

**Time and Date**

2.00 pm on Tuesday, 23rd October, 2012

Place

Council Chamber - Council House

1. Apologies**2. Minutes**

2.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 18th September 2012 (Pages 5 - 14)

2.2 Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 18th September 2012 (Pages 15 - 18)

3. Exclusion of the Press and Public

To consider whether to exclude the press and public for the items of private business for the reasons shown in the reports.

4. Coventry Good Citizen Award

To be presented by the Lord Mayor and Judge Griffith-Jones, Honorary Recorder

5. Correspondence and Announcements of the Lord Mayor

(a) Presentation of Illuminated Address to Councillor Kieran Mulhall, Lord Mayor for 2011/12.

(b) Lord Mayor's announcements

6. Petitions**7. Declarations of Interest****Matters Left for Determinations by the City Council/Recommendations for the City Council (Booklet 1)****8. Cycle Coventry - Local Sustainable Transport Fund (Pages 19 - 46)**

From the Cabinet, 9th October 2012 (Minute 47, Booklet 1)

9. The Application of Transition Arrangements to Pensions Auto Enrolment (Pages 47 - 54)

From the Cabinet, 9th October 2012 (Minute 48, Booklet 1)

10. Coventry City Centre Public Realm Legacy Phase 2 (Pages 55 - 68)

From the Cabinet, 9th October 2012 (Minute 51, Booklet 1)

11. **Cultural Trust Review** (Pages 69 - 82)
From the Cabinet, 9th October 2012 (Minute 52, Booklet 1)
12. **Canley Regeneration Programme - Land Disposal and Regeneration Proposals** (Pages 83 - 90)
From the Cabinet, 9th October 2012 (Minute 53, Booklet 1)
13. **Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway** (Pages 91 - 100)
From the Cabinet, 9th October 2012 (Minute 54, Booklet 1)

Item for Consideration

14. **Submission of Coventry Core Strategy 2012** (Pages 101 - 162)
Report of the Director of City Services and Development
15. **Question Time** (Pages 163 - 164)
 - 15.1 **Written Questions – Booklet 2** (attached)
 - 15.2 **Oral Questions to Chairs of Scrutiny Boards/Chair of Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee**
 - 15.3 **Oral Questions to Chairs of other meetings**
 - 15.4 **Oral Questions to Representatives on Outside Bodies**
 - 15.5 **Oral Questions to Cabinet Members on any matter**
16. **Statement (if any) by the Leader of the Council**
17. **Debates**
 - 17.1 To be moved by Councillor Lepoidevin and seconded by Councillor Townshend

“This Council notes with concern that Coventry victims of sexual assault are not being referred to the Blue Sky Centre in Nuneaton by West Midlands Police.

This Council believes that the £150,000 of funding provided by the Council was an investment in better services for those who have been victims of sexual offences. Council is therefore dismayed to note that West Midlands Police will continue to transport victims to Walsall or Birmingham rather than use the Blue Sky Centre.

This Council resolves to write requesting that West Midlands Police refers Coventry victims of sexual violence to the Blue Sky Centre. Council believes this would produce a victim centred outcome by encouraging reporting, increasing the confidence of victims and bringing perpetrators to justice by ensuring evidence is collected swiftly and effectively”

17.2 To be moved by Councillor Hetherton and seconded by Councillor Welsh

“This Council notes with concern that the Government is oversimplifying welfare reform to the extent that it ignores any of the nuances and complexities of disability.

The abolition of the Severe Disability Premium; a little known benefit that gives only the most severely disabled in the country a benefit of up to £58 per week, that is over £3000 per year, will have a severely detrimental impact to those most in need.

As the benefit is only given to the most serious cases to contribute with increased living costs of being disabled and out of work, and is only given to those living either alone (with a carer) or with children, this attack is, at best, gross incompetence and, at worst, a little-known attack on the most vulnerable members of our society.”

Private Business

Matters Left for Determination by the City Council/Recommendations for the City Council (Booklet 3)

18. **Coventry City Centre Public Realm Legacy Phase 2** (Pages 165 - 186)
From the Cabinet, 9th October 2012 (Minute 57, Booklet 3)
(Listing Officer: Colin Knight, telephone 024 7683 4001)
19. **Cultural Trust Review** (Pages 187 - 202)
From the Cabinet, 9th October 2012 (Minute 58, Booklet 3)
(Listing Officer: D. Nuttall, telephone 024 7683 2362)
20. **Canley Regeneration Programme - Land Disposal and Regeneration Proposals**
(Pages 203 - 212)
From the Cabinet, 9th October 2012 (Minute 59, Booklet 3)
(Listing Officer: D. Cass, telephone 024 7683 2793)
21. **Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway** (Pages 213 - 222)
From the Cabinet, 9th October 2012 (Minute 60, Booklet 3)
(Listing Officer: D. Cockroft, telephone 024 7683 3964)

Item for Consideration

22. **Submission of Coventry Core Strategy 2012: Supplementary** (Pages 223 - 258)
Report of the Director of City Services and Development
(Listing Officer: J. Newton, telephone 024 7683 1187)

Monday, 15 October 2012

Note: The person to contact about the agenda and documents for this meeting is Carolyn Sinclair/Suzanne Bennett 024 7683 3166/3072

Membership: Councillors F Abbott, N Akhtar, M Ali, A Andrews, M Auluck, S Bains, L Bigham, J Blundell, K Caan, D Chater, J Clifford, G Crookes (Deputy Chair), G Duggins, C Fletcher, K Foster, D Galliers, D Gannon, A Gingell, M Hammon, L Harvard, P Hetheron, D Howells, J Innes, L Kelly, D Kershaw, T Khan, A Khan, R Lakha, R Lancaster, J Lepoidevin, A Lucas, K Maton, J McNicholas, C Miks, K Mulhall, J Mutton, M Mutton, H Noonan, J O'Boyle, E Ruane, R Sandy, T Sawdon (Chair), H S Sehmi, B Singh, D Skinner, T Skipper, H Sweet, K Taylor, R Thay, S Thomas, P Townshend, S Walsh, D Welsh and A Williams

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language please contact us.

Carolyn Sinclair/Suzanne Bennett

024 7683 3166/3072

Minicom: (024) 7683 3029

Fax: (024) 7683 3266

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COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COVENTRY

18th September 2012

PRESENT

Lord Mayor (Councillor Sawdon)

Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Crookes)

Councillor Mrs Abbott	Councillor Lakha
Councillor Akhtar	Councillor Lancaster
Councillor Ali	Councillor Mrs Lepoidevin
Councillor Andrews	Councillor Mrs Lucas
Councillor Auluck	Councillor McNicholas
Councillor Bains	Councillor Maton
Councillor Mrs Bigham	Councillor Mrs Miks
Councillor Blundell	Councillor Mulhall
Councillor Caan	Councillor J. Mutton
Councillor Chater	Councillor Mrs M. Mutton
Councillor Clifford	Councillor Noonan
Councillor Duggins	Councillor O'Boyle
Councillor Mrs Fletcher	Councillor Ruane
Councillor Foster	Councillor Sandy
Councillor Galliers	Councillor Sehmi
Councillor Gannon	Councillor Singh
Councillor Gingell	Councillor Skinner
Councillor Hammon	Councillor Skipper
Councillor Harvard	Councillor Mrs Sweet
Councillor Hetherton	Councillor Taylor
Councillor Howells	Councillor Thay
Councillor Innes	Councillor Thomas
Councillor Kelly	Councillor Townshend
Councillor Kershaw	Councillor Walsh
Councillor A. Khan	Councillor Welsh

Apologies: Councillor Williams

Public Business

47. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th July 2012, were signed as a true record.

48. Coventry Good Citizen Award – Mrs Dorothy Senior

On behalf of the Council, the Lord Mayor and his Honour, Judge Griffith-Jones, Honorary Recorder, presented Mrs Dorothy Senior with the Coventry Good Citizen Award. Her citation read:

“Dorothy Senior arrived in England from Jamaica in 1961 and moved to Coventry a year later. She worked at the GEC for 20 years before getting a job in the Education Department at the Council in 1986 until her retirement in 2003.

Dorothy's volunteering spirit is really something to be admired. She has been involved in numerous organisations and events in Hillfields for over 25 years – being a founder member of WATCH aka - Working Actively to Change Hillfields - and the Police Liaison Group. She has been a driving force in the Hillfields Environmental Group, Health Action Group, Hillfields Core Working Group and is also a governor at Hillfields Children's Centre.

She has been recognised for her community work by the High Commissioner of Jamaica (2000), the Coventry Telegraph (2001) and the Home Office (2005).

She attends as many events as she can – being there at the opening of the Sidney Stringer Academy or the City of Coventry Health Centre. Dorothy will man stalls and put a shift in when Hillfields puts on its Summer Fair in Primrose Hill Park or its Christmas celebrations in the village square.

Dorothy is well known for her dedication, her tireless hard work, her public spirit and easy-going nature. She will always take time to support anybody – no matter where they come from. Dorothy is incredibly proud of Hillfields and its people and has seen so many changes over the 50 years she has lived in the area. Even when times were tough she did not give up on wanting to help improve the area. She even gave up her home to make way for the new City College now on the site of her old flat!

She always has a kind word for those that need it and is not afraid to offer advice and constructive criticism particularly to her local Councillors where it will help move things forward!

To many people Dorothy really is 'Lady Hillfields.' She can now also add the well-deserved accolade of Coventry Good Citizen!"

49. Presentation of Paralympic Lantern

Coventry was one of 36 cities to take part in hosting Paralympic flame celebrations across the country. Rita Thompson, Coventry's Paralympic Ambassador and the Lord Mayor, Councillor Sawdon, had travelled down to Trafalgar Square to collect the Paralympic Lantern which was lighted from a 'splinter' of the Paralympic torch flame and brought it back for the celebrations in Coventry on the 25th August 2012.

Mrs Thompson had been invited to the meeting to formally present the Lantern as a parting gift to the City of Coventry of the London 2012 Paralympic games and display it for Coventry citizens indefinitely.

50. Officer Retirement

The Lord Mayor referred to the forthcoming retirement of Jos Parry, Assistant Chief Executive.

Jos was first appointed to the Council in 1990 following an early career as a post-doctoral Research Fellow in the School of Bio-Chemistry at Birmingham University. Jos joined the Council as a Research Officer in Environmental Services and remained in Housing and Environmental Services until 1998, progressing to Head of Policy Support.

In 1998 she transferred to Education, re-designated Children Learning and Young People' Directorate (CLYP) in 2006. Her first post in Education was Policy Development Co-ordinator, subsequently being appointed as Head of Policy and Operational Co-ordination and then Head of Children's Policy and Performance. During her time in CLYP Jos contributed to the role of Acting Director of CLYP jointly with other colleagues for two extended periods in 2002/3 and 2005/6 while the post was vacant. Jos was appointed Assistant Chief Executive in October 2007 a post she has retained until now.

Members expressed their thanks to Jos for her services to the Council and wished her a long and happy retirement.

