivitymeasures/datasets/annualregionallabourp>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/public-expenditure-statistical-analyses-2020>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.ifs.org.uk/publications/14884>

<sup>5</sup> <http://uk2070.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Go-Big-Go-Local.pdf>



- 3.7 The East Midlands Chamber's [Quarterly Economic Survey](#) for Q4 2020, conducted during the November 2020 lockdown, showed the East Midlands' economy stalled following a recovery from the summer lows. Advanced orders were down for a net 16% of the region's domestic operators and for a net 12% of exporters, while cashflow fell for the fourth consecutive quarter – this time for a net 15% of firms.

### **CSR2020 & National Infrastructure Strategy**

- 3.8 The TfEM Board met on the 9<sup>th</sup> September 2020 chaired by Sir Peter Soulsby agreed to make a submission to the CSR process based on the following:
- a) Full support for the CSR Submission made by Midlands Connect, including:
    - Trans Midlands Trade Corridor (A46) Development
    - North Midlands Manufacturing Corridor (A50/A500) Development
    - Midlands Manufacturing Corridor (A5) Development
    - Coventry - Leicester - Nottingham Rail Enhancement
    - HS2 Conventional Compatible Services
    - Nottingham - Lincoln Rail Enhancement
    - Derby - Stoke - Crewe Rail Enhancement
    - Midlands-wide Smart ticketing regional brokerage system
  - b) Accelerating delivery of existing East Midlands schemes requiring final approval from DfT:
    - A46 Newark Northern Bypass in Nottinghamshire (Roads Investment Strategy).
    - Chesterfield-Staveley Regeneration Route in Derbyshire (Large Local Major).
    - North Hykeham Relief Road in Lincolnshire (Large Local Major).
    - A614 Enhancement in Nottinghamshire (Major Road Network).
    - A511 Enhancement in Leicestershire (Major Road Network).
    - Lincoln-Newark Line Speed Improvements (RNEP).
  - c) Investment in a programme of strategic 'shovel ready' schemes over the next 10 years for the East Midlands:
    - Completing Midland Main Line Electrification.
    - 'Access to Toton' Phase 1.
    - M1 Junction 25/A52.
    - A1 (Peterborough to Blyth).

- 3.9 Subsequently it was confirmed by Government that in the light of the pandemic, the CSR would cover just one year with the exception of multi-year allocations for priority infrastructure initiatives.
- 3.10 Following the CSR announcement, the Treasury published the National Infrastructure Strategy, which represents the Government's formal response to the NIC's 2018 National Infrastructure Assessment. As a result, the Government has announced funding for:
- North Hykeham Relief Road (Lincolnshire), Large Local Major Programme Entry - DfT support of up to £110m.
  - Maid Marion Line, Nottinghamshire (also part of 'Access to Toton') – support from 'Restoring Your Railway Fund' for further business case development.
  - Melton – Nottingham Rail Services – support from Restoring Your Railway Fund for business case development.
- 3.11 Separately, Highway England ran a public consultation on two options for the A46 Newark Northern Bypass between the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021.
- 3.12 TfEM has made a further submission to the Budget 2021 consultation highlighting those elements that remain outstanding from the earlier CSR submission.

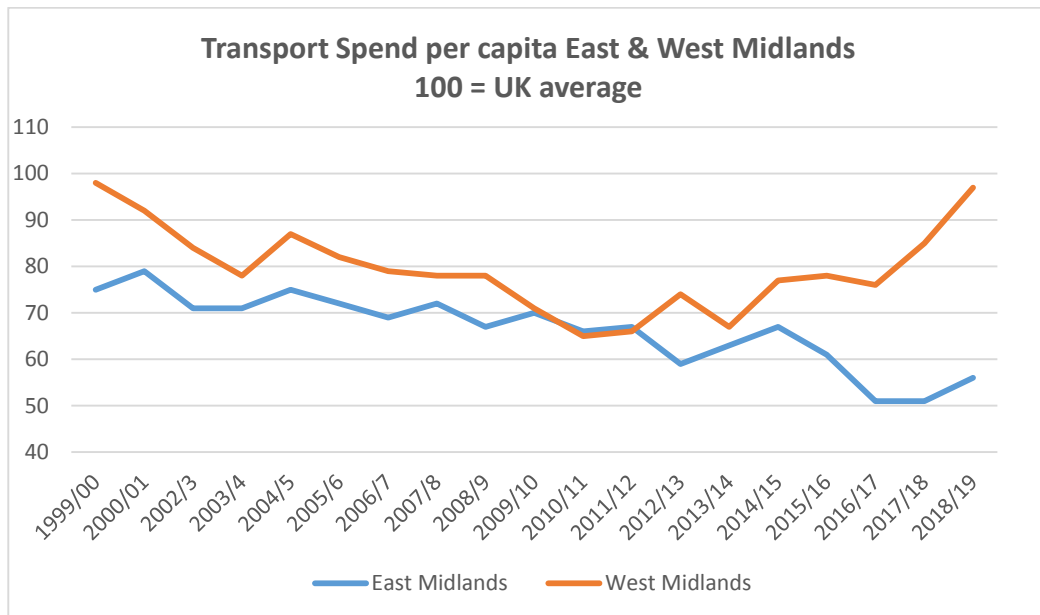
### **NIC Rail (HS2) Needs Assessment and Integrated Rail Plan**

- 3.13 The Government has asked the National Infrastructure Commission (NIC) to undertake a technical assessment to inform the Government's Integrated Rail Plan for the Midlands and the North, which will set out how the Government will take forward the Eastern Leg of HS2 and other strategic rail investments.
- 3.14 Of key importance is the NIC's 'fiscal mandate' set by Treasury, which assumes that no more than 1.2% of GDP is spent in 'economic infrastructure' including transport. Based on its 2018 Infrastructure Assessment, the NIC has derived a base budget for strategic rail enhancements in the North and Midlands of £86 billion over 20 years. However, the combined cost of HS2 in full, Northern Powerhouse Rail, Trans Pennine Upgrade & Midlands Engine Rail now comes to between £140 billion and £185 billion.
- 3.15 The NICs Rail Needs Assessment Final Report does not recommend one single set of interventions. Instead, the NIC has looked at different approaches to combining interventions within three different funding envelopes (base budget = £86b, base budget +25% = £108b, base budget +50% = £129b).

- 3.16 In summary, the NIC concludes that packages that focus on ‘regional’ connectivity rather than ‘long distance’ connectivity will deliver better economic outcomes. In the East Midlands, ‘regional connectivity’ means HS2 from Birmingham terminating at a junction with the Midland Main Line south of East Midlands Parkway. Under this option, the Hub Station at Toton would not be built.
- 3.17 The NICs East Midlands Parkway (EMP) option would involve the HS2 line from Birmingham descending from the viaduct to join the Midland Main Line just south of EMP. HS2 trains would use the existing EMP station as the main point of regional interchange before some services would head on to Nottingham Derby, and Sheffield. As the Eastern Leg would effectively terminate at EMP, there would be no direct HS2 connectivity to Leeds or to York and Newcastle (via the East Coast Main Line) as currently proposed.
- 3.18 This EMP option is considered inferior to Toton and the full Eastern Leg:
- Whilst it has the potential for faster direct services to Birmingham from Derby/Nottingham it radically reduces connectivity from the East Midlands to Leeds, Yorkshire and the North East along with associated regeneration, agglomeration and social benefits.
  - gives the East Midlands a much poorer HS2 service compared to the West Midlands and the North West as a result.
  - places greater pressure on existing infrastructure in particular the Midland Main Line and reduces released capacity for local services and for freight.
  - reduces regional and local accessibility to the HS2 network.
  - undermines the Toton development proposition, including the proposed innovation campus and the emerging Toton & Chetwynd Masterplan.
  - undermines the wider East Midlands Development Corporation proposition and financial model (currently estimated at 84,000 jobs and additional £4.8 billion GVA).
  - undermines the regional political consensus in support of HS2 and the Development Corporation proposition.
  - increases development pressure on the Greenbelt, particularly in Rushcliffe.
- 3.19 Regional partners issued a firm public response soon after the Rail Needs Assessment was published which was extensively reported in both the local and national media.  
<https://www.emcouncils.gov.uk/News/political-and-business-leaders-call-on-government-to-avoid-station-on-the-cheap-and-make-final-commitment-to-hs2>

- 3.20 However, the focus has now shifted to influencing the Government's Integrated Rail Plan, which will be the key decision-making document and is now expected to be published after the Budget (3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021).
- 3.21 The region has been robust in its response – and this reflects well upon the regional consensus and strength of partnership. The response has focused on the rigour of its technical case and the economic argument – but with an emphasis too on political engagement at the national level, with MPs, with the reality being that this is a decision now firmly within the political sphere. The region has benefited from the leadership of Cllr Kay Cutts, through chairing the region's HS2 Board and establishing an effective partnership within the region, and more widely through HS2 East. Recent work includes:
- Councillor Cutts, Mayor Dan Jarvis of South Yorkshire and Councillor Judith Blake the Leader of Leeds have continued to make representations direct to Government through the HS2 East and Connecting Britain partnerships.
  - Councillor Cutts and Councillor Blake met HS2 Minister Andrew Stephenson MP and Treasury Minister Jesse Norman MP on the 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021, and then with the Prime Ministers Transport Advisor Andrew Gilligan.
  - The East Midlands APPG has met and agreed a joint letter and a proposed Westminster Hall/Backbench debate early in the new year (to be confirmed)
  - Alex Norris MP and Pauline Latham MP have both raised HS2 investment at PMQs. Lilian Greenwood MP and Darren Henry MP have asked questions to the Chancellor and the Leader of the House of Commons respectively.
  - Joint letters to key Ministers have been developed through the Toton Delivery Board, EMC Executive Board and TfEM Board.
  - Connecting Britain is developing a number of short videos highlighting the benefits of the Eastern Leg of HS2 for publication in early February 2021.
  - There is ongoing dialogue at officer level with senior Department of Transport and Treasury officials.
- 3.22 Failure to progress the Eastern Leg of HS2 in full would put the East Midlands at a serious economic disadvantage compared to other parts of the country. The HS2 route from London (Old Oak Common and Euston), the West Midlands (Birmingham Curzon Street and Solihull Interchange/Birmingham Airport) the North West (Crewe, Manchester Airport and Manchester Piccadilly) and then on to Glasgow via the West Coast Main Line will become the UK's primary growth corridor for decades to come.

- 3.23 There is already growing investment imbalance between the East and West Midlands, as illustrated below:



Source: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/public-expenditure-statistical-analyses-2020>

- 3.24 During the 2020s, this gap is likely to widen further. In addition to tens of billions of investments into HS2 and related road, rail and public transport infrastructure, the West Midlands will also benefit from investment in, and the economic impact of the Birmingham Commonwealth Games in 2022<sup>6</sup>, and a number new and upgraded local rail stations proposed in the West Midlands Rail Investment Strategy<sup>7</sup>
- 3.25 From an East Midlands perspective, facing up to the economic challenges over the next decade will require new and original thinking. Just continuing with existing proposals and ways of working will not be sufficient.

#### **TfEM/Department for Transport Rail Collaboration Agreement**

- 3.26 TfEM signed a Collaboration Agreement with the Department for Transport in September 2020 to provide local input into the management of rail services delivered by East Midlands Railway.
- 3.27 The Agreement provides for the recruitment of two joint funded TfEM rail officers. The first of these, TfEM Head of Rail Improvement, started in January 2021.

<sup>6</sup>[https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/news/article/438/778m\\_investment\\_into\\_city\\_and\\_region\\_to\\_deliver\\_com\\_monwealth\\_games](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/news/article/438/778m_investment_into_city_and_region_to_deliver_com_monwealth_games)

<sup>7</sup> <http://wmre.org.uk/media/14045/west-midlands-rail-report-final-version-jan-2019.pdf>

Recruitment to the junior post was unsuccessful, so alternative interim arrangements are being put in place. Initial priorities for the new roles include:

- Ensuring that contracted improvements to rolling stock and services are delivered by EMR– accepting the Covid pandemic will result in some unavoidable delays.
- Working with EMR to ensure that temporary service reductions as a result of the impact of Covid on staff maintains a core level of regional rail connectivity.
- Providing strategic input into emerging bids to the ‘Restoring Your Railway Fund’.

#### **4. Asylum and Refugee Resettlement**

4.1 East Midlands Councils, through the Regional Migration Board, is responsible for the management of a range of asylum and refugee resettlement programmes including asylum dispersal, Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme and the National Transfer Scheme for Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children.

4.2 Managing an effective and proportionate asylum and refugee resettlement programme remains a national priority – but one that can only be delivered in partnership with local authorities and community organisations. In the East Midlands, local authorities continue to be at the forefront in the management and delivery of these programmes. There have been challenges but the progress achieved to date has been testament to a collective approach in the region.

4.3 Councillor Alex Dale (Derbyshire County Council) accepted the nomination to be Chair of the Regional Migration Board, recently vacated by Councillor Ivan Ould. Councillor Sarah Russell (Leicester City Council) remains the Vice-Chair.

#### **Asylum Dispersal**

4.4 Recent increases in the flow of asylum seekers nationally, pressure on local housing markets and changes in Government policy have increased the pressure to ensure more equitable dispersal arrangements both nationally and within the East Midlands.

4.5 At the end of March 2016 there were just over 3,000 supported asylum seekers in dispersal accommodation in the East Midlands. At the end of September 2020, there were 2,459 asylum seekers, located in 6 dispersal areas across the East Midlands: 777 persons in Derby City, 754 in Leicester City, 838 in Nottingham City, 40 in Broxtowe, 45 in Oadby and Wigston and 6 in Gedling. However, most dispersal areas have seen an increase over the last quarter, with an average of 5% increase.

- 4.6 In total, 754 properties are currently used in the East Midlands with 467 (61%) classed as family accommodation and 287 (39%) HMO properties. Local authorities have requested assurance on accommodation standards, potentially through on-site visits and/or random quality checks.
- 4.7 It is recognised that both across and within regions, levels of dispersal and the associated pressure this puts on statutory services needs to be addressed. In this region a key concern is that the current system places pressure on local areas already under considerable strain, particularly in Derby, Leicester, and Nottingham.
- 4.8 The reframing of the relationships between local and central government around asylum dispersal and the equitable distribution of asylum dispersal remains a priority area and EMC are involved in discussions with the Home Office and the LGA. There remains a need for the Home Office to provide assurance to local authorities on their influence and control of numbers and location of dispersal, as well as addressing wider barriers to participation that include:
- a) A lack of appropriate support and infrastructure.
  - b) The continued use of contingency accommodation in areas already experiencing significant burdens on statutory services.
  - c) The risk of additional pressures on localities that are already having to address cohesion or lack the social and/or financial capital to manage further arrival and transitory communities.
- 4.9 The Home Office have confirmed that in support of redistribution and the need to widen dispersal areas, there will be a review of the costs, pressures, and social impact of asylum dispersal in the UK.
- 4.10 Due to the combination of ongoing 'flow' of asylum applications nationally and the Government's decision, because of Covid-19, to suspend the requirement for any service users to leave their accommodation (but now partially lifted), the Home Office and its accommodation providers accommodated Asylum Seekers in contingency hotel accommodation throughout the UK including the East Midlands (specifically Derby, Leicester and Nottingham).
- 4.11 Local Authorities have repeatedly emphasised concerns on the unsuitability of hotel contingency accommodation for both asylum seekers themselves (particularly those with young families) and the pressure it places on local services and communities. EMC, local authorities are working with the Home Office and Serco to alleviate these pressures and to exit contingency accommodation in the region.