51. Local Democracy Week

Members noted that Local Democracy Week this year would run from 15 – 19 October and the Council would be hosting a programme of events aimed at encouraging greater democratic engagement, especially among younger people.

As part of Local Democracy Week, and in aid of the Lord Mayor's Charity Appeal, the Lord Mayor would be hosting a Quiz at Esquires Coffee Shop at the Coventry Transport Museum on Tuesday 16th October from 6.00pm.

The Quiz was being run with the Council's Youth Service, and Members were invited to join in with the teams to battle it out.

52. Petitions

RESOLVED that the following petitions be referred to the appropriate City Council body or external organisation:

- (a) Close off or gate the alleyway between Harnall Lane East and Berry Street – 39 signatures – presented by Councillor O'Boyle.**
- (b) Coventry Gateway: To reject elements of the scheme – 771 signatures – presented by Councillor Foster.**
- (c) Objections to the widening of Black Prince Avenue – 415 signatures – presented by Councillor Noonan**
- (d) Request for road and pavement repairs on Stonebury Avenue – 13 signatures – presented by Councillor Lepoidevin**
- (e) Request for a permanent commemoration of Massey Ferguson Factory on Banner Lane – 104 signatures – presented by Councillor Thomas**
- (f) Request that No 10 bus route revert to its former routing avoiding Sutton Avenue – 235 signatures – presented by Councillor Lepoidevin**
- (g) Requesting safety measures on Station Avenue – 10 signatures – presented by Councillor Foster on behalf of Councillor Skinner**

53. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

54. Protocol for Conferring the Title of Honorary Alderman or Alderwoman

Further to Minute 10/12 of the Joint Cabinet Member (Community Safety and Equalities) and (Policy, Leadership and Governance) meeting, the City Council considered a report of the Director of Finance and Legal Services which recommended changes to the Protocol for conferring the title of Honorary Alderman or Alderwoman.

The Council had approved a Protocol for conferring the title of Honorary Alderman or Alderwoman to former Councillors at its Annual Meeting on 19 May 2011 (their Minute 17/11 refers). Under the current Protocol, nominations for the title of Honorary Alderman/woman could only be made once a year, by the end of February, with the nominations being submitted to Council at its meeting in March. A special meeting to confer the honorary title would then take place immediately prior to the Annual Council Meeting in May.

However, the time periods in the Protocol were restrictive and it was proposed that a more flexible approach should be taken. It was recommended therefore that the Protocol be amended to allow the title to be conferred at any time of the year. The title of Honorary Alderman or Alderwoman would be conferred at a specially convened meeting of the Council by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of members present and voting. Nominations may, in addition to this, be considered at a prior ordinary Council meeting, and the nomination approved in principle by a resolution comprising a majority vote. If nominations were considered at an ordinary meeting, it was proposed that the specially convened meeting may be held immediately after this ordinary meeting, or at a future meeting, subject to the appropriate notice of the special meeting having been given.

It was also proposed that the criteria for eligibility for the title of Honorary Alderman/woman which referred to the 15 years of service as an elected member may be continuous or non-continuous.

The Lord Mayor's Office would be managing the process for Honorary Aldermen/women, in conjunction with the Cabinet Member holding the portfolio for Democratic Services and the Lord Mayor of the City of Coventry. This included ensuring recipients were given a medal and certificate, and that their names were recorded in a special register or 'Roll'.

There would be limited costs for awarding recipients with a medal and certificate, and for a Register to record the names of Aldermen and Alderwomen. In 2012/13, there would be estimated one-off costs of £850 for purchasing 20 medals/certificates and a Register. The overall Democratic Services budgets would fund these expenses in 2012/13. In future years, the estimated costs of £200 per annum for medals and certificates would be met from the budget within the Lord Mayor's Office.

If these proposals were approved, Appendix 1 to Part 8 of the Constitution (Procedural Matters) would need to be amended to reflect these changes. The proposed changes to Part 8 were shown in the Appendix to the report. It was further proposed that the Protocol be renamed and relocated to Part 5 of the Constitution which specifically related to Codes and Protocols.

RESOLVED the City Council:

- (i) **Approve the changes to the Constitution, as set out in Section 2 of the report and detailed above.**
- (ii) **Approve the protocol for conferring the title of Honorary Aldermen and Alderwomen.**

55. Audit Committee Annual Report to Council 2011/12

Further to Minute 17/12 of the Audit Committee, the City Council considered the Annual Audit Committee Report 2011/12.

The report provided an overview of the Audit Committee's activity during 2011-12, including progress in terms of discharging its responsibilities to provide independent assurance on the adequacy of the Council's risk management framework and the associated control environment, and in providing robust scrutiny and challenge of the Council's financial performance.

The report detailed all routine reports considered by the Committee, based around the clearly defined expectations of the services and functions that report to the Committee, for example internal and external audit and financial management, together with all the ad hoc reports considered, which focused on either a specific concern raised by the Committee or developments that impact directly on the Committee.

The report indicated that the Council had made significant enhancements to its Audit Committee over the past few years and that areas still for development included ensuring that all Members of the Committee are provided with appropriate training to allow them to discharge their responsibilities and keeping abreast of national developments and the potential impact that these may have on the operation of the Committee.

In 2012-13, the Committee's initial focus would be on ensuring that effective action be taken in response to areas for improvement highlighted in the Annual Governance Statement for 2011-12. In addition, given the continued financial pressures facing the Council, the importance of an effective Audit Committee remained critical. The following planned changes over the next year would be a specific focus of the Committee to ensure that they do not have a detrimental impact on the effectiveness of the Council's governance arrangements:

- The implementation of the Council's new finance system
- The appointment of the Council's new external auditors, Grant Thornton
- The creation of the Single Fraud Investigation Service from the point of view of ensuring that this does not impact on the overall fraud arrangements within the Council.

RESOLVED that the City Council receive the Audit Committee Annual Report 2011/12 and note the priorities for 2012/13, as detailed in paragraph 1.4 of the report.

56. Department for Education Consultation - Replacing Local Authority Central Spend Equivalent Grant (LACSEG): Funding Academies and Local Authorities for the functions that devolve to Academies

Further to Minute 35/12 of the Cabinet, the City Council considered a joint report of the Director of Finance and Legal Services and the Director of Children, Learning and Young People, which set out a proposed response to the Department for Education consultation on proposals to replace Local Authority Central Spend Equivalent Grant (LACSEG) from 2013/14.

The Government was proposing to transfer funding for central education functions for maintained and academy schools from the Department for Communities and Local Government to the Department for Education. This would mean that the level of funding the Council received in Formula Grant would reduce and be replaced by a separate un-ringfenced grant payable to both local authorities and academies, proportionate to the number of pupils for which they were responsible. The consultation document contained a limited set of proposals for the distribution of the new grant and the proposed response to these proposals was appended to the report submitted.

RESOLVED that the City Council approve the proposed response to the school funding consultation set out in appendix A of the report, for submission the Department for Education by 24th September 2012.

57. Consultation Responses - Draft Care and Support Bill, New Safeguarding Power, Future of Independent Living Fund, draft guidance on Joint Strategic Needs Assessments and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategies, and allocation options for the funding for Independent Mental Health Advocate Services and the treatment of Armed Forces' compensation in charging for social care

Further to Minute 36/12 of the Cabinet, the City Council considered a report of the Director of Community Services, which proposed responses to five separate Government consultations that related to adult social care and health, in particular:

- Draft Care and Support Bill
- New Safeguarding Power
- Future of the Independent Living Fund
- Draft Guidance on Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategies
- Allocation Option for the Funding of Independent Mental Health Advocate Services and the Treatment of Armed Forces' Compensation in Charging for Social Care.

The Department of Health published the White Paper 'Caring for our future: reforming care and support', in July 2012 (Care and Support White Paper). It was accompanied by a draft Care and Support Bill, which would provide the necessary legislation for adult social care reforms. The Bill would create a single framework for adult care and support, replacing more than a dozen pieces of outdated legislation. The Bill had been published for pre-legislative scrutiny and comments would feed directly into the process of parliamentary scrutiny. The Council was responding to the themes of the Bill rather than to each individual clause. This was not considered to be a formal consultation. It was proposed that the response should indicate that the Council would support the consolidation of legislation, but indicate that some areas of the Bill should be strengthened.

The draft Care and Support Bill included a proposed duty on local authorities to make

enquiries where there was a safeguarding concern. It stated that local authorities "must make (or cause to be made) whatever enquiries it thinks necessary to enable it to decide whether any action should be taken". The Department of Health launched a formal consultation as to whether it was necessary within the Bill to include specific power to support this duty. This could be in the form of a power of entry, enabling a local authority to speak to someone with mental capacity who they think could be at risk of abuse and neglect, in order to ascertain that they were making their decisions freely. It was proposed that the response should indicate that the Council were in support of this proposed separate power, but considered it should only be used in exceptional circumstances.

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) was consulting on proposals that the Independent Living Fund (ILF) be devolved from an executive non-departmental public body, under the sponsorship of DWP to local government from April 2015. The original fund was created in 1988 and the aim of ILF monies was to provide a cash payment directly to disabled people, so that they could purchase care directly to support them to live independently in their communities rather than in residential care. The report indicated that the Council would support the transfer of funding to the local authority, but had concerns about the level of funding post 2015. It was proposed that the response should also indicate that the Council was concerned about the impact on people who currently receive ILF monies but were not currently receiving support from adult social care and who following assessment, may not meet the eligibility for care and support.

The Department of Health had published draft statutory guidance intended to support health and wellbeing boards and their partners in undertaking and contributing to Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (JSNA) and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategies (JHWS). It was consulting on the clarity, effectiveness and potential impact the guidance would have on ensuring JSNAs and JHWSs improve the health and wellbeing on the local community and reduce health inequalities for all ages. The Council welcomed the guidance which it believed would support the Health and Wellbeing Board to discharge its duties in this area. However, the proposed response also indicated that the Council considered that the guidance could be further strengthened to provide clear drivers to reduce health inequalities.

In April 2013 the statutory duty for Independent Mental Health Advocate Services would transfer from the NHS to local authorities. Funding would come from a Department of Health grant and the Government was consulting on options for the allocation of funding. The proposed response indicated that the Council would support funding allocation based on the adult social care needs formulae.

It was noted that the Care and Support White Paper contained details of an amendment to social care regulation and charging guidance that meant that, from October 2012, Armed Forces' Guaranteed Income Payment (GIP) compensation would be exempted from the means test for social care. The Council supported this change and the report indicated that the Council already disregards the total sum of a veteran's war pension, including GIP in its policy for charging for non-residential social care. A change to the local policy for residential care would need to be made, however. Funding would be issued as a Department of Health grant and the Government was consulting on its option for distributing the funding.

RESOLVED that the City Council approve the proposed consultation responses.

58. Response to Consultation - Local Government Resources Review: Proposals for Business Rate Retention

Further to Minute 37/12 of the Cabinet, the City Council considered a report of the Director of Finance and Legal Services, which set out a proposed response to a Government consultation on Local Government Resources Review: Proposals for Business Rate Retention.

The Council approved a report on 18th October 2011 giving its response to the Local Government Resources Review: Proposals for Business Rates Retention scheme. The key impact of the scheme, set out within the current Local Government Finance Bill, would be that a proportion of future local increases or decreases in Business Rates would be retained or managed by local authorities. Currently these local movements in Business Rates were balanced within national funding arrangements.

As part of developing these proposals the Government had issued a technical consultation paper, setting out the detail of the way the scheme and the wider resource allocation system would operate. The scheme would entail a move away from a needs based resource allocation system, to one based in part on the level of business rates increase in an area. This raised the possibility that Coventry would suffer a reduction in funding over time.

It was proposed that main focus of the response to the consultation, should be that any new system should adequately take into account the assessment of need when allocating resources.

RESOLVED that the City Council approve the proposed consultation response.

59. Appointment to Outside Body

The City Council considered a report of the Director of Customer and Workforce Services which sought approval to appoint a replacement representative to the Coventry General Charities Trust. Following the resignation of former Councillor Mrs Johnson, there was one vacancy for a City Council representative on the Board of Trustees.

RESOLVED that Councillor Lakha be appointed as a City Council representative on the Coventry General Charities Trust.

60. Adjournment of Meeting

It was moved by Councillor Gannon and seconded by Councillor Hetherington and resolved that, in accordance with Paragraph 4.1.35.17 of the Constitution, the meeting now be adjourned. The adjournment was to facilitate the Extraordinary Meeting of Council which was scheduled to commence at 2.00 pm and which had been convened to confer the titles of Honorary Aldermen (referred to in Minute 52 above).

Note: The meeting re-convened at 3.20 pm and the Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Crookes, chaired the meeting in the Lord Mayor's absence.

61. **Question Time**

The appropriate Members provided a written response to all the questions set out in the Questions Booklet, together with an oral response to supplementary questions put to them at the meeting.

There were no further questions.

62. **Statement by the Leader of the Council**

There was no statement

63. **Debate – Olympics and Paralympics 2012**

Councillor Skinner moved the following motion which was seconded by Councillor Hammon:

“This Council warmly congratulates Olympic Team GB and Paralympics GB on their enormous successes during the recent Games.

The Council particularly welcomes the emphasis thus placed on the similarities between able-bodied and disabled people everywhere and hopes that this will help to promote ever greater mutual understanding and courtesy between them”.

RESOLVED that the motion, as set out, above be unanimously adopted.

Meeting closed at 4.40 pm

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EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COVENTRY

18th September 2012

PRESENT

Lord Mayor (Councillor Sawdon)

Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Crookes)

Councillor Mrs Abbott	Councillor Lakha
Councillor Akhtar	Councillor Lancaster
Councillor Ali	Councillor Mrs Lepoidevin
Councillor Andrews	Councillor Mrs Lucas
Councillor Auluck	Councillor McNicholas
Councillor Bains	Councillor Maton
Councillor Mrs Bigham	Councillor Mrs Miks
Councillor Blundell	Councillor Mulhall
Councillor Caan	Councillor J. Mutton
Councillor Chater	Councillor Mrs M. Mutton
Councillor Clifford	Councillor Noonan
Councillor Duggins	Councillor O'Boyle
Councillor Mrs Fletcher	Councillor Ruane
Councillor Foster	Councillor Sandy
Councillor Galliers	Councillor Sehmi
Councillor Gannon	Councillor Singh
Councillor Gingell	Councillor Skipper
Councillor Hammon	Councillor Mrs Sweet
Councillor Harvard	Councillor Taylor
Councillor Mrs Hetherton	Councillor Thay
Councillor Howells	Councillor Thomas
Councillor Innes	Councillor Townshend
Councillor Kelly	Councillor Walsh
Councillor Kershaw	Councillor Welsh
Councillor A. Khan	

Apologies: Councillor Williams

In attendance: Mr Dave Batten
Mr John Gazey
Mr Trevor Webb
Mrs Joan Wright

Public Business

60. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

61. **Conferring the Title of Honorary Alderman or Alderwoman**

The City Council considered a report of the Director of Customer and Workforce Services which set out the first set of nominations for Honorary Aldermen and Honorary Alderwomen. The following four nominations had been received and were presented for approval:

(a) Trevor Webb OBE

Mr Webb served as a Member of the Council between 1967 to 1971 and 1973 to 1990. During that time, he was Chair of Finance Committee and a long serving member on Planning Committee. He received his honour from Her Majesty the Queen in 1988 in recognition of his duty to the public and political services.

It was proposed by Councillor Hammon seconded by Councillor Townshend, and resolved unanimously that the title of Honorary Alderman be conferred on Trevor Webb OBE as a past member of the Council in recognition of giving eminent services to the Council and the City for at least 15 years, and that a copy of this resolution, under the common seal, be presented to mark the conferment.

The Lord Mayor, on behalf of the City Council, presented Mr. Webb with a badge and framed certificate to commemorate his appointment and he signed the 'Roll of Honorary Aldermen/Alderwomen'. Honorary Alderman Webb then gave an acceptance speech.

(b) Joan Wright

Mrs Wright was a Member of the Council between 1986 and 2002. During that time she was a leading Councillor on issues relating to social services and the environment. She was also Lord Mayor during the Millennium year of 1999-2000.

It was proposed by Councillor Fletcher seconded by Councillor Foster, and resolved unanimously that the title of Honorary Alderman be conferred on Joan Wright as a past member of the Council in recognition of giving eminent services to the Council and the City for at least 15 years, and that a copy of this resolution, under the common seal, be presented to mark the conferment.

The Lord Mayor, on behalf of the City Council, presented Mrs. Wright with a badge and framed certificate to commemorate her appointment and she signed the 'Roll of Honorary Aldermen/Alderwomen'. Honorary Alderman Mrs Wright then gave an acceptance speech.

(c) David Batten

Mr Batten was a Member of the City Council from 1990 until 2008. During that time he chaired numerous Committees and Panels and in particular Cabinet Member for City Development, as well as undertaking the role of Lord Mayor in 2007-2008.

It was proposed by Councillor J Mutton seconded by Councillor Sandy, and resolved unanimously that the title of Honorary Alderman be conferred on David

Batten as a past member of the Council in recognition of giving eminent services to the Council and the City for at least 15 years, and that a copy of this resolution, under the common seal, be presented to mark the conferment.

The Lord Mayor, on behalf of the City Council, presented Mr. Batten with a badge and framed certificate to commemorate his appointment and he signed the 'Roll of Honorary Aldermen/Alderwomen'. Honorary Alderman Batten then gave an acceptance speech.

(d) John Gazey

John Gazey was a Member of the Council representing the citizens of Bablake Ward between 1987 and 2012. During this lengthy service he became Coventry's Lord Mayor in 2004-2005 and served on a wide range of Committees.

It was proposed by Councillor Kershaw seconded by Councillor Galliers, and resolved unanimously that the title of Honorary Alderman be conferred on John Gazey as a past member of the Council in recognition of giving eminent services to the Council and the City for at least 15 years, and that a copy of this resolution, under the common seal, be presented to mark the conferment.

The Lord Mayor, on behalf of the City Council, presented Mr. Gazey with a badge and framed certificate to commemorate his appointment and he signed the 'Roll of Honorary Aldermen/Alderwomen'. Honorary Alderman Gazey then gave an acceptance speech.

Meeting closed at 2.50 pm

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1234567

Council Meeting

23 October, 2012

Booklet 1

Recommendations

INDEX TO MINUTES

Cabinet, 9th October 2012

CABINET

9th October 2012

Cabinet Members Present:
Councillor Duggins (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Harvard
Councillor Kelly
Councillor Kershaw
Councillor Mrs Lucas
Councillor J. Mutton (Chair)
Councillor O'Boyle
Councillor Ruane
Councillor Townshend

Non-Voting Opposition
Representatives present: Councillor Blundell

Other Members Present:
Councillor Mrs Abbott
Councillor Mrs Bigham
Councillor Hetherton
Councillor Innes
Councillor Lakha
Councillor M Mutton

Employees Present:
H. Abraham (Customer and Workforce Services Directorate)
J. Applegarth (Children, Learning and Young People Directorate)
S. Bennett (Customer and Workforce Services Directorate)
P. Boulton (City Services and Development Directorate)
V. Castree (Chief Executive's Directorate)
D. Cockcroft (City Services and Development Directorate)
S. Crawley (City Services and Development Directorate)
A. Durrant (Customer and Workforce Services Directorate)
C. Forde (Finance and Legal Services Directorate)
C. Green (Director of Children, Learning and Young People)
H. Harding (Finance and Legal Services Directorate)
B. Hastie (Finance and Legal Services Directorate)
S. Iannantuoni (Customer and Workforce Services Directorate)
P. Jennings (Finance and Legal Services Directorate)
N. Mills (City Services and Development Directorate)
R. Moon (City Services and Development Directorate)
D. Nuttall (City Services and Development Directorate)
M. Reeves (Chief Executive)
A. Simpson (Children, Learning and Young People Directorate)
B. Walsh (Director of Community Services)
C. West (Director of Finance and Legal Services)
M. Yardley (Director of City Services and Development)
T. Zhang (Finance and Legal Services Directorate)

Apologies
Councillor Foster
Councillor Khan
Councillor McNicholas (By Invitation)

RECOMMENDATIONS

Public Business

43. Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED that, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the items of business referred to as follows:

Minute	Item	Paragraph
57	Coventry City Centre Public Realm Legacy Phase 2	1, 2, 3
58	Cultural Trusts Review	3, 4
59	Canley Regeneration Programme – Land Disposal and Regeneration Proposals	3, 4
60	Coventry Gateway	3, 4

44. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Blundell declared a Discloseable Pecuniary Interest in the matter the subject of Minutes 52 and 58 below relating to “Cultural Trusts Review”. He left the meeting for consideration of both of these items.

47. Cycle Coventry – Local Sustainable Transport Fund

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of City Development and Services which sought approval to deliver a package of cycle schemes which would be delivered in the Southwest, North and Northeast of the City.

The City Council submitted a bid in February 2012 to the Department for Transport’s Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF). The objective of the fund was to deliver local transport schemes which helped to support local economic growth and reduce carbon emissions. The bid was successful and secured £3.496m of funding for the period 2012/13 to 2014/15. The City Council was also a partner in a regional bid to the LSTF fund led by Centro. This bid was successful and secured £33.2m, of which £3.430m will be spent in Coventry. The overall scheme, entitled ‘Cycle Coventry’, was made up of the two projects totalling £6.926m. The project would aim to improve facilities for pedestrians and cyclists in the southwest, north and northeast of the city by creating a network of cycle routes. The routes would link together major destinations such as employment and education sites, including the city centre, to residential areas such as Tile Hill, Canley, Henley and Foleshill. The network of routes would be supported by a large package of revenue grant funded initiatives which would offer practical sustainable transport information and training to local residents and workers. The project would also

have a positive impact on improving public health by encouraging more people to cycle.