- 4.12 Each new arrival is subject to Covid-19 screening which classifies those who are symptomatic with individuals displaying symptoms placed in isolation accommodation provided by the Home Office.
- 4.13 There continues to be concerns nationally around health screening and provision in hotels used for contingency with little clarification on how health services are being provided, GP registrations and timeframes for CCGs to put services in place. The Home Office, Serco, Directors of Public Health and the Regional Local Resilience Forum conveners continue to discuss Covid compliance at contingency and initial accommodation, and management of local Covid-19 outbreaks.

### **Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children**

- 4.14 The National Transfer Scheme for Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC) was introduced in July 2016 as part of a suite of measures included in the Immigration Act 2016. The transfer scheme has focused on the transfer of children from Kent and some London Boroughs which are above the 0.07% threshold set by the Government.
- 4.15 The substantial majority (87%) of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children in the care of East Midlands' Children's Services arrived spontaneously in the region, rather than via planned transfer or resettlement routes.
- 4.16 At the end of January 2021, 207 UASC were looked after by East Midlands local authorities. This is 19% lower than the same time last year. In contrast, the number of former UASC care leavers in the region is currently 702, which represents a year on year increase of 13%.
- 4.17 A total of 117 UASC have been voluntarily transferred into the care of local authorities in the region. This figure does not include children who arrive 'spontaneously' into the region.
- 4.18 Due to a fall in 'spontaneous arrivals' since March 2019, the number of UASC in the region has steadily declined with fewer numbers of UASC now in Local Authority care than when the NTS began in 2016. In contrast, the number of former UASC care leavers in the East Midlands continues to climb, with an increase of 159% since the start of the NTS.



- 4.19 The situation along the south coast has been widely reported over recent months, where significant numbers of migrants, including unaccompanied children, have been arriving across the Channel in small boats. The number of unaccompanied children being taken into the care of local authorities in the affected areas, principally Kent and Portsmouth, placed unprecedented pressure on their Children's Services with an urgent request for help sent to local authorities from the Home Office, Department for Education, Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government, the LGA and the Association of Directors of Children's Services.
- 4.20 As well as coordinating offers of support to authorities on the south coast, EMC was asked by the Home Office to suggest possible solutions to increase participation by local authorities in voluntary transfers from Kent and Portsmouth. Funding continues to be a key barrier, and EMC proposed that the Home Office continues to fund UASC transferred from Kent at the enhanced rate (£143 per child per night) while they were in the care of the receiving authority (rather than the £114 per child per night as per the current funding arrangements). This was suggested to be cost neutral - the Home Office is funding the child at the enhanced rate whilst in Kent County Council's care and if the child did not transfer, that enhanced rate would continue.
- 4.21 In response, the Home Office announced that any child transferred from Kent or Portsmouth between initially 13<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020 and via the NTS would attract the higher rate of £143 per child per night for the duration of the care provided to that child by the receiving authority. This was welcomed and led to additional offers of support from the region. However, the limited timeframe was unhelpful as was the enhanced funding arrangements not applying to children already transferred before 12<sup>th</sup> October. The enhanced funding window was subsequently extended until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020.
- 4.22 East Midlands' authorities responded to the request for assistance with pledges to find placements for up to 25 children to be transferred from the south coast through the National Transfer Scheme, and 15 children have been transferred to the region so far.
- 4.23 Eight local authorities have been able to offer support, including those councils not currently participating in the NTS but willing to make 'without prejudice' offers in response to the urgent requests for assistance.
- 4.24 In support of efforts to 'unblock' the NTS and to address on-going concerns including the proposed rota model and an option to make the scheme mandatory, EMC

arranged a meeting between Lead Members for Children's Services and Chris Philp, the Home Office and Justice Minister (24<sup>th</sup> February).

#### **Hong Kong BN(O) visa**

- 4.25 The UK Government introduced a new immigration route for British National (Overseas) (BN(O)) citizens in Hong Kong from 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021 following the decision of the Chinese Government to impose a national security law on Hong Kong. The new national security law is in direct breach of the Sino-British Joint Declaration and restricts the rights and freedoms of the people of Hong Kong. This new route will provide the opportunity for those with BN(O) status and their family members to live, work and study in the UK, should they choose to do so.
- 4.26 Unlike most other regular migration routes, there are no requirements for a job offer, qualifications or minimum English language ability.
- 4.27 Whilst there is a high degree of uncertainty surrounding the numbers of BN(O) citizens expected to arrive on the route, a central range estimation of between 123,000 and 153,700 BN(O) citizens and their dependants coming in the first year and between 258,000 and 322,400 over five years.
- 4.28 There are several potential financial and service impacts on Local Authorities including but not limited to, access to education and health provision, English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) accessibility for new arrivals and pressure on Social Care services as individuals will have No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF).

----- **END** -----

**Stuart Young**  
**Executive Director**  
**East Midlands Councils**

**REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL****EAST MIDLANDS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION – UPDATE ON SETTING UP THE INTERIM VEHICLE (EM DEVCO LTD) AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CORE TEAM STRUCTURE AND ASSOCIATED POSTS****Purpose of the Report**

1. To update Members on the establishment of EM DevCo Ltd; to seek approval to establish the core team posts, as part of the Place Department; and to delegate authority to the Service Director Customer, Governance and Employees to negotiate and agree the associated agreements to bring this into effect.

**Background**

2. Some information relating to this report is not for publication by virtue of paragraph 5 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it comprises of information to which legal professional privilege applies. On balance the public interest does not override the application of the exemption because divulging the information would significantly damage the Council's commercial position. The exempt information is set out in the **exempt appendix** to this report.
3. In February 2019 the Government approved funding for a two year programme to explore the business case for a locally led development delivery vehicle for the East Midlands and asked the Midlands Engine to lead the work. The Midlands Engine was asked to consider three locations in the East Midlands: specifically, Toton and Chetwynd Barracks and Ratcliffe on Soar Power Station site (both in Nottinghamshire), and East Midlands Airport Area (in Leicestershire). The programme is also considering how the Development Corporation can have wider application across the East Midlands as a whole, building on the recent successful announcement of a Freeport around East Midlands Airport.
4. The overall ambition of the East Midlands Development Corporation (EMDC) is to supercharge a new era of growth for the regional economy. This will be achieved by enabling projects that build on the potential of HS2; the region's status as a major trade and logistics gateway; and its historic strengths in research and development and industrial innovation. Further background to the EMDC programme can be found in previous update reports to Policy Committee in February 2020 and December 2020.
5. On 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020, Policy Committee approved the establishment of an Interim Vehicle, EM DevCo Ltd, to drive forward the proposition whilst the Parliamentary processes required to

establish the proposed new model of Locally Led Urban Development Corporation (LLUDC) take place (taking up to three years). It was also agreed that the County Council will host the company on behalf of the member authorities.

6. In addition, the County Council approved the contribution of £1.5m in £0.5m annual funding contributions from 2021/22 to 2023/24. Similar approval has been given by the other directly affected Local Authorities, which are Leicestershire County Council, Broxtowe Borough Council, North West Leicestershire District Council and Rushcliffe Borough Council. Leicestershire County Council have approved a contribution of £0.5m per annum with Broxtowe, North West Leicestershire (confirmation of year 1 funding anticipated 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021) and Rushcliffe collectively contributing £0.5m per annum.

## Progress to date

7. Since December's Policy Committee meeting, work has continued on the preparation of the detailed business case, which will set out to Government how the Development Corporation meets the criteria for public-sector intervention. The business case establishes the case for a LLUDC; a value for money assessment, commercial viability; financial affordability; and a route to delivery. The business case will be submitted to Government in March 2021 following discussions with MHCLG officials and final clarifications with key stakeholders.
8. Concurrently work has been on going to incorporate EM DevCo Ltd with the Legal Teams of the member Local Authorities. Following the finalisation of the company's Articles of Association and Members Agreement that set out the formal constitutional arrangements, EM DevCo Ltd will be legally incorporated with registration at Companies House. As detailed in the December Policy Committee report, the company will be owned by the five Local Authorities whose administrative areas cover the three initial sites within scope i.e. Toton and Chetwynd Barracks, East Midlands Airport Area and the power station at Ratcliffe on Soar.
9. A business plan for 2021/22 is under development, which will set out the activities and budget of EM DevCo Ltd for the year ahead and will be considered for approval by the EM DevCo Ltd Oversight Authority in April. An indication of the work of the Interim Vehicle is provided in the indicative work programme included at **Appendix 1**. The team structure outlined in **Appendix 2** represents the core team and proposed new posts required to undertake and manage the work outlined in Appendix 1, which will form the basis of the business plan. These deliverables are based on the confirmed year one Local Authority funding of £1.5m (detailed in paragraph 6). Through commissioning of services, the team could manage a larger budget (up to £3m in year one) should anticipated Government funding be confirmed. A range of operating budget scenarios have been developed to prepare for a range of potential operating budgets, dependent on the level of Government funding.
10. At the December 2020 Policy Committee it was agreed that the Company Limited by Guarantee; EM DevCo Limited will be added to the Council's Outside Bodies Register. It was also agreed for the Ruling Group Business Manager to make the required Member

appointments to the Oversight Authority and to delegate authority to the Chief Executive to make the required Officer appointment to the Board of Directors. Periodic progress reports regarding the Company business plan and establishment of the longer term statutory Development Corporation will be brought to the relevant Committee as appropriate.

11. In addition to the Core Team, EM DevCo Ltd intends to fund an interim Managing Director (initially part-time) who will be responsible for the running of the company and answerable to the Board of Directors. Due to the specialist nature of the role and the short timeframe available, the Managing Director will be temporarily commissioned separately to the recruitment of the remaining post proposed in the structure. Should it be considered beneficial at a future point to add the Managing Director to the staffing establishment, approval to establish an additional post will be sought from the relevant Committee.
12. The Core team (outlined in Appendix 2) includes specialist planning, programme management and delivery roles that reflects the scale and nature of the work required to be undertaken. The Programme Director will actively support the evolution of proposals and business cases for the developments, whilst maintaining effective relationships with Government, regional and local partners. The Group Manager will lead the technical infrastructure and planning workstream, and will be responsible for developing the overall proposition, business cases and undertaking early infrastructure planning for the proposed developments in accordance with the Business Plan. The Group Manager will be supported by a Transport and Infrastructure Manager and a Regeneration and Economic Development Manager, who will seek and manage opportunities associated with the EMDC proposition. A Senior Executive Officer and Executive Assistant will provide high level business support to the Managing Director and Programme Director as well as coordinating the project team activities to ensure that they are delivered in accordance with the business plan. A part time Media and Communication Manager will build upon the strong stakeholder engagement and media strategy that has been key to the programme's successes to date. This small team will be further strengthened (subject to resource) by the commissioning of external support for specified deliverables within the Business Plan, once approved by the Oversight Authority.
13. Recruiting to the core team of regeneration, development and infrastructure specialists will provide EM DevCo Ltd with access to new skills and levels of expertise in planning and delivering a scale of development and infrastructure the region has not experienced for several generations. The cost of the core team will be funded from EM DevCo Ltd's operating budget.
14. The participating councils have been in discussion and consider that the key drivers and objectives for the staffing structure are around speed and expediency, namely:
  - To attract the best candidates.
  - To be able to staff the Company swiftly in order to demonstrate to the Government that they can deliver at pace.
  - To have flexibility in dismantling the staffing structure if during the interim period it became clear that it will not be possible to move to a new form of delivery vehicle supported by changes in legislation.

15. The participating councils consider that the optimum way to deliver the objectives above will be for one of them to recruit and employ the staff and then make them available to the Company, i.e. act as host. This is because having a council employer with established and supported recruitment processes should enable the recruitment of staff to take place much quicker and would give more security and be more attractive to potential recruits.
16. The view of the partner authorities is that Nottinghamshire County Council is best placed to be the host council as it already acts as host for the Development Corporation Programme Team, which is currently part of the Council's Place Department (as detailed in December Policy Committee Report). The councils have agreed the principle of sharing the costs of the host council. Work is ongoing around arrangements for sharing that cost and potential liabilities between the 5 partner local authorities. No recruitment will be undertaken until these arrangements for sharing costs and liabilities have been agreed.
17. There are a number of different employment options available, which are set out below. Legal advice on the options is attached in the exempt appendix.
- Services agreement: The Council recruit and employ the core team staff and enter into an agreement with the company to provide the agreed services. Under this model the control of the staff providing the services would remain with the Council but would link to objectives set by the board of directors.
  - Secondment: The Council recruit and employ the core team staff and enter into a secondment agreement with the company.
  - Direct employment of the staff by EM DevCo Ltd: The company employ the core team as its own employees.
  - Joint employment: The staff are recruited by the Council and then employed jointly by the Council and the company.
18. Legal advice has been sought on the staffing models for the Core Team, described above. Taking that into account it is recommended that the secondment model is the most suitable one in this case. Such an arrangement will require a secondment agreement between EM DevCo Ltd and the Council and any residual liabilities relating to the Council's employment of the staff will be shared between the five partner authorities through an appropriate legal agreement. Delegated authority is sought for the Service Director Customers, Governance and Employees to negotiate and finalise detailed terms of any agreements in consultation with the Group Manager, Legal and Democratic Services.
19. Subject to Policy Committee approval, the secondment arrangement will be implemented for the team structure and associated posts detailed in Appendix 2, with the current interim programme team resources being replaced by a Development Corporation Team, within the Place Department. Establishing the posts within the Council's structure will assist with recruitment for the reasons highlighted in paragraphs 14 -15 above.

20. Following approval by Policy Committee in December for Nottinghamshire County Council to be the host authority for EM DevCo Ltd, detailed work has been undertaken to scope the support services that will be provided to the Company. Service Level Agreements (SLA) have been developed that detail the services that will be provided as listed below. Finance, Legal and Audit support will be commissioned externally in order to secure the required company specific skills and to avoid any conflicts of interest with the County Council as joint owner of the company.

- HR
- Procurement
- ICT
- Document Services
- Business Systems Centre.

21. The SLAs are being developed to comply with state subsidy and public procurement rules. The cost will be validated by the finance team to ensure charges are compliant with these rules. The programme will also be the subject of a separate funding agreement between the five member authorities and EM DevCo Ltd. It is proposed that the finalisation of hosting arrangements, including the SLA's, funding, secondment and sharing liabilities and risks (detailed in paragraph 16) will be delegated to the Service Director Customers, Governance and Employees in consultation with the Group Manager Legal and Democratic Services.

## **Legal Implications**

22. Legal implications of the respective options for engaging the Core Team are set out in the Exempt Appendix. As this is expected to involve a secondment arrangement it is not envisaged that public procurement rules will apply. The SLAs in respect of the hosted support services are being developed to comply as appropriate with any relevant state subsidy and public procurement rules.

## **Financial Implications**

23. The EM DevCo Ltd structure detailed in Appendix 2 has an indicative budget of £500k (subject to job evaluation) and will be funded from EM DevCo's operating budget, as set out in paragraph 6 above.

24. Provision of support services to EM DevCo Ltd will deliver an income to the County Council. The annual support services charges will be validated by the finance team to ensure charges are legally compliant. The provision of services is documented within SLAs between EM DevCo Ltd and the County Council support services.

## **Other Options Considered**

25. Other options considered are detailed in paragraph 17 and the exempt appendix.



## **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

26. Following approval of the establishment of EM DevCo Ltd by the five owning Local Authorities, a decision on the most appropriate staffing model for the core team will allow the deliverables and benefits to Nottinghamshire and the wider region to be progressed. Year one deliverables are detailed in Appendix 2 and the wider benefits of the Development Corporation programme were detailed in the December 2020 Policy Committee report.

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

27. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required. With regard to the public sector equality duty, it is not considered that establishing EM DevCo Ltd will disproportionately impact people with protected characteristics. This will be kept under review as part of the business planning process.

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

It is recommended that Policy Committee:

- 1) Approves the establishment of the 6.5 FTE core team posts as part of the Place Department (detailed in paragraphs 12-13 and appendix 2), subject to appropriate legal agreements being put in place;
- 2) Delegates authority to the Service Director Customers, Governance and Employees in consultation with the Group Manager Legal and Democratic Services to negotiate and finalise the legal agreements required to give effect to the secondment and support services arrangements.

**Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts MBE**  
**Leader of the County Council**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact: Adrian Smith, Deputy Chief Executive and Corporate Director Place, [adrian.smith@nottsc.gov.uk](mailto:adrian.smith@nottsc.gov.uk)**

## **Constitutional Comments (SSR 08/03/2021)**

28. The recommendations set out in this report fall within the scope of decisions that may be approved by Policy Committee.

## **Financial Comments (RWK 18/02/2021)**

29. The financial implications of the report are set out in paragraphs 23 and 24 of the report. The employment costs of the staffing structure and payments to the County Council for the provision of services listed in paragraph 20 will be funded from EM Dev Co Ltd's operating budget. The



payment for services provided by the County Council will provide an additional income stream for the County Council.

## **HR Comments (JP 18/02/2021)**

30. The posts detailed in Appendix 2 will be subject to job evaluation and recruitment processes will be undertaken in line with County Council Employment Policy and procedures.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- [Midlands Engine Development Corporation Establishment of the Interim Vehicle - Policy Committee - December 2020](#)
- [Midlands Engine Development Corporation Update - Policy Committee - February 2020](#)
- [Midlands Engine Development Corporation Funding and Delivery Team - Policy Committee - June 2019](#)
- East Midlands Development Corporation, Comprehensive Spending review (CSR) 2020, Proposition

## **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

All



	ACTIVITIES /WORKSTREAMS	OUTCOMES Year 1
<b>CORPORATE DELIVERABLES (Across all 3 sites)</b>		
1	Outline High-Level Plan and technical appendices setting out contextual/technical issues (part 1)	<p><b>Through the High-Level Plan the Interim Vehicle will in the First Year have a clear understanding of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How we best co-ordinate as a 'guiding tool' the <b>delivery of aspirations</b> across the three sites</li> <li>• Off and on-site <b>infrastructure requirements</b> and approaches to delivery</li> <li>• Environmental and <b>blue &amp; green opportunities</b></li> <li>• What will be required from <b>planning policy documents</b> and alignment between the key objectives for the sites; connecting assets and infrastructure</li> <li>• A framework for design quality and design codes; and</li> <li>• Our key messages and target audiences to lobby for change; informing emerging policy and engagement with investors and market audiences</li> </ul> <p><i>The High-Level Plan will be prepared alongside;</i></p> <p><b>A Communications &amp; Stakeholder Plan that will provide:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A clear understanding of the different audience of the purpose and benefits of the Interim Vehicle in advance of the EM DevCo</li> <li>• Understanding and alignment between key stakeholders' objectives that benefit the delivery of the projects.</li> <li>• Aligned stakeholder and communications strategies across the 3 sites particularly where there are cross cutting initiatives (e.g. Zero, skills, Freeport) and where appropriate inform the preparation of collaboration agreements.</li> </ul>
2	Ongoing external advice to the LLUDC Business Case across the 3 sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The continued support of Government and alignment with emerging critical decisions, delivery requirements and dependencies through the Interim Vehicle delivery programme.</li> </ul>
3	Soft Market Testing & Fund-Raising advice (across 3 sites)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This will build on the early work in support of the business case for the LLUDC model to give the Interim Vehicle the necessary market intelligence and analysis to inform its land and commercial requirements and deliver the potential mechanisms to progress early agreements.</li> </ul>

## YEAR 1 INTERIM VEHICLE PROGRAMME DELIVERABLES

	ACTIVITIES /WORKSTREAMS	OUTCOMES Year 1
<b>TOTON &amp; CHETWYND</b>		
4	Finalise Strategic Masterplan / Supplementary Planning Document (Broxtove Borough Council working with the Interim programme team)	<p>In the First Year the Interim Vehicle will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare market facing <b>Development/Developer Brief(s)</b><sup>1</sup> - this will be informed by the Strategic Masterplan, the HS2 process, technical and feasibility studies and a land &amp; commercial delivery plan. The working assumption is the LLUDC will act as a master developer with the actual mechanisms to engage the market to be determined by the Interim Vehicle in Y1. The options range from an initial development management role to the engagement of funding partners to bring forward a development masterplan.</li> <li>• Seek to secure <b>the funding route</b> for the Northern section of the <b>Toton link road</b> by putting in place a <b>revised business case</b>, alongside an agreed strategic approach to the connection with Chetwynd Barracks to deliver the full route to Swiney Way.</li> <li>• Undertake feasibility on a <b>Skills Academy</b> - identify and align the opportunities in the area (industry, education skills gap), around developing the potential for a Biodiversity / Medical innovation Campus.</li> <li>• Establish the basis for a cooperation / collaboration agreement on <b>Chetwynd Barracks</b> that could range from the acquisition of land through the LLUDC to a Memorandum of Understanding or a Joint Venture for a comprehensive approach.</li> <li>• Align the development approach with <b>ZERO</b> and identification of the opportunities for developing a low carbon mixed use development at Toton &amp; Chetwynd.</li> <li>• <b>Relocation Feasibility</b> – where appropriate to establish with existing rail operators if there is a workable way forward for a collaborative approach to the medium to long term relocation.</li> </ul>
5	HS2 Hybrid Bill alignment with Toton and Chetwynd Strategic Masterplan.	
6	Toton & Chetwynd Technical and feasibility studies and site investigations to inform a land and commercial delivery strategy and development brief(s).	
7	Feasibility study for a skills academy	
8	Land strategy (including statutory planning process), negotiations & commercial / financial and legal structure – ongoing and align negotiations / head of terms with emerging commercial delivery strategy.	
9	Revised business case for early infrastructure ask for Toton & Chetwynd link road – Stage 1 preconstruction design to inform a revised business case in order to progress at pace once a funding route is identified	

<sup>1</sup> This approach does not preclude on-going discussions to reach agreement with landowners to bring forward their sites in accordance with the emerging Strategic Masterplan

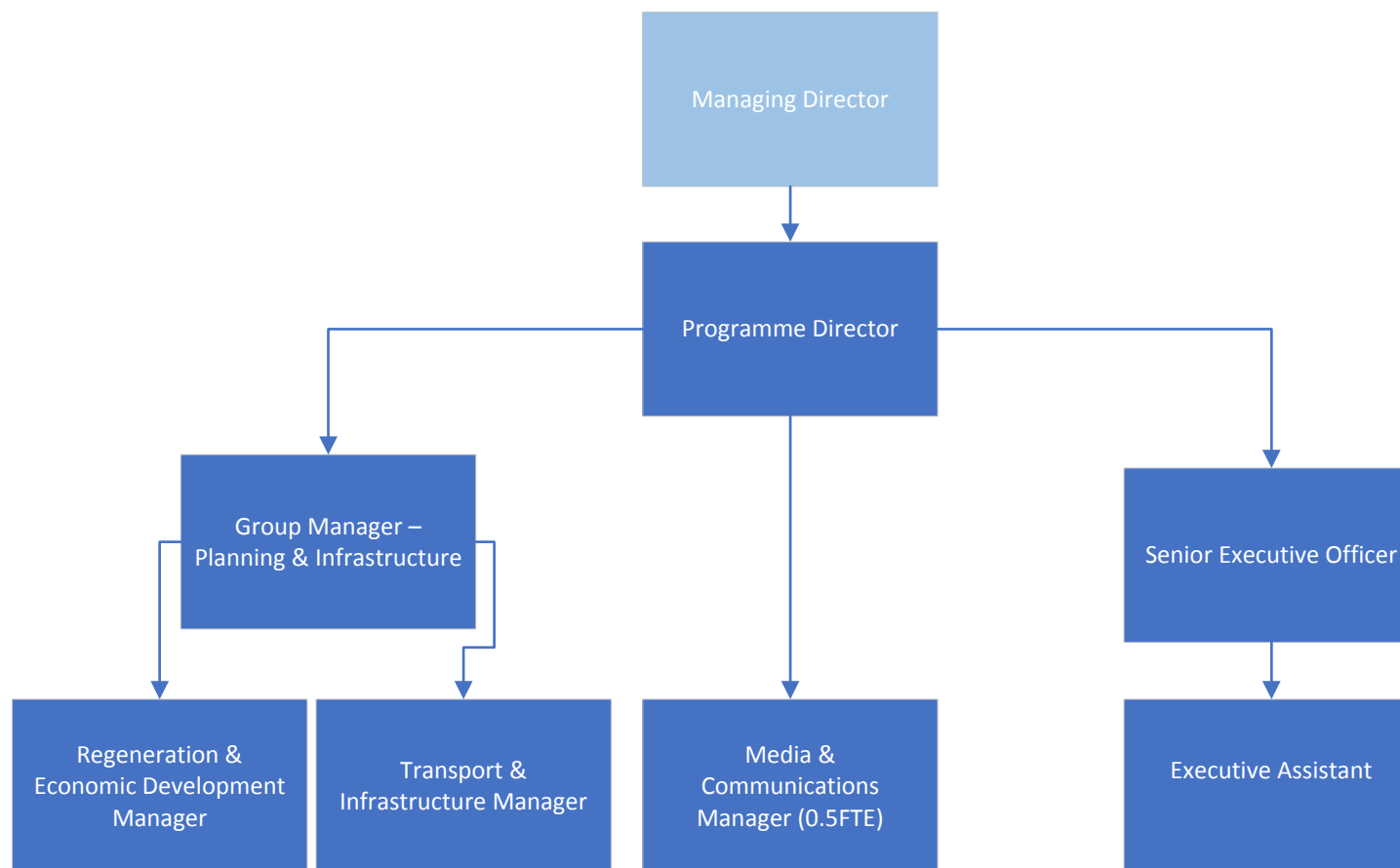
## YEAR 1 INTERIM VEHICLE PROGRAMME DELIVERABLES

	ACTIVITIES /WORKSTREAMS	OUTCOMES Year 1
<b>RATCLIFFE ON SOAR</b>		
10	Establish basis for alignment of proposition for Ratcliffe including, potential private sector partners, Government, LLUDC and Rushcliffe BC.	<p>In the First Year the Interim Vehicle will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek to enter into a <b>Collaboration Agreement</b> to establish the project direction and a commercial basis for proceeding (commercial land and delivery plan).</li> <li>• Alongside the Collaboration Agreement prepare an <b>Outline Development Brief</b> that will provide the basis for the preparation of a <b>Development Masterplan</b> in advance of a planning application (agreed route to be determined).</li> <li>• Coordinate with the <b>Freeport</b> Proposals/Business Case (if successful) and progress an infrastructure funding bid through the LLUDC business case.</li> <li>• Align development aspirations for Ratcliffe power station alongside a business case and funding route for progressing <b>ZERO</b>, with partners including Freeport, Universities, industry and Government.</li> <li>• ZERO – Undertake a 5-point plan establishing the basis for a formal business plan (Independent leadership, the ‘Why’, resourcing, collaborate, steering group) that will provide clarity on the differentiating factors and market opportunities that provide the compelling case across the 3 areas with potential for a centre at Ratcliffe on Soar Power Station for the development of market - ready zero emission technologies.</li> </ul>
11	Strategic policy alignment and negotiations to shape Ratcliffe policy framework to inform land strategy.	
12	Collaboration agreement – negotiation of agreed development, objectives, responsibilities and budgets, alongside principles for commercial Heads of Terms, including financial & legal structuring.	
13	Concept masterplan & infrastructure plan, stage 1 site investigations, the next stage feasibility / viability for a target occupier strategy, initial agreement and preparation of brief and agreed procurement process.	
14	Alignment of development infrastructure funding with LLUDC business case and the Freeport proposal.	

## YEAR 1 INTERIM VEHICLE PROGRAMME DELIVERABLES

	ACTIVITIES /WORKSTREAMS	OUTCOMES Year 1
<b>East Midlands Airport Area (EMAA)</b>		
15	Parameters for EMAA growth masterplan and policy Framework (developing the vision and potential asks (spatial, infrastructure asks, powers). Initially develop scope and red line for development area / baseline information required.	<p>In the First Year the Interim Vehicle will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish the scale of opportunity – agree red line with the public sector partners.</li> <li>• Align the level of ambition with the planning policy requirements to set the parameters for an EMAA strategic growth masterplan and policy framework.</li> <li>• Agree approach and scope for the strategic growth masterplan and high-level Infrastructure plan.</li> <li>• Identify opportunities to enter into <b>Memorandums of Understanding</b> with key strategic partners in the EMAA area (note aligned with the Freeport proposition).</li> <li>• Coordinate with the <b>Freeport</b> Proposals/Business case (if successful) and make progress on an infrastructure funding bid through the LLUDC business case.</li> <li>• Undertaken early scheme feasibility and high-level visioning to position the opportunity to stakeholders and partners and identify potential funding and delivery mechanisms.</li> </ul>
16	Develop scenarios, strategic masterplan and infrastructure plan	
17	Develop evidence base - planning framework and develop a delivery strategy	
18	Land strategy and negotiations with strategic partners e.g., collaboration agreements/ Memorandums of understanding key stakeholders.	
19	Alignment of development infrastructure funding with LLUDC business case and the Freeport business case	

EM DevCo Ltd  
Interim Vehicle – Proposed Structure







**REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL****DELIVERING MAJOR PROGRAMMES OF WORK AND BIDS FOR FUNDING  
– PLACE DEPARTMENT****Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek Policy Committee for approval to the provision of interim funding for the period April 2021 to September 2021 to support the continued delivery of major programmes of work and the development of new bids for external funding through the Place Department.