The proposed governance structure for the delivery of the package of cycling schemes was detailed in an appendix to the report and included the establishment of a Members Advisory Panel, comprising Councillors J Mutton (Chair), Harvard, Khan, McNicholas and Andrews.

RESOLVED that, after due consideration of the options and proposals contained in the report and matters referred to at the meeting, the Cabinet recommend that Council:

- (a) Approve the programme of capital schemes detailed in table 3 scheduled to take place in 2012/13; note the proposals for additional schemes in years two and three, and delegate these future approvals to the Cabinet Member (City Services).**
- (b) Approve the package of revenue grant funded schemes detailed in table 4 and note the proposed revenue programme led by Centro detailed in table 5 of the report.**
- (c) Approve the governance structure set out in appendix 2 of the report.**
- (d) Delegate approval to sign legally binding funding agreements with Centro and the Department of Transport to support delivery of the regional LSTF project titled Smarter Network – Smarter Choices, and the local project titled Cycle Coventry to the Director of City Services and Development, in consultation with the Cabinet Member (City Services)**

48. The Application of Transition Arrangements to Pension Auto-Enrolment

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Customer and Workforce Services which set out details relating to the transition arrangement in respect of the application of transition arrangements to pension auto enrolment.

From October 2012, the law on workplace pensions was changing and employers were required to automatically enrol their 'eligible' workers into a workplace pension.

There were various 'staging' dates when employers must begin the automatic enrolment into their pension schemes. The City Council would begin to apply automatic enrolment from 31 March 2013.

However, the pension auto-enrolment requirements allowed employers to delay auto-enrolment for eligible workers and apply a 'transition' period. In effect, this meant that the Council could opt to delay auto-enrolment until 30 September 2017, subject to certain conditions.

There were significant financial benefits to the Council of applying the transition period. Were the Council to auto-enrol the eligible employees into the pension scheme in April 2013, the additional cost of the employer's pension contribution would be in the region of £3M - £4M per annum. This would add a further significant financial pressure in an already challenging financial climate.

There was also an opportunity to utilise a 'postponement' facility for all employees for whom auto-enrolment still applies (e.g. new starters). Postponement provided a short-window of delay that gives the employee more time to consider whether they want to join or opt out of the scheme. If these employees are auto-enrolled and leave the scheme after the first month, the contributions cannot be reclaimed by either the City Council or the employee. Postponement enabled the City Council and the employee to avoid these costs.

RESOLVED that, after due consideration of the options and proposals contained in the report and matters referred to at the meeting, the Cabinet recommend that Council:

- (a) Apply the transition arrangements in order to delay pension auto-enrolment until September 2017.**
- (b) Apply the 'postponement' option in order to ensure the avoidance of costs incurred by any new starters who decide to opt out of the pension scheme.**

51. Coventry City Centre Public Realm Legacy Phase 2

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of City Services and Development which detailed the second phase of the City Centre Public Realm Legacy. A corresponding private report detailing financially confidential aspects of the proposals was also submitted to this meeting (Minute 57 below refers).

The successful completion of the city centre public realm projects (approved by Cabinet on 21 January 2011 (Minute 116/10) and 8 November 2011 (Minute 75/11)) at the end of June had resulted in an extremely positive reaction from residents, developers, investors and visitors to the city, particularly during the Olympic Games this summer. The public realm works focused on making key routes around the city centre attractive and welcoming, and helped to highlight some of the city centre's assets to residents and visitors alike. As well as boosting civic pride in the city, new assets like Broadgate were already having a positive impact on the retail offer in the city, with footfall figures in the Upper Precinct boosted by more than 10% during the fortnight the International Market was held on Broadgate. New financial options have now provided the Council with an opportunity to continue and enhance these public realm works to further encourage investment and regeneration and complement the works already completed.

The report indicated that it was important to note that the first phase was completed on time, despite the extremely short timescale, with only a 1.85% variation in budget – a considerable achievement given the speed of design and build.

The report proposed a total budget for the second phase of up to £2.833m. It was proposed that this would comprise money either released from existing agreements, additional monies provided by Centro and the private sector, and existing uncommitted City Council resources earmarked for highways and street lighting. No additional call on corporate resources is proposed. It was also proposed that the principal schemes would be High Street, the area in front of the Council House; Earl Street; the second access to

Pool Meadow (funded by Centro) and associated works to Fairfax Street; Belgrade junction; and Queen Victoria Road/Lidice Place/Spon Street. It is proposed that these works will be completed by Summer 2013.

As with Phase 1, these works did not require funding from the Council's highways maintenance programme (other than where maintenance was due on a 'worst first' basis).

The Cabinet sought and received assurances in relation to equality issues and engagement with representatives of disabled and blind and partially sighted people. The Cabinet welcomed the fact that the Council had submitted an application for the European Commission's 3rd "Access City Award", which was an EU Award for "Accessible Cities" which recognised Cities providing an accessible environment, particularly for people with disabilities. The Council's application demonstrated Coventry's aspiration to provide an accessible environment for all. Cabinet also noted that the impact of the project would be subject to continual review and was included in the work programme for the Streets and Neighbourhood Action; Street Scene Scrutiny Board (4).

RESOLVED that, after due consideration of the options and proposals contained in the report and matters referred to at the meeting, the Cabinet recommend that Council:

- (a) Approve the updated financing of Coventry 2012 Phase 1 as set out in section 5.1 of the report**
- (b) Approve the delegation of authority to the Cabinet Member (City Services) to agree the detailed works for schemes in Coventry 2012 Phase 2 as set out in appendices B, C and D and their implementation, subject to the availability of funding.**

52. Cultural Trusts Review

The Cabinet considered a report of the Chief Executive which outlined and recommend a new way forward for Coventry's cultural Trusts, recommending the Council support a merger of Coventry Heritage and Arts Trust (CHAT, including the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, The Lunt Roman Fort and Priory Visitor Centre) and Coventry Transport Museum (CTM) to form one new entity (which is most likely to be in the form of a company limited by guarantee or a trust), with the Belgrade Theatre continuing to operate independently as a separate theatre trust. For the purpose of the report, the new entity shall be referred to as a 'Trust' on the understanding that some other type of legal entity may be chosen.

A corresponding private report detailing financially confidential aspects of the proposals was also submitted to this meeting (Minute 58 below refers).

Coventry City Council (CCC) currently provided c£4 million a year in total annual grant support and service fees to the Belgrade Theatre, CHAT and CTM. The economic climate and public spending cuts arising from the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) meant that savings to the Council from the grants and service fees to all three Trusts needed to be found.

The City's cultural offer played a key part in the regeneration of Coventry, and the Cultural Trusts Review - undertaken through collaboration and close consultation with the Trusts - has aimed to ensure the cultural attractions managed by the three Trusts have a viable future, are operated as efficiently as possible and can market themselves effectively to local, regional and national audiences so they can be sustained, grow and succeed in the future.

The report also outlined ways of delivering greater efficiencies across these new structures through the sharing of some services with the Belgrade Theatre and it outlines potential options to generate more revenue.

The recommended "Two Trusts" model generates a total saving of £665,000 per annum in grant/service fees, with delivery of full annual savings from 2014/15. The merger of CTM and CHAT saves £393,000 per annum made primarily through streamlining management arrangements. The Belgrade Theatre would remain in its current form and deliver savings of £272,000 a year by 2014/15 by way of a 25% grant reduction. The anticipated phasing of these savings is detailed in the Private Report.

The Wellness, Liveability and Public Health Scrutiny Board (1) had considered the report at their meeting held on 8th October 2012. A Briefing Note detailing their consideration of this item, together with the following recommendations, had been circulated and the Cabinet Member (Neighbourhood Action, Housing, Leisure and Culture) requested that those recommendations be approved by Cabinet:-

- (1) That the Wellness, Liveability and Public Health Scrutiny Board receive timely reports back on the implementation of the approved option.
- (2) That there is a clear communications strategy for publishing the reasons behind the proposed changes to the Trusts
- (3) That the Trusts work together to maximise opportunities to market their facilities and the City
- (4) The Board acknowledge the opportunities for the Trusts to raise income through fee charging touring exhibitions. However, they would like the Trusts to be mindful of creating as many opportunities for Children and Young People in the City to access these exhibitions through group offers for example via schools and communities groups.
- (5) The Board wanted to encourage repeat visits to the heritage sites and suggested the Trusts consider, when selling tickets for touring events, allowing re-admittance on the same ticket for the duration of the exhibit.

RESOLVED that, after due consideration of the options and proposals contained in the report and matters referred to at the meeting, the Cabinet approve the above recommendations received from the Wellness, Liveability and Public Health Scrutiny Board (1) and recommend that Council:

Approve the recommended establishment of a new company limited by guarantee, to take over the existing premises, employees, assets, liabilities and contracts of CHAT and CTM, which would receive a phased total reduction of £393,000 per annum in Council grant/service fees by 2014/15.

- (a) Approve that the Belgrade Theatre remains a separate organisation with a phased reduction in the Belgrade Theatre grant to achieve a total reduction of £272,000 per annum in Council grant to the Theatre by 2014/15.
- (b) Delegate authority to the Director of City Services & Development and the Director of Finance & Legal Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member (Neighbourhood Action Housing Leisure and Culture) and the Cabinet Member (Strategic Finance and Resources) to:
 - (i) Approve the development of a detailed transition plan with the Trusts and the final savings profile for 2013/14 to achieve the Two Trusts operating model.
 - (ii) Agree the necessary financial means to achieve the objective of full transfer to a new Trust company, limited to a maximum level of one off funding as detailed in the Private Report to enable CHAT and CTM to implement the process of a managed wind-down and transfer to the new Trust to achieve the required savings. This will be linked to agreed measures in the grant/services agreements.
 - (iii) Agree the detail of Letters of Comfort (if required) by the Trusts' auditors in line with the financial parameters and objectives detailed in this report for signature by the Council's Section 151 Officer.
 - (iv) Take the necessary steps in conjunction with CHAT and CTM for the formation of the new company, its governance and membership arrangements and to agree any Member representation on its Board of Directors.
 - (v) Following the establishment of the new company, to authorise the Council to enter into a grant aid agreement and assign the current leases of Coventry Transport Museum, Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, Lunt Roman Fort and Priory Visitor Centre to the new company.

53. Canley Regeneration Programme – Land Disposal and Regeneration Proposals

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of City Services and Development which sought approval for the freehold sale, a revised disposals strategy and the package of investment proposals required to deliver the first phase of the Canley regeneration scheme agreed with the community.

A corresponding private report detailing financially confidential aspects of the proposals was also submitted to this meeting (Minute 59 below refers).

In March 2007, Cabinet approved in principle a programme of physical, social and economic regeneration in Canley, to be funded from the reinvestment of capital received from the sale of Council owned land within the Canley programme area. In addition, Cabinet agreed a procurement strategy for delivering the necessary receipts, based on a developer partner model, together with other measures that would ultimately deliver the regeneration scheme.