**Information**

2. In December 2018 Policy Committee received a report that established a flexible pool of resource to support the delivery of a significant number of major capital projects within the Place Department at that time. The report established a budget of £650k for the full financial years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, and a £100k for 2018-2019. The funding has been used to support project development and programme management, as well as to fund the additional pressures that these projects create on corporate services such as legal, finance and communication.
3. With this funding the County Council has been able to support £56.8m of investment in the County including; £40m in the Gedling Access Road, £13.6m of infrastructure in the developments at Lindhurst, Mansfield and Top Wighay, Hucknall, £3.2m Homes England funding for sites at Lowmoor Road and Cauldwell Road. As reported at the COVID-19 Resilience, Recovery and Renewal Committee, the Place Department has also secured an additional £11m of investment over the last 3 months to support the Economic Recovery Action Plan.
4. The funding outlined in the 2018 report will finish at the end of March 2021, however there is a continuing need to deliver the initiatives that were highlighted in that report as well as to pursue additional investment opportunities and drive growth within the County and the wider East Midlands. It is especially important that the Council puts itself in the best position possible to capitalise from new Government initiatives and funding opportunities that are being announced, to protect its economy from the impact of the Covid -19 pandemic.
5. Continued delivery of a number of highprofile programmes and those that the Council is looking to bid for will place increased demands on organisational capacity. Furthermore, the Department is also being asked to either support or drive major partner initiatives such as the East Midlands Freeport.
6. Without the funding support highlighted in this report there is a risk that existing resource will need to be diverted or taken away from strategically significant projects such as the Council plans for Top Wighay, and that the Council will not have the capacity to bid for future opportunities such as the UK Levelling Up and Shared Prosperity Funds.

7. Corporate Services will also continue to have high levels of demand as a result of the Council programmes and bids, specifically Legal, Finance and Communications. Whilst funding to support a usual level of capital projects is allocated from existing budgets, the scale and complexity of the additional major projects work will continue to require additional resource. This support is included in the request for interim funding.
8. It is important to note that the Place Department will continue to flex to meet the level of demand within the projects and bids, rather than increasing the permanent staffing establishment and budget. Due to the initiative needing experienced and specific technical support such as with the Council housing and regeneration initiatives, this will be either tendered for separately or provided via Arc. This will ensure appropriately skilled individuals are available when required and reduce the risk/costs to the organisation of increasing the permanent establishment to support these peaks in delivery.
9. It is requested that contingency funding of up to £430k be made available for the first six months of the financial year 2021/22. A breakdown of the funding is detailed in the table below;

**Table 1. Breakdown of Funding**

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>£s</b>
Corporate Services – Finance, Comms, Legal	£127k
Arc Regeneration	£50k
Housing Bid Development including preparation of wider Social Housing Decarbonisation Funds	£65k
Investment and Growth Development	£188k
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£430k</b>

10. The report requests this funding on the basis that there will be an election in May 2021 and shortly thereafter the administration will set new priorities for the Department. It is currently envisaged that a further report will be brought to Policy Committee in September 2021 outlining the approach to delivering major projects and bids for funding, and to cover the term of the new administration.

### **Other Options Considered**

11. To not approve the additional resource required would impact on the delivery of major projects and investment into the County's economy. Without this capacity the organisation would run the risk of delivery failure with significant associated reputational damage and would fail to capitalise on Government opportunities.

### **Reason for Recommendations**

12. The proposed resource request supports the Council strategic plans: Council Plan 2017-2021, the COVID-19 crisis Economic Recovery Action Plan 2020 to 2022. Future plans

will be subject to the new Council Administration priorities, hence the recommendation is to only fund from the period April 2021 to September 2021. A further report outlining the approach to delivering major projects and bids for funding under the new Administration will be brought to Policy Committee in September 2021.

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

13. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

## **Financial Implications**

14. It is requested that contingency funding of £430k is made available to cover the period April 2021 until September 2021.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Policy Committee:

- 1) Approves up to a maximum of £430,000 to support the delivery of major projects for the period 1 April 2021 to 30 September 2021.
- 2) Agrees that a request should be submitted to the Finance and Major Contracts Management Committee for an allocation of up to £430,000 from contingency to fund the costs of major projects during this period.

**COUNCILLOR MRS KAY CUTTS MBE**  
**Leader of the Council**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:** Matthew Neal, Investment and Growth.

## **Constitutional Comments (EP 18/02/2021)**

15. The recommendation falls within the remit of the Policy Committee by virtue of its terms of reference.

## **Financial Comments (RWK 18/02/2021)**

16. The report proposes additional spending of £430,000 to support the delivery of major projects and bids for funding. A request for an allocation from contingency is to be submitted to the Finance and Major Contracts Management Committee.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

- [Report to Policy Committee, 19<sup>th</sup> December 2018, Agenda Item 12 “\*Delivering and assuring Major Programmes of Work – Place Department\*”](#)

## **Electoral Divisions and Members Affected**

- All

## **REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

### **A ZERO CARBON ENERGY FUTURE FOR THE UK: POTENTIAL SITES IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE FOR ENERGY PRODUCTION**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek Policy Committee approval to work in collaboration with landowners and other relevant stakeholders and for the Council to act as the body to nominate Nottinghamshire sites for consideration by the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA) for 'Spherical Tokamak for Energy Production (STEP).'

#### **Information**

2. STEP is an ambitious Government led programme to design and construct a prototype fusion power plant. STEP was recently announced as part of the Government's Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution and the UK's ambition to be the first country in the world to commercialise fusion energy technology. The project will be at the international forefront of the clean energy revolution, bringing visibility on a global stage.
3. The programme is being led by the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA) an executive non-departmental public body sponsored by the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS). UKAEA has initiated a nationwide process to identify potential sites for STEP by approaching local authorities seeking initial nominations of suitable sites by 31 March 2021. It is understood that the current landowners of relevant sites would not be directly involved in the detailed development of STEP, with the expectation being that the necessary area for the development is acquired by UKAEA. The subsequent phase of STEP is to produce a concept design by 2024. As the programme moves into the detailed engineering design and build phases of the programme the UKAEA will work with a range of partners to deliver the prototype of a commercially viable fusion plant. Fusion power provides scope for limitless low-carbon energy.
4. To sustain economic growth, sources of energy that are emission-free, safe, globally available and economically viable, need to be developed. Fusion power is an attempt to replicate the processes of the Sun on Earth. It differs significantly from nuclear fission, which has been the only way of getting electricity from atoms since the 1950s. The fusion process is inherently safe and has the unique capability to provide utility-scale energy on-demand, wherever it is needed. This makes it an excellent complement for intermittent renewables such as solar power and wind generated energy and battery storage. Combined, these technologies make for a practical energy portfolio that mitigates climate change while driving economic prosperity.
5. STEP will have many of the features of a fully operational power station, including infrastructure and associated research and development facilities. It is likely to be a

delivery project of comparable scale and value to a major operational power station. The programme is expected to be consented as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under a Development Consent Order (DCO). Development Consent Orders are required for designated Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects and are determined by Central Government rather than other consents such as planning permission which is determined by the relevant local planning authority.

6. There are also a range of other environmentally beneficial ways fusion heat could be used including hydrogen production, desalination, district heating and more. It's possible that UKAEA may choose to develop these technologies on site too. These buildings are not expected to differ greatly in scale and appearance from the fusion plant and turbine facilities.
7. The programme will be reliant on significant skills for development and operations. This will range from apprentices, through degree and graduate skills, and experienced career professionals. The STEP programme will need people with a wide range of skills, from science and engineering to construction and catering in different phases of the programme. UKAEA has already allocated resources to support an apprentice training scheme and will work with local education and training providers at the earliest opportunity.
8. The fusion plant itself is only useful if the low-carbon power it generates can be put to good use. The basis of design is to work towards a fusion plant which could power a turbine to produce electricity. Turbine halls from existing power stations may be able to be reused and the STEP prototype reactor would have similar requirements to any other power station.
9. For the programme to move forward, the UKAEA needs to know that the community nominating itself is able to bring the various parties and stakeholders together to work in partnership with UKAEA, and successfully enable development and construction.
10. Further information is detailed at the following website [www.step.ukaea.uk](http://www.step.ukaea.uk)

### **The Opportunity STEP Presents and the Proposed Role of Nottinghamshire County Council**

11. UKAEA invites site nominations from almost any party. The Authority actively encourages a range of relevant bodies (e.g. Councils, Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEP), Regional Development Groups) to propose sites based on a strategic vision for the future of the community. These proposing entities could be pre-existing or formed for the specific purpose of nominating a site for STEP. UKAEA recognise that landowners may not have the time or resources to proactively propose land themselves and regard this partnership model as appropriate. Any person or entity can nominate a site. The Agency simply asks that:

- The entity is capable (in personnel and funding) to work with UKAEA through the assessment process.
- The entity has some form of jurisdiction (Council, LEP, business group, devolved Government) for the land included in the nomination.
- Not more than one entity proposes the same site.
- Consent of the landowner is secure

12. The proposing entity is expected to be the primary point of engagement for the UKAEA throughout the assessment process but need not retain a development role in the programme beyond the final selection, though UKAEA recognises that many of the bodies likely to propose a site (Councils, for example) would remain significant stakeholders and even statutory consultees in any future development.
13. Nottinghamshire County Council is well placed to nominate sites within the County due to the close links with each of the District and Borough Councils. The County Council also has a well-established stakeholder network and a good working relationship with the landowners. This will ensure that comprehensive nominations can be prepared and submitted to the UKAEA. If either of the site nominations are taken to the next stage of assessment, the County Council may input into the work undertaken by the UKAEA and the landowner in respect of the development of the site.
14. The STEP project itself will be a major advancement in delivering the Council's own policy objectives for delivering environmental improvements but also creating sustainable employment opportunities and economic growth.
15. At a Regional Level the Midlands Engine is leading the way by aligning partners to deliver a Green Recovery especially through transformational programmes such as the Energy Research Accelerator (ERA) and the Midlands Engine Development Corporation. This initiative builds on this and would innovate, enable and accelerate the Green Recovery in our Region should any of the nominated sites be taken forward. The Council has recently endorsed the next steps in the Midlands Engine Development Corporation Programme. The Council is taking a lead role in this Corporation, and, beyond the economic benefits, the programme will be designed to protect and enhance the environment, with a strong focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and achieving net gains in natural capital
16. The Council is a lead member of the sub-regional D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership and supports the delivery of its D2N2 Economic Recovery and Growth Strategy - 'The Heart of the UK's Green Revolution'. A collective approach sits at the heart of this work, especially if the D2N2 area is to firmly establish its credentials for low carbon business, innovation and education. The Council is also a key partner in the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Local Authorities Energy Partnership, which works to alleviate fuel poverty, reduce carbon emissions, improve energy efficiency and promote sustainable energy generation.
17. In actively supporting the range of regional and sub-regional green economic growth initiatives, Policy Committee (13 January 2021) also endorsed a regional bid for a Freeport which set out the opportunities for green growth and zero carbon. Subsequently, the Chancellor announced on 3 March 2021 that the East Midlands Freeport bid was successful. Several initiatives are already in development by both LEPs and the emerging East Midlands Development Corporation, which position the Nottinghamshire site nominations well in terms of demonstrating how the Council meets this bid requirement. Manufacturing businesses are leading projects to reduce the carbon footprint of their businesses and supply chains and to future proof their operations through adopting green technologies. Replacing the coal-fired electricity capacity also provides an unprecedented opportunity to spearhead a new, ambitious zero-carbon energy zone at Ratcliffe-on-Soar that can be a showcase to the rest of the country. It has the scope to be integrated with large scale clean hydrogen generation and distribution; energy from waste; a Gigafactory for low carbon vehicles; training



facilities supporting a range of low carbon sectors; and to support the Development Corporation's vision for a flagship national research centre for Integrated Zero-Carbon Futures. The siting of the STEP project in Nottinghamshire would lead it to be a location that would truly be a world leader in green energy production.

18. The STEP project is the first but important stage in commercialising fusion energy, which in the long term is expected to generate clean energy to meet society's future need
19. Based on the increasing body of evidence and research into Fusion power, both in the UK and abroad, it is considered, by the UKAEA, that fusion has a number of benefits over traditional sources of energy generation. These benefits include:
  - Zero greenhouse gas emissions and no waste products. Its only by-product is helium- an inert, non toxic gas.
  - Fusion energy is inherently safe. It is difficult to reach and maintain the precise conditions for fusion – if any disturbance occurs, the plasma cools within seconds and reaction stops.
  - There is enough fusion fuel to power the planet for hundreds of millions of years. The raw materials for energy production are found in sea water and the earth's crust
  - Fusion can produce energy on-demand and is not affected by weather.
  - Fusion power stations require less land take than other renewable technologies

#### **Strategic Stakeholder Support for Locating STEP in Nottinghamshire**

20. The UKAEA wants to understand how relevant local bodies would work in partnership with STEP to realise the successful delivery of this programme. The Authority asks the nominating body to outline how this programme would be part of increased collaboration between local, regional and devolved institutions on science, research and innovation. If either of the site nominations go forward to the next stage of assessment, UKAEA would set up the following within 12 months:
  - Establish a liaison office within the community
  - Establish a stakeholder and community interface forum, to meet at least quarterly.
  - Outline a provisional consenting and permissioning schedule, informing the community of the intended timelines for planning consultation activities. UKAEA notes that such details are highly subject to change – but will take a “best current understanding” approach to community information sharing, as we embark on this exciting journey together.
  - Establish liaison with suitable local and regional universities, to support long term development of fusion and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) expertise in the region.
21. Solid policy foundations exist at regional, sub-regional and local level, as outlined above, to support stakeholder engagement in supporting the STEP bid in Nottinghamshire. In addition, from the wider geographical area Sheffield City Region



representatives have indicated that they would support a Nottinghamshire bid as they currently do not have any sites and can see the spin-off potential especially with the Nuclear Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (AMRC) facility in Rotherham. Furthermore, there is a link to Derby as Rolls-Royce who currently manufacture smaller nuclear units. The Nuclear AMRC's proposal to establish a new advanced manufacturing research centre in Derby also secured government funding in 2020. The decision as to whether Derby and Derbyshire plan to nominate a location themselves is unknown at the time of writing this report. Wider than this, it is known that stakeholder groups including local authorities in the South West of England and Lancaster are already well advanced with developing their bids to be the location for the STEP project. There are likely to be other locations elsewhere in the UK committed to bidding to be the home to this highly prestigious project.

22. The Nottinghamshire site nomination process has the support of the relevant district and borough councils who have taken reports through their respective cabinets for approval, the D2N2 LEP, Universities, the Midlands Engine, partners for the emerging Development Corporation and the relevant land owners. A stakeholder group has been established as asked for by the UKAEA which will further evolve the partnership opportunity presented by this unique opportunity.