Following extensive survey and design work, a master plan for the holistic regeneration of Canley was agreed in consultation with the community, which was subsequently developed into an outline planning application. Outline planning permission was formally granted, in March 2010.

Market conditions and consequent changes in the way property companies fund developments had favoured an incremental approach to land disposals and, following comprehensive marketing of Site D (shown hatched on Plan 1 of the report), a freehold disposal had been provisionally agreed, for housing development.

The report outlined the community benefits, results of consultation undertaken and a proposed timetable for implementing the proposal.

RESOLVED that, after due consideration of the options and proposals contained in the report and matters referred to at the meeting, the Cabinet recommend that Council:

- (a) Delegate authority to the Director of City Services & Development and the Director of Finance and Legal Services in conjunction with the Cabinet Member (City Development), to conclude the freehold disposal of Site D, as detailed on the plan appended to the report.**
- (b) Delegate authority to the Director of City Services & Development and the Director of Finance and Legal Services in conjunction with the Cabinet Member (City Development) to procure and deliver the community benefits set out in paragraph 2.7 of the report.**

54. Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of City Services and Development which set out the position in respect of the Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway and sought approvals around the development agreement, leasehold transfer of land and approval of costs of sale.

A corresponding private report detailing financially confidential aspects of the proposals was also submitted to this meeting (Minute 60 below refers).

Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway was a major new development of strategic importance for Coventry and Warwickshire, delivering upwards of 14,000 new jobs for the region by creating circa 4.5million square feet of commercial space.

Following the unsuccessful bid by the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to have the site designated as an Enterprise Zone, both Warwick District Council and Coventry City Council have worked together to develop a strategy to bring the site into economic use with the developers Roxhill Developments who represent Rigby holdings who have the long leasehold interest in Coventry Airport.

The outline planning application for the development had been submitted in September 2012 to both Coventry City Council and Warwick District Council. It was anticipated that the applications should be considered by both Planning authorities before the end of the year.

Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway would also help deliver a new infrastructure solution with the Highways Agency having announced a major £100m road improvement scheme at Tollbar junction which will be married up to the Gateway scheme infrastructure.

The Council owned a significant proportion of the land within the proposed scheme area, the majority of which was currently agricultural land. It is the intention for the parties to enter into a conditional development agreement that ensured best value for the Councils land whilst giving the developer, Roxhill Developments the certainty that they required around assembling the site ahead of investing the significant at risk costs producing detailed development proposals for the overall site.

In order to prepare and progress an appropriate development agreement, the Council would incur up front legal, surveying and highway modelling fees which were proposed to be offset against any future disposal proceeds.

RESOLVED that, after due consideration of the options and proposals contained in the report and matters referred to at the meeting, the Cabinet recommend that Council:

- (a) Approve that negotiations continue with Roxhill for the Council to enter into a development agreement where it will dispose of a 999 year leasehold interest in land at best consideration to enable the comprehensive development of Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway.**
- (b) Delegate authority to the Director of City Services and Development and the Director of Finance in consultation with Cabinet Member for City Development to finalise the financial terms of the leasehold transfer of the Council's land.**
- (c) Delegate to the Director of City Services and Development the negotiation of vacant possession of part of the Council's land within Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway.**
- (d) Approve the upfront costs of sale which will be recovered from the sale proceeds should the disposals proceed.**

Private Business

57. Coventry City Centre Public Realm Legacy Phase 2

Further to Minute 51 above, the Cabinet considered a private report of the Director of City Services and Development which detailed which detailed financially confidential information in relation the second phase of the City Centre Public Realm Legacy.

RESOLVED that, after due consideration of the options and proposals contained in the report and matters referred to at the meeting, the Cabinet recommend that Council:

- (a) Approve the updated financing of Coventry 2012 Phase 1 as set out in section 5.1 of the report**
- (b) Approve the delegation of authority to the Cabinet Member (City Services) to agree the detailed works for schemes in Coventry 2012 Phase 2 as set out in appendices B, C and D and their implementation, subject to the availability of funding.**

58. Cultural Trusts Review

Further to Minute 52 above, the Cabinet considered a private report of the Chief Executive which outlined financially confidential aspects of the proposals in relation to the proposed new way forward for Coventry's cultural Trusts., recommending the Council support a merger of Coventry Heritage and Arts Trust (CHAT, including the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, The Lunt Roman Fort and Priory Visitor Centre) and Coventry Transport Museum (CTM) to form one new entity (which is most likely to be in the form of a company limited by guarantee or a trust), with the Belgrade Theatre continuing to operate independently as a separate theatre trust. For the purpose of the report, the new entity shall be referred to as a 'Trust' on the understanding that some other type of legal entity may be chosen.

The Wellness, Liveability and Public Health Scrutiny Board (1) had considered the report at their meeting held on 8th October 2012. A Briefing Note detailing their consideration of this item, together with the following recommendations, had been circulated and the Cabinet Member (Neighbourhood Action, Housing, Leisure and Culture) requested that those recommendations be approved by Cabinet:-

- (1) That the Wellness, Liveability and Public Health Scrutiny Board receive timely reports back on the implementation of the approved option.
- (2) That there is a clear communications strategy for publishing the reasons behind the proposed changes to the Trusts
- (3) That the Trusts work together to maximise opportunities to market their facilities and the City
- (4) The Board acknowledge the opportunities for the Trusts to raise income through fee charging touring exhibitions. However, they would like the Trusts

to be mindful of creating as many opportunities for Children and Young People in the City to access these exhibitions through group offers for example via schools and communities groups.

- (5) The Board wanted to encourage repeat visits to the heritage sites and suggested the Trusts consider, when selling tickets for touring events, allowing re-admittance on the same ticket for the duration of the exhibit.

RESOLVED that, after due consideration of the options and proposals contained in the report and matters referred to at the meeting, the Cabinet approved the above recommendations from the Wellness, Liveability and Public Health scrutiny Board (1) and recommend that Council:

- (a) Approve the recommended establishment of a new company limited by guarantee, to take over the existing premises, employees, assets, liabilities and contracts of CHAT and CTM, which would receive a phased total reduction of £393,000 per annum in Council grant/service fees by 2014/15.
- (b) Approve that the Belgrade Theatre remains a separate organisation with a phased reduction in the Belgrade Theatre grant to achieve a total reduction of £272,000 per annum in Council grant to the Theatre by 2014/15.
- (c) Delegate authority to the Director of City Services & Development and the Director of Finance & Legal Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member (Neighbourhood Action Housing Leisure and Culture) and the Cabinet Member (Strategic Finance and Resources) to:
- (i) Approve the development of a detailed transition plan with the Trusts and the final savings profile for 2013/14 to achieve the Two Trusts operating model.
- (ii) Agree the necessary financial means to achieve the objective of full transfer to a new Trust company, limited to a maximum level of one off funding as detailed in the Private Report to enable CHAT and CTM to implement the process of a managed wind-down and transfer to the new Trust to achieve the required savings. This will be linked to agreed measures in the grant/services agreements.
- (iii) Agree the detail of Letters of Comfort (if required) by the Trusts' auditors in line with the financial parameters and objectives detailed in this report for signature by the Council's Section 151 Officer.
- (iv) Take the necessary steps in conjunction with CHAT and CTM for the formation of the new company, its governance and membership arrangements and to agree any Member representation on its Board of Directors.

- (v) **Following the establishment of the new company, to authorise the Council to enter into a grant aid agreement and assign the current leases of Coventry Transport Museum, Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, Lunt Roman Fort and Priory Visitor Centre to the new company.**

59. Canley Regeneration Programme – Land Disposal and Regeneration Proposals

Further to Minute 53 above, the Cabinet considered a private report of the Director of City Services and Development which contained details of financially confidential information in respect of the proposals regarding the freehold sale, a revised disposals strategy and the package of investment proposals required to deliver the first phase of the Canley regeneration scheme agreed with the community.

RESOLVED that, after due consideration of the options and proposals contained in the report and matters referred to at the meeting, the Cabinet recommend that Council:

- (a) **Delegate authority to the Director of City Services & Development and the Director of Finance and Legal services in conjunction with the Cabinet Member (City Development), to conclude the freehold disposal of Site D, as detailed on the plan appended to the report.**
- (b) **Delegate authority to the Director of City Services & Development and the Director of Finance and Legal Services in conjunction with the Cabinet Member (City Development) to procure and deliver the community benefits set out in paragraph 2.7 of the report.**

60. Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway

Further to Minute 54 above, the Cabinet considered a private report of the Director of City Services and Development which contained details of financially confidential information in respect of the Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway and sought approvals around the development agreement, leasehold transfer of land and approval of costs of sale.

RESOLVED that, after due consideration of the options and proposals contained in the report and matters referred to at the meeting, the Cabinet recommend that Council:

- (a) **Approve that negotiations continue with Roxhill for the Council to enter into a development agreement where it will dispose of a 999 year leasehold interest in land at best consideration to enable the comprehensive development of Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway.**
- (b) **Delegate authority to the Director of City Services and Development and the Director of Finance in consultation with Cabinet Member (City**

Development) to finalise the financial terms of the leasehold transfer of the Council's land.

- (c) Delegate to the Director of City Services and Development the negotiation of vacant possession of part of the Council's land within Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway.**
- (d) Approve the upfront costs of sale which will be recovered from the sale proceeds should the disposals proceed.**

(Meeting closed at: 3.20 pm)

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Cabinet
Council

9th October 2012
23rd October 2012

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member (City Services) – Councillor Harvard

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Director of City Development and City Services

Ward(s) affected:

Wainbody, Woodlands, Westwood, Earlsdon, Whoberley, St Michaels, Radford, Foleshill, Holbook, Longford, Henley Wyken, Upper Stoke and St Michael's

Title:

Cycle Coventry – Local Sustainable Transport Fund

Is this a key decision?

Yes

The report is seeking approval to deliver a large package of cycling schemes totalling £6.926m. The schemes will be delivered in several wards in the southwest, north and northeast of Coventry.

Executive Summary:

The City Council submitted a bid in February 2012 to the Department for Transport's Local Sustainable Transport Fund. The objective of the fund is to deliver local transport schemes which help to support local economic growth and reduce carbon emissions. The bid was successful and secured £3.496m of funding for the period 2012/13 to 2014/15. The City Council was also a partner in a regional bid to the LSTF fund led by Centro. This bid was successful and secured £33.2m, of which £3.430m will be spent in Coventry. The overall scheme, titled Cycle Coventry, is made up of the two projects totalling £6.926m. The project will aim to improve facilities for pedestrians and cyclists in the southwest, north and northeast of the city by creating a network of cycle routes. The routes will link together major destinations such as employment and education sites, including the city centre, to residential areas such as Tile Hill, Canley, Henley and Foleshill. The network of routes will be supported by a large package of revenue grant funded initiatives which will offer practical sustainable transport information and training to local residents and workers. The project will also have a positive impact on improving public health by encouraging more people to cycle.

Recommendations:

Cabinet is asked to recommend that Council approve the following recommendations:

- (1) Approve the programme of capital schemes detailed in table 3 scheduled to take place in 2012/13; note the proposals for additional schemes in years two and three, and delegate these future approvals to the Cabinet Member (City Services).
- (2) Approve the package of revenue grant funded schemes detailed in table 4 and note the proposed revenue programme led by Centro detailed in table 5.
- (3) Approve the governance structure set out in appendix 2.
- (4) Delegate approval to sign legally binding funding agreements with Centro and the Department of Transport to support delivery of the regional LSTF project titled Smarter Network – Smarter Choices, and the local project titled Cycle Coventry to the Director of City Services and Development, in consultation with the Cabinet Member (City Services)

Council is asked to approve the above recommendations:

List of Appendices included:

Appendix 1 – Strategic plan of the proposed Cycle Coventry route network.

Appendix 2 – Project delivery structure

Other useful background papers:

Cycle Coventry Local Sustainable Transport Fund Bid: Cycle Coventry

http://www.coventry.gov.uk/info/200107/transport_policy/1000/local_sustainable_transport_fund_bids

Centro Local Sustainable Transport Fund Bid: Smart Network – Smarter Choices

<http://www.centro.org.uk/LTP/LSTF.aspx>

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No – They didn't receive this report or these proposals

Transport and Infrastructure Development Scrutiny Board (6) considered a Briefing Note and presentation on the scheme on 4th July 2012. It is proposed that the Scrutiny Board will receive a further report in due course.

Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

Yes

A Members Advisory Panel for transport has been set up which will consider the proposals throughout the duration of the project.

Will this report go to Council?

Yes – 23rd October, 2012

1. Context (or background)

1.1 In 2011 the government announced the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF). Local authorities were invited to submit bids to secure funding for local sustainable transport projects which help to reduce carbon emissions and encourage economic growth. The City Council submitted a detailed local bid titled Cycle Coventry in February 2012. The bid was successful in securing £3.496m of funding for a large package of capital and revenue projects.

Table 1 - Budget Profile for Local Project

£,000's	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	Total
Revenue funding	275	379.5	379.5	1,034
Capital funding	195	1,319	948	2,462
Total	470	1,698.5	1,327.5	3,496

1.2 In addition, the City Council was a partner in a regional major scheme bid to the LSTF which was led by Centro. The bid included a £35.1m package of sustainable transport schemes covering the West Midlands Metropolitan area. The final bid was successful and secured £33.2m. Of this allocation, it is proposed that at least £3,430m will be spent in Coventry.

Table 2 - Budget Profile for Coventry Element of Centro LSTF Project

£,000's	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	Total
Revenue funding	274.1	550.8	705.1	1,530
Capital funding	500	760	640	1,900
Total	774.1	1310.8	1,345.1	3,430

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

2.1 To address the two main objectives of the fund, reducing carbon and promoting economic growth, both bids were focused on improving facilities to encourage cycling to major employment areas.

2.2 Cycling was chosen as the main focus of the bids for many reasons. Coventry is a very compact city with the majority of residents living within three miles of the city centre, a distance which can be easily cycled, yet over half of commuter journeys of less than 3 miles (a 20 minute cycle ride) are currently made by car. Secondly there are several areas of the city with very low levels of car ownership and many residents must rely on public transport or walking and cycling which can create barriers to access employment. With recent successes in British cycling at the Olympics, Paralympics and the Tour De France, there is also an increased level of enthusiasm for people wanting to start cycling, a feature which this project has the opportunity to build on to maintain this positive momentum.

- 2.3 The main objective of the project is therefore to increase levels of cycling, and this will be achieved in two ways. Firstly cycling will be made easier through the creation of a coherent and safe cycle network that will link together the main residential areas, employment areas, local centres, railway stations and the city centre. Secondly the capital improvements will be supported by a large package of revenue schemes which will provide support to those who live, work or study in the area. This will include the provision of sustainable transport information such as cycle maps, and practical support and education such as cycle training and road safety. These types of measures are essential to help support people who want to take up cycling, but do not possess the necessary skills and confidence.
- 2.4 The main outcomes of the project will be reductions in congestion, carbon emissions and improvements to public health, road safety, air quality and accessibility. The City Council now has new public health responsibilities and this project would clearly have mutual benefits in terms of addressing local public health objectives. Currently levels of child and adult obesity in Coventry are higher than the national average with corresponding lower life expectancy which is notably acute in deprived areas of the city, many of which fall within the boundaries of this project. Representatives from the public health sector have, and will continue to be involved in the development and implementation of the Cycle Coventry project.
- 2.5 The project focuses on the north and southwest of the city for several reasons. Firstly, the southwest area forms an important sector of the city from both a residential and employment point of view. Secondly, a large proportion of the area is identified as a strategic regeneration area in the city's emerging Core Strategy, such as Canley. Thirdly, an analysis of social, transport and economic issues shows that there are significant economic, social and health disparities between different parts of the bid area which are exacerbated by transport and accessibility issues. The north area suffers from high levels of deprivation, low levels of car ownership and there are generally higher levels of obesity linked to inactivity. Many of the major roads in both bid areas act as a deterrent for cyclists and it was also decided that concentrating on defined areas of the city would help boost the effectiveness of targeted measures by ensuring that they are not spread too thinly.
- 2.6 During the development of the bid, local businesses, cycle users and other City Council departments were consulted. This helped formulate the package of schemes including the network of cycle routes. This engagement will continue throughout the duration of the project. It is likely therefore that some variations to the proposed capital and revenue schemes detailed below will take place during this consultation process as schemes develop in more detail. This includes consultation with the general public on specific schemes and the newly formed Cycle Coventry Advisory Group. The main aim of the group will be to act as champions for cycling in the city and proactively add value to the project. The group is central to the development of scheme proposals and have led on shaping the contents of the year one programme contained in this report. Further work with this group will continue during the development process for schemes in years two and three.

- 2.7 An indicative network of cycle routes has been developed and is shown in Appendix 1. The network is made up of a series of individual corridors, each with clear strategic purpose. In most cases the objective of each route will be to improve cycle links between major trip attractors and surrounding residential areas. The Cycle Coventry Advisory Group will be an integral part of developing these routes.
- 2.8 The quality of existing cycle route provision in the city is mixed. Although good progress has been made in some areas, many existing routes are not continuous, are unsigned, and do not operate as a comprehensive clearly defined network. An important feature of the cycle route planning process adopted as part of this project is to join up and upgrade existing routes to complete sections of the network.
- 2.9 It is proposed that £100,000 of the funding from the local project in the second year of the programme will be used to improve conditions for cyclists in the city centre. This funding will support the proposed package of measures in phase two of the city centre public realm works. The project is also proposing to upgrade several existing routes which are currently well used, but are significantly substandard in terms of design standards. For example the Sowe valley footpath is a significant asset for the city in terms of access to green space and as a route linking major attractors such as the hospital to residential areas. However the path is very narrow and is generally in poor condition, muddy and inaccessible. It is proposed to significantly upgrade the path along several key sections to enable new and less experienced cyclists and people with disabilities to access the route more easily and safely. The upgraded route will link into the sections of the Sowe Valley between Henley Road and Hillmorton Road which have recently been upgraded to allow cycling. Building these routes to a higher specification will also reduce on-going maintenance issues which can be exacerbated by flooding.
- 2.10 A Coventry Cycle Strategy is currently being developed as part of the city council's transport strategy. This will include a plan for a strategic network of cycle routes across the city. The routes proposed in the Cycle Coventry project form part of this network, and in effect will be the first phase of the delivery of this plan.
- 2.11 The strategy will set out best practice to help address safety concerns on cycle routes such as potential conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists on shared routes. It is likely that the Cycle Coventry route network will consist of different types of route design including shared use. It will be important therefore that these routes are carefully designed and monitored to ensure that any safety concerns are addressed. A large part of addressing safety issues can also be achieved through education such as cycle training and campaigns that give clear messages about how cyclists should behave when using cycle routes.
- 2.12 The routes proposed through the Cycle Coventry project will be developed and constructed over the next two and half years up to 31 March 2015. Funding is provided as grant and cannot be carried over between financial years and must therefore be spent in accordance with the spend profile detailed in tables 1 and 2. The table below shows the proposed programme of schemes which will be delivered in year 1.

Table 3: Capital Schemes 2012/13

Regional Project	Smarter Network, Smarter Choices	(£000's)
Route	Scheme Description	Year 1 2012/13
Route 1 City centre to Holbrooks	This will create a largely on-carriageway cycle route between the city centre and Prologis Park via the Ricoh Arena. Year one schemes will concentrate on signing the route and addressing busy road crossing points.	75
Route 2 City centre to Hawkesbury	Schemes in year one will address the lack of cycle facilities between the southern end of Stoney Stanton Road and the city centre.	90
Route 3 City centre to Wyken, Longford and Hospital	Year one funding will be concentrated on building a large section of the Sowe Valley route.	335
Total		500
Local Project	Cycle Coventry	(£000's)
Route	Scheme Description	Year 1 2012/13
Route 4 Bannerbrook Park to City Centre	This will be used to carry out design work for schemes programmed in years two and three.	5
Route 5 Bannerbrook Park to University / Westwood Business Park	This will be used to carry out design work for schemes programmed in years two and three.	10
Route 6 Kenilworth to City Centre	This will be used to carry out design work for schemes programmed in years two and three and improving the route between Westwood/Canley and the city centre	50
Route 7 - University / to City Centre	Funding in year one will be concentrated on creating a new cycle link into Coventry Station on Eaton Road which is currently one-way for cyclists. This will complete the important and recently improved pedestrian and cycle route between Bull Yard and Coventry Station	130
Total		195

- 2.13 The capital projects will be supported by a package of revenue measures which will help support the training and educational needs of new cyclists. This project is fairly unique in having this level of resource available and creates a real opportunity to showcase what can be achieved if sufficient high quality levels of support are offered to people wanting to take up cycling.
- 2.14 The revenue scheme will enable training and information to be offered to local businesses and residents through a small team of trained officers. The concept will be based on the successful Bike It project, and will include cycle training for residents and local employees of all ages. The officers will also be responsible for identifying local champions to help maintain enthusiasm and support cycling beyond the life of this project.
- 2.15 Local events funded by the project will be important to both engage with local people and raise the profile of cycling in the city. It is planned that the first event will take place in October 2012 to act as launch event for the project.
- 2.16 The indicative package of revenue schemes in table 4 will be managed and delivered by the City Council using DfT grant funding. The indicative package of revenue schemes in table 5 will be managed by Centro and funded by revenue grant secured through the regional project. Members are not therefore being asked to approve table 5 and this is for information purposes.