### **What are the STEP Site Specific Requirements?**

23. The final design of the STEP facility has yet to be completed, so it is not clear exactly what buildings or facilities will be needed. However, there are a number of site specific criteria that any site nomination would need to meet. These are:
  - A site of at least and preferably considerably above 100 hectares
  - Access to cooling water
  - A site that is likely to meet planning criteria
  - A strong grid connection to retain the option of putting the power generated into the system, and to ensure its inward power needs.
  - To work hand in hand with local authorities, academia and business groups to deliver a programme that will provide transformational benefits.
  - Communities with a clear, ambitious and achievable vision for growth related to energy and research and development and a lasting and significant boost to the host community.
  - To work together with the landowner to move the programme forward.
  - The STEP fusion project would not be able to proceed in an area where a Local Authority meaningfully opposes any fundamental aspect of the programme. This does not include any opposition a Local Authority may have to 'standard' nuclear fission power station development.
24. For the programme to move forward, the UKAEA also need to know that the community nominating itself can bring the various parties and stakeholders together to work in

partnership with UKAEA, and successfully enable development and construction. This is in place and evolving as referred to in paragraph 22 above.

### **Potential STEP Sites in Nottinghamshire**

25. The UKAEA has confirmed that more than one nomination can be submitted within any geographical location. It will be the role of the UKAEA to assess all nominations on their merits.
26. Two separate site nominations for Nottinghamshire are being considered for nomination to UKAEA. Both proposals are located on existing power station sites, one at Ratcliffe on Soar in Rushcliffe and one at West Burton A in Bassetlaw. The location of the sites is shown in Appendix A of this report. The County Council is co-ordinating with the landowners to develop the relevant nominations. Subject to relevant landowner support both will be submitted to the UKAEA in the nomination process.

### **High-level STEP Timetable**

27. The submission deadline for site nominations is 31 March 2021. From this date sites will pass through a period of evaluation by UKAEA. On conclusion of its assessment, UKAEA will make a recommendation to the Secretary of State for the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) with the successful site announced around the end of 2022. The recommendation will be made following a rigorous validation and assessment process based on a set of key criteria covering three main areas: technical and operational suitability; alignment with STEP's socio-economic and community benefit principles and support for the commercial progress of the project.
28. The aim for the next phase of work on STEP is to produce a 'concept design' by 2024. The following phase of work will include detailed engineering design, while all relevant permissions and consents to build the prototype are sought. The intention is to have a fully evolved design and approval to build by 2032, enabling construction to begin. The final phase is construction, with operations targeted to begin around 2040.
29. The evaluation and decision process is determined by the UKAEA and the process they have published through the "Showstoppers" stage and/or other stages of evaluation. The UKAEA would encourage credible bids from all interested and relevant parties at this first stage. Following this the UKAEA will review the bids and carry out their own site assessments over the Summer. This first part of the bid process is quite high level, demonstrating compliance with the "Showstoppers" and providing answers to the questions in the submission document. The UKAEA has confirmed that landowners could pull out during the evaluation process and that this would not harm any organisation that did so.

### **Other Options Considered**

30. STEP will need full power station infrastructure, and as a result Nottinghamshire's coal fired Power Station sites meet the requirements set by UKAEA. The existence of this infrastructure presents an opportunity to secure the high profile project in Nottinghamshire, helping the UK to be the first country in the world to commercialise fusion. The STEP project could create thousands of highly skilled jobs to drive the Councils Green Industrial Revolution. It is for this reason, the 'do nothing' option was discounted.

## **Reason for Recommendations**

31. Nuclear fusion generated energy is needed to radically decrease carbon emissions. The Council has an ambition to raise the profile of Nottinghamshire, doing all the authority can to create the best conditions for investment and growth. If Nottinghamshire were to be home to the UK's ground-breaking prototype fusion power plant, it will pave the way to a supply of low carbon, clean energy and help support thousands of new highly-skilled jobs.

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

32. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

## **Financial Implications**

33. There are short term County Council resource requirements to support the STEP site nomination submission. Given the level of technical input and the need to liaise and seek buy-in from key stakeholders and landowners there has been the requirement for a dedicated County Council project team to support site nominations by 31 March 2021. The focus on submitting a site nomination within this timeframe has identified a budget requirement of up to £50,000 including programme leadership, technical information gathering, research, public relations and associated activity. A range of these resources including officer capacity have been commissioned through Arc Partnership Limited. These costs will be met from the existing Investment and Growth Services budget for major projects. Should the site nomination process be successful the Council would use resources from the Investment and Growth Services budget to fund ongoing support. As it is still unclear what the nature of that support will be, Council officers will review the position as further information emerges, including any potential impacts, risks and issues, which will be reported back to Committee as part of an update report.

## **Implications for Sustainability and the Environment**

34. Climate change and the degradation of natural capital assets are defining issues of our time and by recognising this concern Policy Committee adopted the Corporate Environmental Policy and approved the development of the Corporate Environment Strategy. The main aim of the Environment Strategy is to drive measurable improvements in the environment, to ensure Nottinghamshire continues to stand out as a great place to bring up a family, fulfil ambition, enjoy later life and start and grow a business.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Policy Committee:

- 1) Endorses the proposal for the Council to act as the nominating body for submission of STEP Site Nomination Forms to the UKAEA promoting sites within Nottinghamshire;
- 2) Subject to the written agreement of relevant landowners to be included as a Site for Nomination and working in collaboration with other relevant stakeholders, delegates authority to the Corporate Director Place, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to approve the final content of the STEP Site Nomination forms to be submitted by 31 March 2021;
- 3) Agrees to receive a further report to consider any implications for the County Council, should the nominations be taken forward to the next stage for any site within Nottinghamshire by UKAEA and BEIS; and
- 4) Agrees to setting aside a funding requirement of up to £50,000 from the major programmes delivery work budget.

**COUNCILLOR MRS KAY CUTTS MBE**  
**Leader of the Council**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:** Adrian Smith, Corporate Director Place, T: 0115 977 3680

### **Constitutional Comments (HD 04/03/2021)**

40. The issues within the report relate to matters concerning economic development and regeneration as well as environment and sustainability which straddle the responsibilities of more than one Committee. As a result, and under the Council's constitution, Policy Committee is empowered to discuss and determine decisions which fall within the remit of more than one Committee.

### **Financial Comments (RWK 04/03/2021)**

41. The report proposes expenditure of £50,000 to support the submission of a STEP site nomination. This expenditure will be funded from the proposed allocation of £430,000 from contingency for Delivering Major Programmes of Work and Bids for Funding which is the subject of another report on the Committee's agenda.

Should the site nominations for any site in Nottinghamshire be taken forward to the next stage by UKAEA and BEIS the financial implications will be addressed in a future report to Committee.

### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- *Update on the Environmental Policy and Environment Strategy* 18 March 2020  
<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/dms/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/4283/Committee/515/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx>
- *Corporate Environment Strategy Update*, Policy Committee 9 December 2020  
<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/dms/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/5422/Committee/515/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx>
- D2N2 Economic Recovery and Growth Strategy 2020:  
[https://d2n2lep.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Recovery-Strategy-2020-V9\\_FINAL\\_Min.pdf](https://d2n2lep.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Recovery-Strategy-2020-V9_FINAL_Min.pdf)

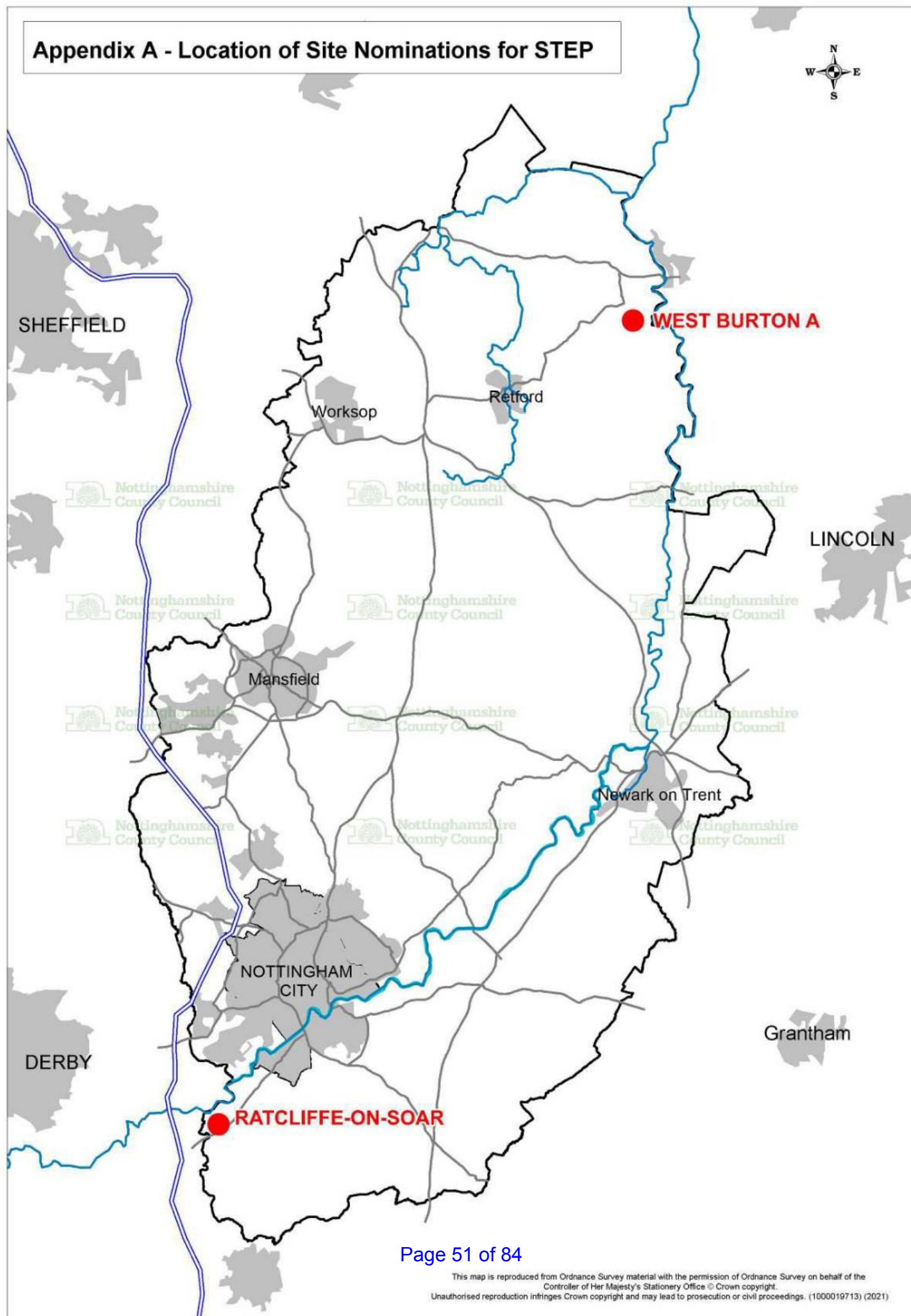
### **Electoral Divisions and Members Affected**

- Councillor John Ogle – Tuxford division
- Councillor Reg Adair – Leake & Ruddington division
- Councillor Andrew Brown – Leake & Ruddington division





## Appendix A - Location of Site Nominations for STEP







**REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL****PROVISION OF A REPLACEMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NEW SECONDARY SCHOOL, WEST BRIDGFORD AND EXPANSION OF RUSHCLIFFE SCHOOL****Purpose of the Report**

1. To outline progress with site identification and feasibility works in the West Bridgford planning area for a new secondary school and Lady Bay Primary School; and progress with the proposed expansion of Rushcliffe School.

**Information**

2. A core commitment in the County Council Plan 'Your Nottinghamshire Your Future' is to give all children and young people the best start in life. The Council is proud that over 85.9% of schools in Nottinghamshire are 'Good' or 'Outstanding' and the Council continues to support parents, children and young people with the choice of attending their preferred school. The County Council has the statutory responsibility to ensure sufficient school places are available and acts proactively wherever there is need across the County.
3. At its meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019 Policy Committee received a report looking at the future secondary school requirements in the West Bridgford pupil place planning area. The Committee approved that the Council identifies land that could accommodate a new secondary school within that planning area. The Committee also gave, in principle, approval to seek appropriate funding commitments for the build costs through Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy contributions.
4. At its meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020 Policy Committee received a further report that outlined unmet primary school place demand in the West Bridgford planning area. The report highlighted that the existing Lady Bay Primary School could not be expanded to meet its share of the projected demand due to the restricted nature of its site. It was anticipated that new secondary and primary schools could open between 2023-2025. It was therefore approved that the Children's and Young Peoples capital programme be varied by £445,000 to enable detailed analysis, site surveys and feasibility studies to be undertaken to determine the deliverability and estimated costs for the proposed construction in the West Bridgford planning area of a new secondary school and a relocated and enlarged Lady Bay Primary School.
5. At its meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020 Policy Committee considered a report on the need for further expansion of Rushcliffe School to 12 forms of entry as part of proposals, along with the proposed third secondary school, to ensure a sufficiency of school places in the West Bridgford planning area by September 2025. It was agreed to provide funding of £340,000 to Spencer Academy Trust for master planning and feasibility of the development of the school to 12 forms of entry and preparation of a planning application to submission stage.

6. The reports already brought to Policy Committee as outlined above were all based on the ongoing need to address concerns over the sufficiency of school places at both primary and secondary levels within the West Bridgford planning area into the future. This is an area of high housing growth and continues to attract families relocating into the area and the relocation of Lady Bay Primary School to enable its expansion, the expansion of Rushcliffe school and the provision of an additional secondary school form the Council's approach to providing sufficiency. Even with the recent opening of Rosecliffe Spencer Academy projections still indicate a shortage of primary school places of 115 by 2024-25 and at secondary level for the same timescale there is a projected deficiency of 816 places with that to continue to rise through the decade. The Council can and will take action to prevent a shortage of school places and this report provides a plan to mitigate the existing demand in the West Bridgford area.
7. The first stage of the work on the proposed third secondary school has been the identification of a long list of possible sites with an analysis of their suitability against the Council's criteria such as developable site area, deliverability and proximity to the catchment area. The Council's Planning Policy Team has undertaken a detailed site assessment of the options in and around the West Bridgford area that could accommodate:
  - a new primary school (site requirement 3 hectares)
  - a new secondary school to house a 5 FE school (750 statutory places) and a 200 place 6<sup>th</sup> form with a potential to expand to a 7FE (950 statutory places) with a 250 place 6<sup>th</sup> form (site requirement 7.5 hectares) and/or
  - a campus development (site requirement 7 to 10 hectares).
8. A number of potential sites were originally considered as identified on the attached plan and judged against criteria such as location, land ownership, constraints and future development within the area. This led to three sites being considered for further consideration against additional criteria including planning policies, access and strategic transport, nature conservation, built heritage and other observations. The sites considered further were land at Adbolton playing fields (site A), land at Regatta Way (site C/D) and land at Tollerton Lane, Gamston (site F).
9. Following this work, it became clear that a parcel of land within the ownership of the County Council, provided a unique opportunity to develop a new campus. It also provides the potential for both schools to be built at the same time, and well within a one-mile radius of the existing primary school and in a green and pleasant setting. Furthermore, a new campus development would allow improved continuity and transition between primary and secondary school and prove to be more convenient for those families with children at both primary and secondary age living in the local community.
10. The campus approach offers a multitude of practical short and long term benefits from initial construction cost savings to reduce running and maintenance costs as well as shared facilities for both the primary and secondary schools. Its biggest benefit however, is that it would enable both schools to be built in an accelerated timeframe to meet the significant demand for both primary and secondary school places in the area. Clearly a campus style development would be designed sympathetically to ensure that there is still a clear separation of both schools on the site and that the identity of the Primary School is maintained.
11. The Council has considerable experience of campus style settings, most recently in East Leake where Lantern Lane Primary and East Leake Academy share a site and previously in Calverton on the site of Colonel Frank Seeley Academy and its associated Infant and Junior schools. The schools have been highly successful in separating all phases of children from a

safeguarding point of view through physical measures and temporarily with reference to the timing of the school day to ensure effective joint use of facilities and a staggered day to avoid overlap and congestion.

12. Following due consideration against all the criteria it was concluded that the Council owned land off Regatta Way in West Bridgford provides the most suitable option for a number of reasons as summarised below:
  - Close proximity to Lady Bay community and accessible on foot, cycle and public transport routes for current and future pupils;
  - The Tollerton Lane site would only be capable of taking Secondary School pupils for the area and so unable to achieve the benefits outlined in this report of building and operating both schools as a campus;
  - Significant infrastructure required to enable the crossing of the A52 by pupils from the Ladybay, Gamston and West Bridgford areas which is not at present adequately provided for and is still at an early stage of planning in terms of the wider development at Tollerton and Gamston;
  - Sufficient size to house both of the schools in a campus style development; and,
  - The land is already within the Council's ownership and development could be progressed for provision in the timescale necessary to meet the pressure on school places.
13. Site C/D has therefore been identified as being potentially suitable and, following a desk top analysis and some intrusive survey work undertaken to date, Site D (the land to the east of Regatta Way) is the preferred option at this stage. Site C (the land to the west of Regatta Way) has a number of waterways and courses that run through the site which would restrict the developable areas for the school campus, and as shown by the recent heavy rainfall, is liable to flooding.
14. The Council now needs to commission works to deliver a concept design (RIBA Stage B) as well as specialist reports and an advisory team to take forward development of the proposals for the new schools. This includes; a hydrology study, planning consultancy and specialist highways advice. This is necessary to obtain pre-application advice and demonstrate the special circumstances that require the building of the new schools for Lady Bay and West Bridgford at this site. In addition to this, the further development of the proposals will allow the design team to engage with all stakeholders and the current tenants to assess their requirements and how these can be incorporated in the masterplan for the site.
15. In relation to the shorter term provision required in the West Bridgford planning area, the Spencer Academy Trust had already commissioned a project team to progress master planning and design of the proposed expansion of Rushcliffe School and the Council has commissioned Arc to consider the findings. This process continues as the parties seek to identify an agreed way forward to address the issues of expanding on an already constrained site.
16. There is work still ongoing with the Academy and their construction advisory team and the Council is still to agree a final design and cost for the scheme. Should agreement be reached between all parties however, the Academy and their advisory team would be looking to submit a planning application in August 2021 with a construction start date of January 2022. For a planning application to be submitted however, an additional £480,000 will be required for detailed designs to be developed, which is in addition to the £340,000 that was originally approved by Policy Committee to enable feasibility, survey and massing work to be concluded.

## **Other Options Considered**

17. Paragraphs 7 and 8 of this report detail the options considered in respect of the sites appraised for the new campus development. The attached plan details the sites considered as part of our option appraisal.
18. The design development of the Rushcliffe School has moved to RIBA Stage 2 and there are no other options due to the need for school places in the West Bridgford planning area.

## **Reasons for Recommendations**

19. The existing Lady Bay primary school is unsuitable to meet future education requirements. The age and moreover the Listed status of one of the main buildings is proving to be highly restrictive to the required expansion of the school. Indeed the school has outgrown its' existing accommodation some years ago and consequently, portable buildings have been utilised for many years. More recently, the Council has experienced obstacles at a planning level in the attempted replacement of these portable buildings and a refurbishment of these has needed to suffice. Beyond this, the accommodation of the heritage building is restrictive to the needs of modern-day education with an inherent inflexibility to deliver modern education teaching methods such as the provision of group and intervention spaces. The significant separation of the school and its playing field facilities is a further negative aspect to the existing arrangements. Due to the small footprint of the current site, the listed building and planning constraints makes a replacement school on the existing site almost impossible. It is therefore apparent that the requirement for a replacement Lady Bay primary school within proximity to the current site is becoming an increasingly important issue.
20. Following the analysis of sites for a replacement primary school and new Secondary School in West Bridgford, the land at Regatta Way has clear advantages over and above all other potential sites in the vicinity for this requirement. The Council has investigated and explored all other options and is satisfied that this scenario presents the best solution available and it is recommended that further work is now undertaken to progress a planning application for the preferred site. Due to there being some outstanding survey and design work to complete and the need to engage with all stakeholders and existing tenants, it is recommended that a future report be brought back to Committee outlining progress to date and seeking further funding for the next design stages.
21. The provision of further funding for fees towards the expansion of Rushcliffe School will enable this scheme to progress towards a project to capture all required elements of the scheme that will include new build, refurbishment and repurposing of existing spaces and demolition, that provides the least disruption to pupils.

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

22. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

23. The Ladybay Primary School proposals will require a statutory consultation in respect of the expansion of the school. Due to this being at an early stage in the design development process, it is recommended that this process be detailed in the next Policy Committee report when more detail will be available.

### **Financial Implications**

24. The proposals highlighted within this report will require a further £980,000 of funding to enable further design work. This figure is made up of £500,000 of funds required to enable the new Secondary School, West Bridgford and Ladybay Primary School to be developed and £480,000 will be required for detailed designs to be developed for the Rushcliffe School to enable a planning application to be submitted to the Council (subject to agreement in respect of the final design). All of the funding identified will be allocated from the Nottinghamshire basic need allocation.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1) That Committee approve, in principle, the relocation of Lady Bay Primary School to a new campus at Site D Regatta Way, alongside a third Secondary School for West Bridgford subject to further survey and design works;
- 2) A further report be brought back to Committee following completion of the survey and design work outlining progress to date and seeking further funding for the next design stages to enable the submission of a planning application;
- 3) That a further £500,000 be allocated to ensure the further design development of the new Secondary School, West Bridgford and Ladybay Primary School; and
- 4) That subject to agreement with the Service Director, Investment and Growth around the final design and cost of the Rushcliffe School, approval be given for the Council to enter into a Grant Funding Agreement to provide an additional £480,000 to Spencer Academy Trust for the purposes of submitting a planning application.

**Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts**  
**Leader of the County Council**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:** Matthew Neal, Service Director – Investment and Growth Tel: 0115 977 3498

### **Constitutional Comments (SSR 19/02/2021)**

25. The recommendations set out in the report are matters which fall within the scheme of delegation to Policy Committee.

### **Financial Comments (CT 03/03/2021)**

26. The proposals highlighted within this report will require a further £980,000 of funding in order to enable further design work. This figure is made up of £500,000 of funds required to enable the new Secondary School, West Bridgford and Ladybay Primary School to be developed plus £480,000 required for detailed designs to be developed for the Rushcliffe School to enable a planning application to be submitted to the Council (subject to agreement in respect of the final design). All of the funding identified will be allocated from the Nottinghamshire basic need allocation.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

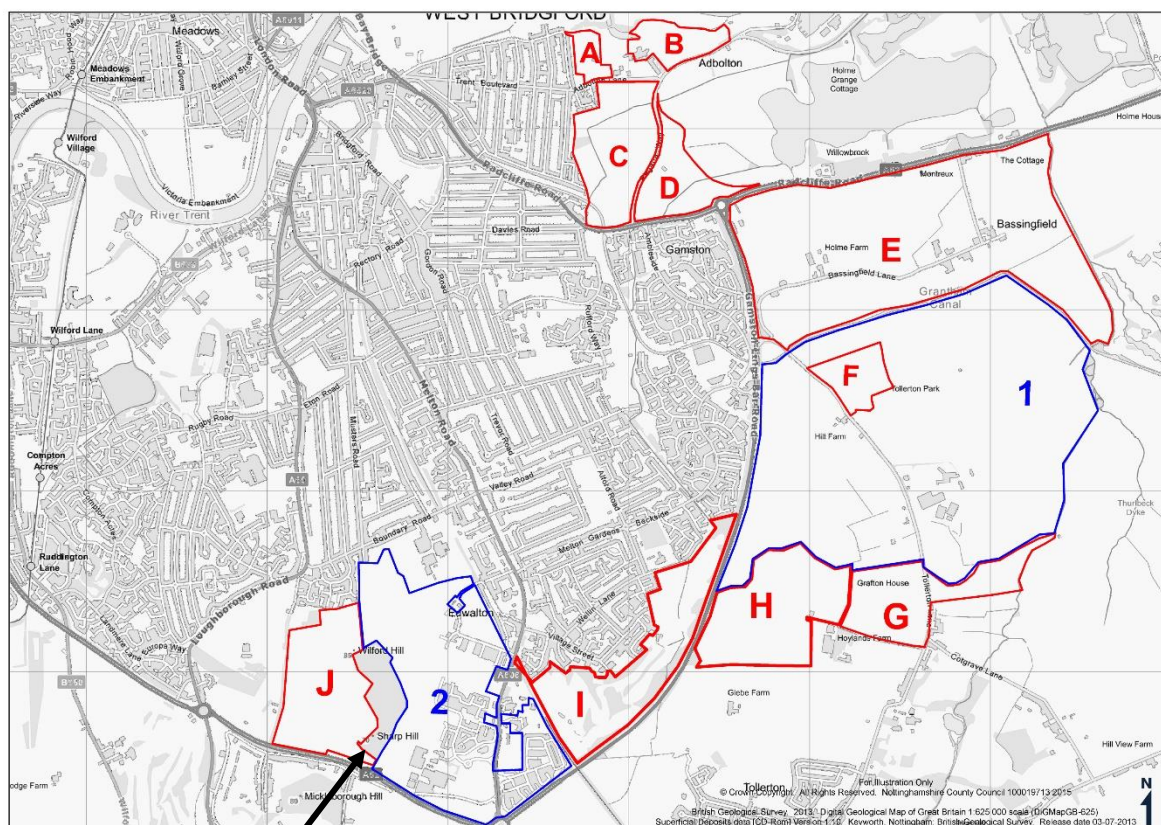
- Report to Policy Committee 18 September 2019
- Report to Policy Committee 12 February 2020
- Report to Policy Committee 13 May 2020

## **Electoral Division and Member Affected**

- Radcliffe on Trent                      Councillor Kay Cutts MBE



## Policy Committee – 17.03.21 - Provision of a Replacement Primary School and New Secondary School, West Bridgford and Expansion of Rushcliffe School Report



Site of completed £10.3m new Rosecliffe Spencer Academy primary school in Edwalton offering 315 school places and 39 nursery places

### Key:

**1 & 2** = Strategic Housing sites

**A to J** = Sites Reviewed





## **REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL**

### **PROPOSED LEASE OF NORTH WORKSOP CHILDREN'S CENTRE (RHODESIA SITE)**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To approve the proposed changes to the use of the North Worksop Children's Centre (Rhodesia site) and approve a lease of the property to Nottingham and Southwell Diocese Multi Academy Trust.

#### **Information**

2. At its meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 Children and Young People's Committee supported a proposal for change of use of North Worksop Children's Centre (Rhodesia site) for use by Haggonfields Primary and Nursery School and referred this matter to Policy Committee for consideration and decision on the future of the property. The attached plan indicates the current Haggonfields Primary and Nursery School hatched and the North Worksop Children's Centre (Rhodesia site) edged black to the south eastern corner.
3. North Worksop Children's Centre is made up of two dedicated buildings, one in Gateford and the other in Rhodesia on the site of Haggonfields Primary and Nursery School. While the Gateford property is well used, the Rhodesia building is under used and more so since a private nursery which operated on the site closed in 2019. The property is owned by the Council with a budget of £14,014 for its property operating costs in 2020/21.
4. Historically there has been low footfall at the Rhodesia site and it has been consistently hard to encourage parents to attend. Although the footfall exercise for 2020 was abandoned due to the start of Covid-19, data from the 2 previous years shows this site as being the least used in the district. The following table shows the findings of two footfall exercises carried out during 2017 and 2018.

5.

Children's Centre Sites in Bassetlaw	Year	Footfall (one month)	Year	Footfall (one month)
North Worksop CC Rhodesia site	2017	35 parents 31 children 36 professionals Total: 102*	2018	44 parents 50 children 20 professionals Total: 114*
North Worksop CC Gateford site		440 parents 258 children 173 professionals Total: 871*		347 parents 403 children 321 professionals Total: 1071*
Manton CC		Total: 728*		Total: 1238*

Prospect Kilton CC		Total: 1950*		Total: 714*
West Bassetlaw CC		Total: 430*		Total: 428*
(*) Individuals counted each time they came – so there will be double counting				

- Prior to the pandemic, this property in Rhodesia only operated for one 2-hour session per week as the service struggled to encourage parents to attend so the timetable was reduced; it has become evident that a better use of the building would be beneficial for local children, since the Children's Centre Service's more targeted approach is delivered in family homes and through virtual platforms.

### **Proposals for the Rhodesia Children's Centre property**

- Haggonfields Primary and Nursery School was approached several years ago to encourage greater use of the property by the school. Meetings were carried out following Committee instruction to maximise the use of the Children's Centre Service's property portfolio and reduce building expenditure. The School's Governing Body was unable to contribute towards the building costs at the time so there was no further action.
- Haggonfields is a school within the The Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham Academy Trust (SNMAT). The primary academy is committed to providing a high quality education which ensures every child reaches his or her potential, supporting children to be both curious and resilient. This small rural primary academy has the capacity to meet the demand generated locally for the foreseeable future. The primary academy has already expressed a commitment to creating a community hub and also plans to provide a nurture unit for children who may require additional support. This will clearly enhance further the quality of education provided. The opportunity to use space more flexibly will also enrich the education offer to the children. The Trust is also exploring the possibility of providing 2 year old provision in the near future.
- Local consultation took place on the Council's online Consultation Hub for 6 weeks, from 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020 to 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021. 4 responses were received from local parents (1 via the NCC Online Consultation Hub and 3 via a hard copy questionnaire, disseminated via the school). No responses to the consultation were received from community leaders or professionals. All 4 responses were in favour of the building being taken over by Haggonfields Primary and Nursery School, who remain keen to do so.
- If the proposal is approved, the Children's Centre Service will continue to be provided but not from this dedicated Children's Centre Service building. Instead it will continue from a range of accessible community venues, such as the school and in family homes. Increasingly, as a response to Covid 19 many elements of the Children's Centre Service are delivered virtually, with positive feedback from many parents as to how accessible this makes them. Face to face services will continue to be available at the other Children's Centre Service buildings in Worksop, namely the main hub at Manton, Prospect Kilton and North Worksop – Gateford site. There is no planned reduction to service delivery.
- If the building is used for alternative early years provision this will result in a cost saving of £14,014 in a full year, to the Children's Centre property budget held by Place Department. This will alleviate some of the pressure on that budget which is currently forecast to overspend by approximately £32,000 in 2020/21.
- It is therefore proposed that in support of the service changes outlined that the property be leased to the academy for the same term remaining on their academy lease which

runs for 125 years from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2020. Under the terms of this lease the Trust will be responsible for all running costs, including repairs, therefore releasing the annual budget savings outlined above.