Table 4: Proposed Revenue Programme (Local project)

Scheme	2012/13 (£000's)	Description
Project Delivery Support	20	This allocation will be used to support the overall management of programme of works
Marketing, Communications and Events	45	This budget will fund the production of materials such as maps and leaflets, and support the development of branding. These materials will be distributed to local residents and businesses through the Cycle Coventry team. The budget will also be used to organise events to publicise the project and cycling in general.
Education and Skills	35	This budget will be used to provide support to work with and offer assistance to local colleges and universities to help promote cycling to staff and students. This will include an offer of cycling training.
Employment	60	This budget will be used to fund work with local businesses to promote cycling to their staff. This will be supported by training and practical assistance to staff wanting to take up cycling. The budget also includes an allocation for grants to part fund cycle parking at local businesses
Community and Residential	16	This budget will be used to fund work with local residents to offer travel training and advice and promote the cycle routes. This work will also be able to pick up and act on issues raised by local residents.
Supporting Measures	20	This budget will be used to fund cycle training schemes which will be offered to local residents and workers at local businesses. It will also be used to carry out cycle maintenance which is often a significant barrier to cycling.
Monitoring and Evaluation	8	The budget will be used to support monitoring so that the effectiveness of the scheme can be assessed, such as manual cycle counts and surveys with local staff and residents.
Maintenance	70	This budget will be used to carry out minor maintenance works which will directly benefit cyclists, for example, remarking and resurfacing of cycle routes.
Total	275	

Table 5: Indicative Revenue Programme (Regional project led by Centro)

Scheme	2012/13 (£000's)	Description
Project Delivery	37	This allocation will support the co-ordination of the smarter choice measures.
Marketing and Communications	72	This budget will fund the production of materials such as maps, leaflets, and support the development of branding. The budget will also be used to organise events to publicise the project and cycling in general.
Education and Skills	22	This budget will be used to fund an officer who will work with local schools to help promote cycling to staff and students. This will include an offer of cycling training.
Employment	63	The budget will be used to engage with local businesses with an offer of support, grants and training initiatives such as Workwise and cycle parking.
Community and Residential	0 (in year one)	This project is programmed for year three and will involve engagement with local residents to promote sustainable travel.
Supporting Measures	58	This budget will be used to fund cycle training schemes which will be offered to local residents and workers at local businesses. It will also be used to carry out cycle maintenance which is often a significant barrier to cycling.
Monitoring and Evaluation	22	The budget will be used to monitor and evaluate the project through surveys, focus groups and websites
Total	274.1	

2.17 A clear structure has been set up to undertake the delivery of both the capital and revenue schemes which make up the Cycle Coventry project. The proposed structure is shown in

appendix 2. Clearly with both the local and Centro projects being delivered within a similar timescales with very similar objectives, it is logical to share resources between the two projects. There is mutual agreement with Centro that this joint working arrangement should be achieved. This arrangement will also address the issue of local decision making being integral to the regionally funded scheme which is being delivered on the local highway. It will also help to ensure consistency of the approach to marketing, branding and events between the two projects which is essential to provide residents with a clear consistent message.

- 2.18 The northern regional project will be led and funded by Centro, however much of the capital funding will be spent at the local level through a partnership between Centro and City Council officers. The regionally funded package of revenue scheme will be managed and led by Centro, however local officers will remain as a partner in the delivery process. Centro have their own separate governance arrangements and financial and management process in place. In order to access funding in accordance with Centro's governance arrangements, we are required to sign up to a Heads of Terms which sets out how this will be achieved. This report is seeking approval to delegate the power to sign up to these Heads of Terms to the Director of City Services and Development.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

- 3.1 During the development of the bid local businesses such as Barclays, Eon and the University of Warwick were involved to help capture local issues and needs. Information was also gathered from existing consultations such as the Canley and NDC regeneration schemes which helped to inform the bid.
- 3.2 Further consultation will be carried out during the implementation stage of the project to involve local residents and other local businesses and cyclists in the detail of the various schemes.
- 3.3 A new group called the Cycle Coventry Advisory Group has been set up specifically to involve local cyclists in the development and delivery of the projects. The group is identified in the structure chart in appendix 2. This is an important part of both the delivery process, but will also help to support the wider engagement and legacy process through existing external networks and groups.
- 3.4 A large part of the project funding, approximately a third, will be used to employ staff to deliver a series of Smarter Choices projects. These projects will involve offers of assistance and advice to new cyclists as well also picking up local issues which create barriers to allowing people to cycle.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

- 4.1 Delivery of the project will commence immediately and will be completed by March 2015. The funding profiles are shown in tables 1 and 2 above.

5. Comments from Director of Finance and Legal Services

5.1 Financial implications

The three year resources of up to £6.926m to fund the schemes within this project are all grant funding from the DfT. Of this, £3.496m is direct funding to Coventry for which the Council will be the lead accountable body. In addition, further capital grant funding of up to £1.9m is available via the regional Major Scheme for which Centro are the lead Accountable body. Any resources successfully drawn down from Centro will effectively become Coventry City Council grant for delivery of outputs and risk purposes.

5.2 Legal implications

The Department of Transport invited bids for funding under the Local Sustainable Transport Fund. The Council has secured funding for its bid and is also a part of a bid by Centro. Grant conditions will be imposed by the Department of Transport and Centro as to the use of the funding and outputs derived from it.

6. Other implications

6.1 The project will help to deliver a range of corporate objectives, including:

- Promoting local economic growth and reducing carbon emissions and congestion
- Improving access to employment and local services, particularly for those who do not have a car
- Improving health, personal security and safety
- Improving air quality and the local environment

6.2 How is risk being managed?

A project board consisting of senior responsible officers is being set up to guide the delivery of the project. This will include the management of risks during delivery and will include the use of a risk register to help mitigate and manage risks. The programme will be delivered alongside the existing transportation capital programme in terms of financial management. The overall programme consists of a large package of smaller projects which are relatively small scale therefore minimising risks.

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

Where possible projects will be delivered using existing in-house resources. Much of the physical delivery will be carried out by the DLO. Support from external organisations may however be required to deliver a large programme within a tight timescale, however any such assistance will be funded within the LSTF budget and will not require any additional corporate resources.

6.4 Equalities / EIA

No equality impact assessment has been carried out as the recommendations do not constitute a change in services or policy

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) the environment

One of the principal objectives of the project is to reduce carbon emissions from transport. The encouragement of more walking and cycling will only have a direct positive impact on helping to achieve both climate change and air quality targets. Many of the schemes will also have a positive impact on the built environment such as the completion of the route between Coventry station and the city centre.

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

Although the City Council will be leading on the implementation of the bid, there will be a number of partner organisations involved in the project. Centro will clearly be a main partner, as outlined above. Local businesses have also been involved in the formulation of the bid and will benefit from the outputs of the project such as new cycle routes and cycle training. The local community will also be involved in aspects of delivery through consultation, and will also benefit from the outputs and outcomes of the schemes proposed.

Report author(s):

Nigel Mills

Name and job title:

Transport Policy Manager

Directorate:

CSDD

Tel and email contact:

024 7683 2169 nigel.mills@coventry.gov.uk

Enquiries should be directed to the above person.

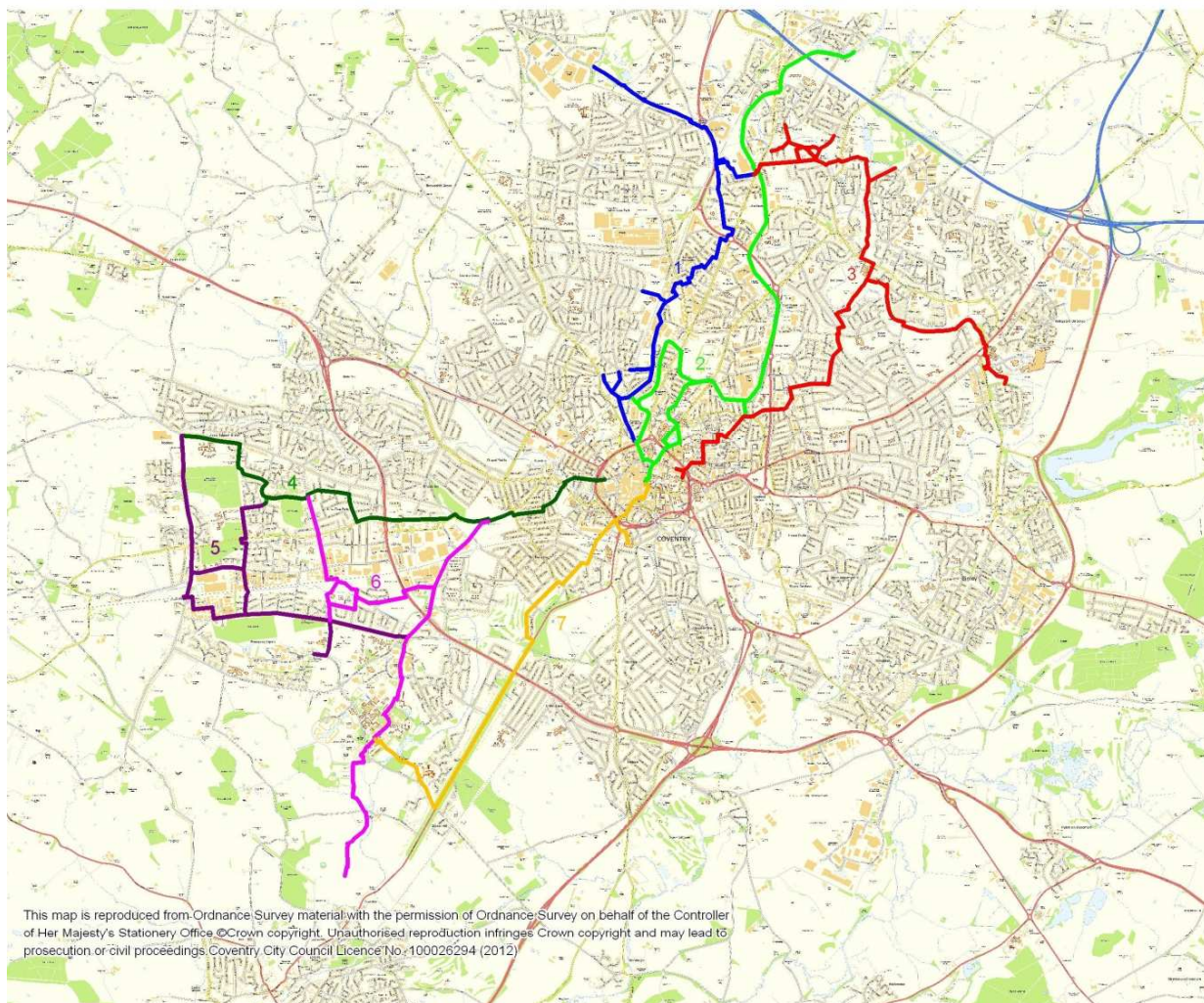
Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
Contributors:				
Colin Knight	Head of Planning Transport and Highways	CSDD	28/08/12	29/08/2012
Other members				
Names of approvers for submission: (officers and members)				
Finance: Phi Helm & Ian Brindley	Finance Manager	Finance & legal	28/08/12	03/09/2012 & 29/08/2012
Legal: Clarissa Evans	Commercial Team Manager	Finance & legal	28/08/12	29/08/2012
Suzanne Bennett	Governance Services	Customer and Workforce Services	05/09/12	06/09/2012
Director: Martin Yardley	Director	CSDD	04/09/12	05/09/2012
Members: Name				
Councillor Harvard	Cabinet Member City Services	-	04/09/12	06/09/2012

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Appendix 1

Cycle Coventry - Indicative Cycle Route Network



- Route 1 - City centre to Ricoh Arena, including links to Radford
- Route 2 - City Centre to Hawkesbury via Hillfields and Coventry Canal
- Route 3 - City centre to Longford via Henley, with spur to hospital
- Route 4 - City centre to Tile Hill
- Route 5 - Tile Hill to Canley
- Route 6 - Links to Kenilworth
- Route 7 - City centre to Kenilworth via University of Warwick



Cabinet
Council

9 October 2012
23 October 2012

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member (Strategic Finance and Resources) – Councillor Duggins

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Director of Customer and Workforce Services

Ward(s) affected:

None

Title:

The Application of Transition Arrangements to Pension Auto-Enrolment

Is this a key decision?