13. The proposed disposal of this property by leasing to Haggonfields Primary and Nursery School means that this transaction has been subject to a negotiation with a single party rather than through full marketing and there is no consideration proposed. The Council has an obligation under s.123 of the Local Government Act 1972 to obtain the best price reasonably obtainable for the disposal of assets. The asset has a current asset valuation of £331,000 in the Council's accounts, this valuation being dated 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 and being valued on a depreciated replacement cost basis due to the specific use of the property and the lack of comparable sales evidence on the open market.
14. Under the General Disposal Consent 2003 Councils may dispose of land and property for less than best consideration when the Council considers that such disposal will help it to secure the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of its area. When the difference between the unrestricted value of the interest to be disposed of and the consideration accepted ('the undervalue') is over £2 million the specific consent of the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government is required, which is not the case in this case. The case promoting the social well being of the area has been made within this report at para 8 but in summary these are;
  - Expanding education provision at the school;
  - Meeting the needs of local children;
  - Releasing space in the school to improve learning outcomes
  - Greater use of the property; and
  - Reducing the building expenditure
15. The Council also needs to comply with the requirements of its own constitution. Since this would be a lease negotiated with one party on the basis of their adjoining linked service the Council needs to ensure that this is consistent with the requirements of section 17.5.5 of the Council's Financial Regulations. The group Manager Legal Services and Section 151 Officer have been consulted in respect of this transaction and whether it is appropriate to proceed. They are satisfied that the decision is one which Members may determine provided careful consideration is given to the issues including the financial impacts as well as the anticipated benefits to the social and environmental well being of the Council's area evidenced from the retained and increased usage of the building in accordance with its original objectives to the benefit of the local community.

### **Other Options Considered**

16. The following options have been considered:
  - Continue with existing service. This would continue with a significant under use of the building as currently experienced.
  - Use for other County Council services. Other uses such as for contact centre use in Children's social care have been considered. The property was not big enough for this use and not readily accessible by public transport.
  - Lease to other early years provider. Discounted as a past provider at the site pulled out as not financially sustainable.
  - Sale or lease on open market. Not favoured in view of interest from the adjoining school and ability this gives for a purpose built facility to be retained in beneficial

use for local community.

- Lease to Haggonfields Primary and Nursery School on shorter lease term. This is not acceptable to the School as they wish to make long term changes to delivery and how the school operates with the addition of this building, embedding it into their operation and would not want such changes based on different, shorter tenure from the remainder of the school.

## **Reasons for Recommendation**

17. The Children's Centre Service is currently provided in dedicated Children's Centre premises, community venues and people's homes. Some Children's Centres do not evidence value for money. In order to deliver the targeted approach introduced several years ago, engaging with the most vulnerable families and increasing opportunities for enhancing home learning, it is recommended that this property is no longer required as the service can be delivered in alternative ways.
18. An increased targeted approach is in place, as nearly 50% of children from disadvantaged backgrounds have not secured the essential skills and understanding expected for their age by the time they finish Reception Year. Many have reduced opportunities for home learning and parental engagement (Ofsted 2016). It is important therefore to carry out additional outreach work to engage these families and not assume that they will access a Children's Centre building. Evidence from this site confirms this view.
19. Haggonfields Primary and Nursery School (part of the Nottingham and Southwell Diocese Multi Academy Trust) are keen to expand provision at the school from September 2021, to meet the needs of local children, through re-configuring their provision for early years foundation stage and nurture group activities within a modern, purpose built property designed specifically to create a positive early learning environment.

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

20. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

## **Financial Implications**

21. The Children's Centre property budget is managed by the Place Department at £1.1 million per annum and this will remain unchanged.
22. The vacation of this property by the Children's Centre will result in a cost saving of £14,014, in a full year, to the Children's Centre property budget held by Place Department. Under the terms of this lease the Trust will be responsible for all running costs, including repairs, therefore releasing the annual budget savings. This will alleviate some of the pressure on that budget which is currently forecasting an overspend of approximately £32,000. Renting rooms in community venues to deliver sessions will be funded through the core Children's Centre Service budget and will only be booked when rooms are needed by the service. This transfer will enhance the development of

relationships with Haggonfields Primary and Nursery School, which have been limited to date and it is anticipated that any use of space on an ad-hoc basis to respond to requests from the school for Family Support appointments will be facilitated free of charge.

23. Changing the use of a Children's Centre property funded from the Department for Education Sure Start Children's Centre Capital Grant may carry a clawback risk, however the risk is mitigated if the property is used for early years provision which the school will provide. As part of the proposed transfer, an indemnity from the Academy Trust will be obtained with a requirement to provide early years provision from the site to prevent clawback.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- 1) That Committee approve the grant of a lease running to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2145 of the North Worksop Children's Centre to Nottingham and Southwell Diocese Multi Academy Trust as indicated edged black on the attached plan.

**Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts**  
**Leader of the County Council**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:** Matthew Neal, Service Director – Investment and Growth Tel: 0115 977 3498

### **Constitutional Comments (CEH 19/02/2021)**

24. The recommendation to grant a lease of the North Worksop Children's Centre (Rhodesia site) falls within the remit of Policy Committee under its terms of reference.

### **Financial Comments (SAS 11/02/2021)**

25. The Children's Centre property budget is managed by the Place Department at £1.1 million per annum and this will remain unchanged.
26. The vacation of this property by the Children's Centre will result in a cost saving of £14,014, in a full year, to the Children's Centre property budget held by Place Department. Under the terms of this lease the Trust will be responsible for all running costs, including repairs, therefore releasing the annual budget savings. This will alleviate some of the pressure on that budget which is currently forecasting an overspend of approximately £32,000. Renting rooms in community venues to deliver sessions will be funded through the core Children's Centre Service budget.
27. Changing the use of a Children's Centre property funded from the Department for Education Sure Start Children's Centre Capital Grant may carry a clawback risk, however the risk is mitigated if the property is used for early years provision which the school will provide. As part of the proposed transfer, an indemnity from the Academy Trust will be obtained with a requirement to provide early years provision from the site to prevent clawback.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

[Maximising the value of Nottinghamshire's Children's Centre Services – report to Children](#)

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[and Young People's Committee on 19th March 2018](#)

[Early Years provision in Nottinghamshire County Council owned properties – occupational costs – report to Policy Committee on 16th May 2018](#)

[Children's Centre Property Proposals Equality Impact Assessment 2020](#)

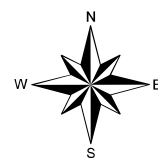
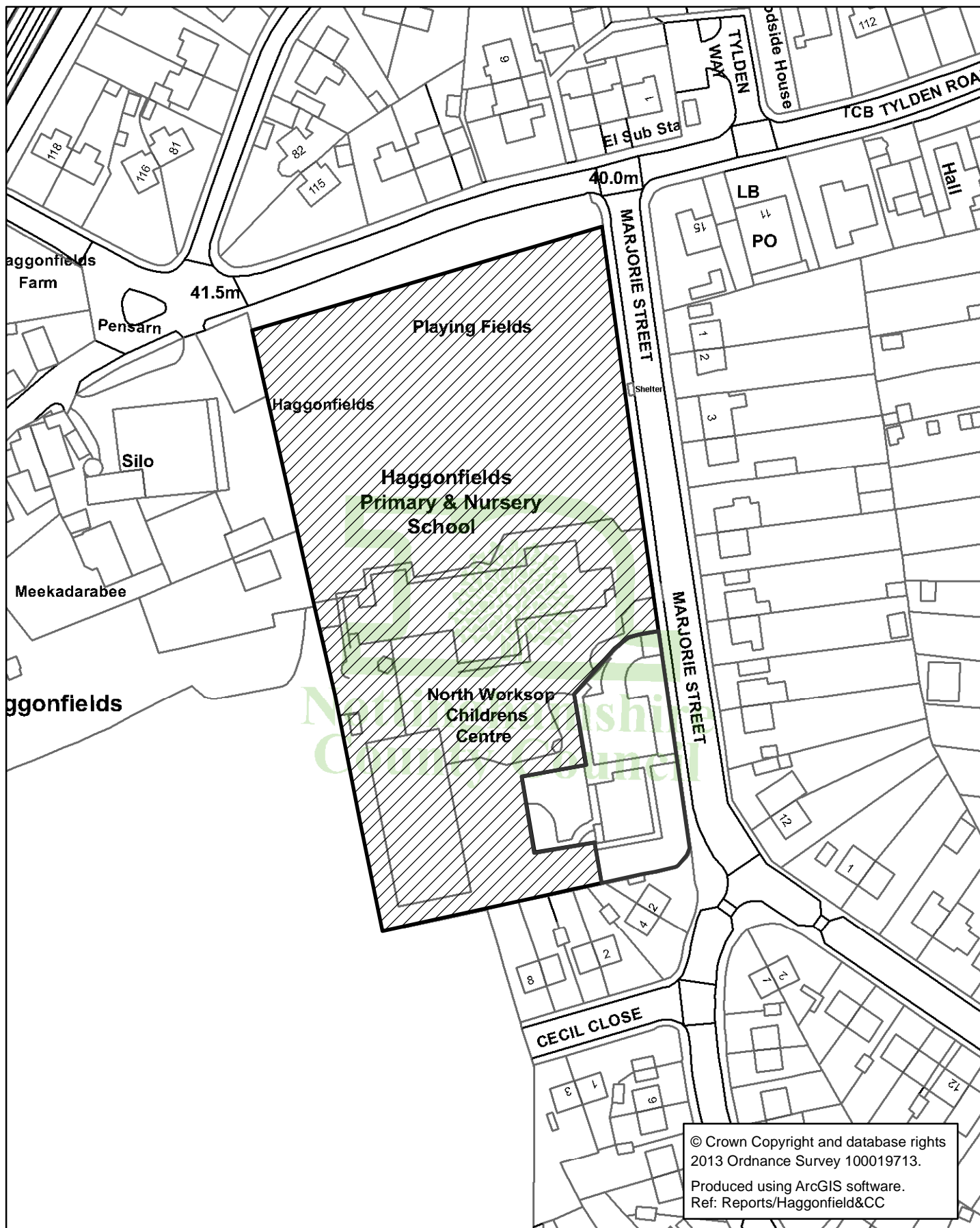
<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/jobs-and-working/equality/completed-equality-impact-assessments-eqias>

- Report to Children and Young People's Committee dated 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021.  
[Proposed Changes to North Worksop Children's Centre - Rhodesia Site.pdf](#)

#### **Electoral Division and Member Affected**

- Councillor Sybil Fielding      Worksop West









**REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S  
COMMITTEE****YOUTH VIOLENCE AND CHILD CRIMINAL EXPLOITATION****Purpose of the Report**

1. The report provides an update to Committee on developments in tackling Youth Violence and Child Criminal Exploitation further to the report brought in February 2020.
2. The report also seeks approval to establish 4 FTE Youth Worker and 16 x 3 hours per week part time Youth Support Worker grade posts on a temporary basis until July 2022. These were temporarily established in May 2019 on a fixed term contract until March 2021.

**Information****Tackling Serious Youth Violence and Child Criminal Exploitation in Nottinghamshire**

3. Criminal exploitation involves exploitative situations where a young person receives something (e.g. food, accommodation, alcohol, drugs, affection, gifts, money) in return for them completing a task of a criminal nature on behalf of another individual or group. County Lines is one example of criminal exploitation. County Lines is the process by which young people are groomed by adults and exploited to traffic class A drugs between counties, often from urban to rural areas. The 'line' refers to a dedicated mobile phone line used in this process. Nottinghamshire is acutely aware of the threat from County Lines and is working closely with the police to understand and intervene to disrupt such activity.
4. The Multi-Agency Serious Youth Violence and Criminal Exploitation (YVCCE) Panel made up of senior colleagues from across the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children's Partnership has continued to meet on a monthly basis to consider those young people in the County seen as being at the greatest level of risk. Since March 2020 the panel has continued to meet monthly on a virtual basis. A 'cohort approach' has been developed with young people being tracked by the Panel until agreed that the identified risks have been markedly reduced.
5. In addition to the children's services led panel, police colleagues have established a new model of managing risks of connected young people in a geographical location. Neighbourhood Safeguarding and Disruption (NSD) meetings are chaired by neighbourhood police inspectors and invite operational staff from children's social care,

youth justice service, the youth service and the district council to come together to discuss how to manage groups of young people spending time in a particular location. Both those vulnerable to exploitation and those at risk of perpetrating a violent crime are included in the discussions and outcomes are fed back to the YVCCE panel.

6. A Child Criminal Exploitation e-learning package and classroom-based training programme (delivered virtually at present) have been developed by the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children's Partnership and is being rolled out.
7. The YVCCE Steering Group, a sub-group of the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children's Partnership, continues to meet on a quarterly basis. The group provides strategic oversight of the partnership pathway for children at risk of violence and/or criminal exploitation including both intervention and prevention for those with emerging risks and targeted support and risk management for those at higher risk.
8. Nottinghamshire and Nottingham City Safeguarding Children's Partnerships were successful in entering a joint bid to the Tackling Child Exploitation (TCE) Support Programme and work began to deliver this project in December 2020. The TCE Support Programme aims to enable a more effective strategic approach to safeguarding children and young people in relation to extra-familial harm and exploitation. Locally the project aim is to rationalise the cross authority strategic approach to child sexual exploitation and child criminal exploitation which are currently managed through separate pathways.

### **Youth Work Interventions and Mentors Project**

9. In May 2019 Policy Committee approved the establishment of a number of temporary Youth Worker and Youth Support Worker posts. This work was to be targeted at young people known to the Youth Justice Service and receiving a statutory service, as well as working with young people on the periphery of engaging in risky behaviours. After a successful recruitment round the countywide youth work interventions project began in October 2019.
10. The aims of the project were to reduce risk of young people committing or becoming a victim of violent crime, to reduce offending and re-offending, to improve aspirations and increase engagement in positive activities (education, training, youth centres etc).
11. The project had two delivery methods: activity based mentoring delivered by staff embedded within the Youth Justice Service, and tailored Youth Work Interventions delivered by Youth Workers in the Youth Service, with the aim of stepping young people down into mainstream provision, when it is safe to do so.
12. The activity based youth mentoring work in the Youth Justice Service combines positive activities with practical advice and mentoring. The team has successfully engaged 67 young people, all but one of the young people referred in to the project. This is a significant achievement in itself given the complex nature of the young people who are involved with the Youth Justice Service which can be a barrier to professionals' ability to complete meaningful work.
13. The outcomes of the project within the Youth Justice Service have been positive. There has been a significant reduction in re-offending, with only 5% of the cohort reoffended in a 12 month period, in comparison to an average re-offending rate of 22%. Several young people

have been supported to gain qualifications, to access training, return to education or to get work experience. The majority of the cohort have continued to access a new positive activity including gym membership and setting up music studios. Some of the young people have transitioned out of the secure estate and into the community safely with the support of their mentor, and others close to their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday have successfully transitioned from supported accommodation to independent living.

14. The project has been equally successful in the Youth Service. The Youth Work Intervention team based within the Youth Service has become a key part of the youth work offer in Nottinghamshire. Youth Workers have made contact with approximately 2,000 young people and have engaged 240 individual young people in youth work interventions. Of this number the team has stepped down 34 young people into universal provision, typically introducing them to their local Young People's Centre and youth worker, thus providing a critical pathway to step young people down into universal provision and offering longer term support and interventions at the earliest opportunity.
15. Working with key partners and using local intelligence has enabled the Youth Work Interventions teams to target areas which are 'hotspots' for youth violence. Youth Workers have been meeting vulnerable young people on the streets of Nottinghamshire since the project commenced and this continued throughout lockdown where young people proved to be even more at risk. The team has been a critical support service for many young people providing a trusted youth worker to talk to as well as signposting or offering engaging diversionary activities as appropriate or requested.
16. The locality based intervention teams each have a case load of young people that they have managed using the Rikter scale self-assessment tool and 'traffic light' model. Of these young people there have been a high number of positive outcomes including support with housing, placement stability, re-engagement with education, creating disturbance and distance from adult exploiters, anger management and mental health.
17. The Youth Work Interventions and Mentors Project has enabled both services to engage with young people and provide target interventions to an unfortunately growing number of young people involved in or at risk of serious youth violence and Child Criminal Exploitation. The strength of the model and associated pathway enables Youth Workers and Youth Mentors to receive and triage referrals from different organisations including schools, Social Care and high profile multi-agency meetings e.g. the YVCCE Panel and County Lines tracker.
18. This project has also witnessed a greater collaboration from key stakeholders from across the Council's Children's Services, Police, the Violence Reduction Unit and District Councils, where decisions made have been based on local need, consequently deploying targeted youth work intervention to the areas most in need. This approach has enabled effective joining up and delivery of services and undoubtedly benefitted from having shared objectives and resources, which directly improved the outcomes for young people.

## **Impact of COVID 19**

19. Before COVID examples of activities young people have been engaged with include mountain biking, football coaching, climbing, music production and gym sessions. However,

there are as many good examples of young people engaging well with youth workers and getting involved in a range of diversionary activities during the COVID 19 pandemic.

20. Since March 2020 and the differing levels of COVID restrictions, Youth Workers and Youth Mentors continued to use various methods to maintain contact with young people and build connections. Intervention has remained flexible and dynamic in its approach through delivering 1:1 support to young people who are most at risk, for instance delivering activity packs to young people, and remotely discussing and working through key issues and concerns together. Prioritised activities have also continued to be delivered from Young People's Centres and has included: cake making, board games, building remote control cars, mechanical clocks and bike repair. The Youth Service through their youth work interventions also received national recognition for their response during the Covid 19 pandemic. An article was published on the Local Government Website showcasing the youth work approach in Nottinghamshire. The article can be found [here](#) (scroll down to Children, Young People and Education, and click on Youth Interventions Project (Nottinghamshire)). This model of good practice has also been endorsed by Nottinghamshire Police who have expressed a real interest in the delivery model and clearly recognise the significance and value of Youth Work.

## **Proposal**

21. Whilst recognising that the Council continues to face significant financial pressures, it is proposed that this project is continued with a small team of Youth Workers and Youth Support workers who will engage with young people identified as being at risk of youth violence through 1:1 youth work intervention, small group work and to ultimately support young people to independently access universal provision, when it safe to do so.
22. This additional capacity will allow the Youth Justice Service and Youth Service to target the most vulnerable and challenging young people with focussed youth work programmes, which concentrate on their interests and provides bespoke learning experiences. Through these activities and group work discussions, emphasis will be placed on addressing risk-taking, criminal behaviour, active citizenship and young people finding their role within society

## **Other Options Considered**

23. No other options have been considered.

## **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

24. On 10 October 2019, Nottinghamshire County Council Members unanimously agreed that work relating to Child Criminal Exploitation would be reported directly to Policy Committee at regular intervals and consider if the Council should take any further strategic action.
25. The Youth Work Mentoring programme has proven to be an effective tool in diverting children from the youth violence and criminal exploitation. The programme aligns with the Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Plan for 2020-2023 and with commitments in the Council Plan for 2017-21.

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

26. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

### **Crime and Disorder Implications**

27. The Crime and Disorder Act (1998) requires the local authority with its partners to prevent offending and reoffending by children and young people and to deliver an effective local youth justice system.

### **Financial Implications**

28. The cost of extending 4 FTE Professional Range Youth Workers and 16 x 3 hours per week part time Youth Support Worker grade posts (JNC) until July 2022 will be approximately £226,000 in 2021-22 which includes £204,000 for staffing including on costs, £20,000 for activities and £2,000 for travel and expenses. The total cost for the remaining 4 months in 2022-23 will be approximately £75,000 pro rata. This will be funded from the Troubled Families Grant Reserve which has a balance of £703,538.

### **Human Resources Implications**

29. The posts will be recruited to in accordance with the agreed Vacancy Control Process and recruitment and selection policies.

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

That Committee:

- 1) approves the proposal to extend 4 FTE Professional Range Youth Workers posts and 16 x 3 hours per week part time Youth Support Worker grade posts until July 2022 as detailed in the report.
- 2) agrees to receive a further update on developments in tackling Youth Violence and Child Criminal Exploitation in 12 months' time.

**Councillor Philip Owen**

**Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

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### **Constitutional Comments (LW 08/03/21)**

30. Policy Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of the report.

### **Financial Comments (SAS 19/02/21)**

31. The cost of extending 4 FTE Professional Range Youth Workers and 16 x 3 hour per week part time Youth Support Worker grade posts (JNC) until July 2022 will be approximately £226,000 in 2021-22 which includes £204,000 for staffing including on costs, £20,000 for activities and £2,000 for travel and expenses. The total cost for the remaining 4 months in 2022-23 will be approximately £75,000 pro rata. This will be funded from the Troubled Families Grant Reserve which has a balance of £703,538.

### **HR Comments (BC 04/03/21)**

32. The staffing implications are contained within the body of the report. Any vacant posts will be recruited to in accordance with the agreed Vacancy Control Process and recruitment and selection policies.

### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

[Youth Violence and Child Criminal Exploitation – report to Policy Committee on 12th February 2020](#)

[Nottinghamshire's Knife Crime Strategy 2018 – report to Policy Committee on 22nd May 2019](#)

[Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Strategy 2019 – report to Full Council on 10th October 2019](#)

### **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

All.

C1454



**REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL****DISPOSAL OF BAILEY'S FIELD, NEWARK****Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek approval for the sale of a 2.03 Ha (5 acre) site at Bailey's Field, off Barnby Road, Balderton, Newark on terms detailed in the exempt appendix.

**Information**

2. Some information relating to this report is not for publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. Having regard to the circumstances, on balance the public interest in disclosing the information does not outweigh the reason for exemption because divulging the information would significantly damage the Council's commercial position. The exempt information is set out in the exempt appendix to this report.
3. Bailey's Field was originally used as the playing fields for the former Magdalene School and is indicated edged black and hatched on the attached plan. Since the closure of that school, the land has been disused (for over 12 years) and is surplus to the operational requirements of the Council. The land is some 2.03 hectares but is accessed by a very narrow track from Barnby Road. This access is too narrow for any form of development to be contemplated via that route, without the purchase of additional (third party owned) land.
4. For this reason the Council has worked with adjoining land owners in seeking to promote the development of our respective land holdings in a coordinated manner and in November 2016 Committee previously approved the sale of Bailey's Field as part of a joint initiative with adjoining owners to a housing developer. The adjoining landowners land is indicated hatched grey on the adjoining plan. The terms of sale were subject to the purchaser achieving planning consent for their proposed residential development and this sale collapsed with their inability to gain planning consent, finally at appeal in December 2019.
5. The original proposed developer approached the landowners once more in May 2020 with a view to negotiating amended terms for entering into another contract to purchase subject to planning consent being achieved. They propose making a new planning application which addresses the issues raised at the appeal hearing which would mean there will no longer be any housing development on London Road, no development will take place near to the eastern boundary and they will comply with Newark and Sherwood District Council's affordable housing policy.

6. The purchaser holds an option over the adjoining land to the west which is considered to be the only suitable option for water attenuation due to the topography of the site and without this any other developer would be unable to bring the site forward for development.
7. The Council has engaged with the adjoining landowners in sole negotiations with the proposed purchaser and has not marketed the site more widely. This is due to the limited access (as previously described), the proposed purchaser's detailed knowledge of the site and its issues, and their current option over water attenuation land without which the site is undevelopable. In accordance with Financial Regulations, the Council's Group Manager (Legal Services) and the Section 151 Officer (Service Director, Finance Infrastructure and Improvement) have been consulted regarding the circumstances of the disposal and have agreed that it is appropriate to proceed on this basis. This analysis is supported by an independent valuation of the site by independent chartered surveyors which confirms the view that the sale proceeds represent best consideration to the Council.
8. Terms have therefore been agreed as outlined in the exempt appendix to this report.

### **Other Options Considered**

9. Retention of the land: this land is not required for any operational purpose of the Council and is surplus to requirements. It can therefore be sold to generate a capital receipt.

### **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

10. The site is land locked and is not suitable for any development on its own. Working with a developer will secure a significant uplift over its existing value. The existing developer has an option agreement on the only land suitable for the development site's water attenuation and has a full understanding at what is now required to achieve a successful planning application. To generate a potential capital receipt to the Council from the sale of a surplus site.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

11. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 1) That approval is given to the sale of the land known as Bailey's Field, off Barnby Road, Balderton, Newark, on terms detailed in the exempt appendix.

**Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts MBE**  
**Leader of the County Council**



**For any enquiries about this report please contact:** Matthew Neal, Service Director,  
Investment & Growth, Tel: 0115 977 3822

### **Constitutional Comments (CJ 25/02/2021)**

12. The recommendation falls within the remit of Policy Committee under its terms of reference. The Council is under a statutory obligation when disposing of land or buildings to obtain the best price reasonably obtainable on the open market, therefore members should satisfy themselves of this. If the Council has any retained land the effect on the value and use of it must be considered.

### **Financial Comments (CT 04/03/2021)**

13. The financial implications of this report are contained within the Exempt Appendix. The report states that independent chartered surveyors have confirmed the view that the sale proceeds represent best consideration to the Council. In line with the Council's current policy, the capital receipt will be used either to fund transformation costs or will be set against the principal of previous years' borrowing.

### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

- None.

### **Electoral Division and Member Affected**

- Newark East                      Councillor Stuart Wallace

File ref.: SK/SB/90020/new

SP: 3787

Properties affected: 90020: Newark Playing Fields







**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, CUSTOMERS, GOVERNANCE AND  
EMPLOYEES****WORK PROGRAMME****Purpose of the Report**

1. To review the Committee's work programme for 2021.

**Information**

2. The County Council requires each committee to maintain a work programme. The work programme will assist the management of the committee's agenda, the scheduling of the committee's business and forward planning. The work programme will be updated and reviewed at each pre-agenda meeting and committee meeting. Any member of the committee is able to suggest items for possible inclusion.
3. The attached work programme includes items which can be anticipated at the present time. Other items will be added to the programme as they are identified. The meeting dates and agenda items are subject to review in light of the ongoing COVID-19 period.
4. The Policy Committee will be asked to determine policies, strategies and statutory plans developed or reviewed by other Committees of the Council. Committee Chairmen are invited to advise the Policy Committee of any additional policy reviews that are being considered.

**Other Options Considered**

5. None.

**Reason for Recommendation**

6. To assist the Committee in preparing and managing its work programme.

**Statutory and Policy Implications**

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.



## **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Committee considers whether any amendments are required to the Work Programme.

**Marjorie Toward**

**Service Director, Customers, Governance and Employees**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:** Jo Toomey, Advanced Democratic Services Officer, Democratic Services, Tel: 0115 9774506

### **Constitutional Comments (EH)**

8. The Committee has authority to consider the matters set out in this report by virtue of its terms of reference

### **Financial Comments (NS)**

9. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

### **Background Papers**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

None

### **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

All

## **POLICY COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME (AS AT 9 MARCH 2021)**

<b><u>Report Title</u></b>	<b><u>Brief summary of agenda item</u></b>	<b><u>Lead Officer</u></b>	<b><u>Report Author</u></b>
<b>21 April 2021</b>			
Planned Maintenance Programme 2021-22	Establishing the Planned Maintenance programme for 2021-22. Establishes programme and approves progression to feasibility / design stage.	Derek Higton	Phil Berrill
Property Operational Decisions Quarterly Update Report	To consider the latest update on operational decisions taken by officers.	Adrian Smith	Sue Blockley
<b>16 June 2021</b>			
Via East Midlands and Cheesecake Energy Partnership Limited	To receive an update on progress and financial implications of the emerging partnership.	Adrian Smith	Derek Higton
Update on the work of the Violence Reduction Unit	Dave Wakelin, Director of the Violence Reduction Unit, to provide a progress update.	Anthony May	Dave Wakelin
Working with Nottinghamshire's Universities	To update on the Council's work with Nottingham Trent University and University of Nottingham.	Anthony May	Nicola McCoy-Brown
<b>14 July 2021</b>			
Adult Social Care and Public Health Digital Strategy 2021-24	To agree this departmental Digital Strategy	Melanie Brooks	
Property Operational Decisions Quarterly Update Report	To consider the latest update on operational decisions taken by officers.	Adrian Smith	Sue Blockley
Use of Urgency Procedures	Six Monthly Update report on the use of the Council's procedures for taking urgent decisions.	Marjorie Toward	Keith Ford
The National Rehabilitation Centre Update	Miriam Duffy, Programme Director to give an update on progress following the initial report to Policy Committee in January 2020.	Anthony May	Miriam Duffy
Outside Bodies - Update Report	To notify Committee, on a six monthly basis, of any changes to the Council's Outside Bodies Register and to seek approvals where appropriate.	Marjorie Toward	Keith Ford