Yes

The proposals within the report have financial implications for the Council in excess of £500k per annum.

Executive Summary:

From October 2012 the law on workplace pensions is changing and employers are required to automatically enrol their 'eligible' workers into a workplace pension.

There are various 'staging' dates when employers must begin the automatic enrolment into their pension schemes. The City Council will begin to apply automatic enrolment from 31 March 2013.

However, the pension auto-enrolment requirements allow employers to delay auto-enrolment for eligible workers and apply a 'transition' period. In effect, this means that the Council could opt to delay auto-enrolment until 30 September 2017, subject to certain conditions.

There are significant financial benefits to the Council of applying the transition period. Were the Council to auto-enrol the eligible employees into the pension scheme in April 2013, the additional cost of the employer's pension contribution would be in the region of £3M - £4M per annum. This would add a further significant financial pressure in an already challenging financial climate.

There is also an opportunity to utilise a 'postponement' facility for all employees for whom auto-enrolment still applies (e.g. new starters). Postponement provides a short-window of delay that gives the employee more time to consider whether they want to join or opt out of the scheme. If these employees are auto-enrolled and leave the scheme in the first month, the contributions

cannot be reclaimed by either the City Council or the employee. Postponement enables the City Council and the employee to avoid these costs.

Recommendations:

Cabinet

Cabinet is requested to recommend that Council applies the transition arrangements in order to delay pension auto-enrolment until September 2017

Cabinet is also requested to recommend to Council to apply the 'postponement' option in order to ensure the avoidance of costs incurred by any new starters who decide to opt out of the pension scheme

Council

Council are recommended to apply the transition arrangements in order to delay pension auto-enrolment until September 2017.

Council are recommended to apply the 'postponement' option in order to ensure the avoidance of costs incurred by any new starters who decide to opt out of the pension scheme

List of Appendices included:

None

Other useful background papers:

None

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No

Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

Yes: 23 October 2012

Report title: The Application of Transition Arrangements to Pension Auto-Enrolment

1. Context (or background)

- 1.1 From October 2012 the law on workplace pensions is changing and employers will be required to automatically enrol their 'eligible' workers into a workplace pension. There are various 'staging' dates when employers must begin automatic enrolment into their pension schemes. The City Council will begin to apply automatic enrolment from 31 March 2013.
- 1.2 The pension auto-enrolment requirements allow employers to delay auto-enrolment for eligible workers and apply a 'transition' period. In effect, this means that the City Council can opt to delay auto-enrolment until 30 September 2017, subject to certain conditions.
- 1.3 There is also an opportunity to utilise 'postponement' for all employees for whom auto-enrolment still applies (e.g. new starters). Postponement provides a short-window of delay that gives the employee the more time to consider whether they want to join or opt out of the scheme. If these employees are auto-enrolled and leave the scheme after the first month, the contributions cannot be reclaimed by either the City Council or the employee. Postponement enables the City Council and the employee to avoid these costs.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 2.1 The option of delaying auto-enrolment to September 2017 has been carefully considered and it is recommended that the transition arrangements be applied in order to avoid the additional costs (assessed to be in the region of £3M - £4M) that would otherwise fall on the City Council.
- 2.2 It is also recommended that the postponement facility is applied to ensure that costs are avoided (by both the Council and the employee) where an employee decides to leave the pension scheme during the first month.
- 2.3 There are significant financial benefits to the City Council of applying the transition arrangements. If the City Council were to auto-enrol the eligible employees into the pension scheme on 31 March 2013, the additional cost of the employer's pension contribution has been assessed to be in the region of £3M - £4M per annum. This would add a further significant financial pressure in an already challenging financial climate.
- 2.4 There are 1161 employees who are eligible to join the Local Government Pension scheme, and a further 117 employees who are eligible to join the Teachers Pension Scheme. All of these employees have previously been given the opportunity to join the appropriate pension scheme (i.e. Local Government or Teachers scheme) but have either made the decision not to join in the first place, or initially joined the relevant pension scheme but have since opted out.
- 2.5 If all the current eligible employees were brought into the pension scheme on 31 March 2013 it is possible that some employees would subsequently opt out again. This would clearly reduce the projected £3M - £4M additional cost. However, there is no guarantee or certainty about the level of further opt-out. In addition, if employees did not opt out within a one month period of their admission date, any employee or employer contributions paid would not be refunded

- 2.6 The application of the transition arrangements will not disadvantage the eligible employees as they can choose to join the pension scheme at any point. It is important to stress that many employees have already made the decision to either opt out of the pension scheme, or not to join in the first place. If the transition arrangements are not applied this will result in significant numbers of employees who have already made a specific decision about their pension arrangements (including for reasons of affordability) being placed into (or back into) the pension scheme. During the course of the transition period the City Council will encourage these employees to join (or re-join) the pension scheme but will recognise that for many it has been a carefully made decision not to be a member of the scheme.
- 2.7 The transition rules do not apply to new starters and assessment would take place on their start date alongside continuance monitoring of their pension position.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

- 3.1 No consultation is required regarding the application of the transition arrangements. However, employees and trade unions will be advised and kept informed of the implications of the revised pension arrangements.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

- 4.1 Arrangements will be made to immediately commence communicating to employees regarding the changes to pension arrangements

5. Comments from Director of Finance and Legal Services

- 5.1 Financial implications:

If the full provisions of auto-enrolment were to be implemented from April 2013, initial estimates are that the maximum additional financial cost of City Council employer pension contributions would be between £3m and £4m. These costs have not been factored into our existing medium term financial plans. The transition option proposed within this report will delay a significant element of this financial impact until 2017.

Even if transition is deployed, it remains likely that a higher proportion of the workforce will join the scheme as a result of the increased publicity and notifications surrounding auto-enrolment and the need to auto-enrol all new starters. It is difficult to estimate the immediate financial impact of this although it is likely that some budgetary provision already exists for employer pension contributions for some individual employees that are not in the scheme currently. Further work will be undertaken to ensure that any additional costs are factored into the budget setting process for the 2013/14 financial year although these will not be in the same order of magnitude as the costs of full implementation quoted above.

The report proposes using the postponement option for employees such as new starters for whom auto-enrolment still applies. Postponement will help the Council to avoid incurring un-reclaimable short-term pension contributions that would otherwise be paid to the pension scheme for employees who are auto-enrolled and then opt out immediately. Postponement will also help to avoid a significant amount of administrative effort in dealing with such cases.

The long-term cost of auto-enrolment will be built into the Council's medium term financial plans reflecting auto-enrolment experience elsewhere and detailed analysis of pension scheme membership in Coventry.

- 5.2 Legal implications

Changes to the automatic enrolment regime were made through the Pensions Act 2011 and final regulations were published in February 2012. The Pensions Regulator also has produced detailed guidance for employers and schemes on implementing the reforms.

6. Other implications

6.1 How will this contribute to achievement of the Council's key objectives / corporate priorities (corporate plan/scorecard) / organisational blueprint / Local Area Agreement (or Coventry Sustainable Community Strategy)?

The application of the transition arrangement for pension auto-enrolment will avoid significant additional costs falling on the City Council which would adversely impact upon the Medium Term Financial Strategy

6.2 How is risk being managed?

The risk associated with not applying the transition arrangements in respect of pension auto-enrolment is that further financial pressure could result. Delaying auto-enrolment to September 2017 will reduce the risk to the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

None

6.4 Equalities / EIA

The Public Sector Equality Duty requires the Council to have due regard to three specified matters in the exercise of their functions:

- a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
- c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

The duty covers the protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, **religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation**. It also applies to marriage and civil partnership, but only in respect of the requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination.

For a number of years there has been automatic enrolment into the pension scheme by the Council for any employee issued with a contract of more than 3 months and who is over the age of 18 but under the age of 75. The only impact of this transition period will be upon people who have already opted out of the scheme or chosen not to join in the first instance.

The pension scheme and the Council regularly run briefing and publicity campaigns to encourage take up of membership of the scheme. During the transition period the Council will positively encourage such individuals to rejoin the scheme but is aware, of course, it is their personal choice as to whether to join the scheme or not. The cohort of 1278 employees who are currently not in the scheme will be further analysed and communication will be targeted accordingly.

In addition, all new starters will automatically be enrolled into the scheme after a period of one month but it is acknowledged they may, however, exercise personal choice to subsequently opt out as has happened in the past.

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) the environment

None

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

None

Report author:

Name and Job title:

Sue Iannantuoni, Assistant Director (Human Resources)

Directorate:

Customer and Workforce Services

Tel and email contact:

024 7683 3020 sue.iannantuoni@coventry.gov.uk

Enquiries should be directed to the above person.

Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
Contributors:				
Jon Venn	Senior HR Manager	CWS	27/9/12	27/9/12
Other members				
Names of approvers for submission: (officers and members)				
Finance: Paul Jennings	Finance Manager	Finance & legal	27/9/12	27/9/12
Legal: John Scarborough	Corporate Governance & Litigation Manager	Finance & legal	27/9/12	27/9/12
Director: Bev Messinger	Director	CWS	27/9/12	27/9/12
Members: Cllr Duggins	Cabinet Member		27/9/12	27/9/12

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Public report Cabinet Report

A separate report is submitted in the private part of the agenda in respect of this item, as it contains details of financial information required to be kept private in accordance with Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. The grounds for privacy are that it refers to the identity, financial and business affairs of an organisation other than the Council.

Cabinet
Council

9th October, 2012
23rd October, 2012

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member (City Services) – Councillor Harvard

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Director of City Services and Development

Ward(s) affected:

St Michaels

Title: Coventry City Centre Public Realm Phase 2

Is this a key decision?

Yes

The report sets out a large programme of expenditure (up to £2.833M).

Executive Summary:

The successful completion of the city centre public realm projects (approved by Cabinet on 21 January 2011 and 8 November 2011) at the end of June has resulted in an extremely positive reaction from residents, developers, investors and visitors to the city, particularly during the Olympic Games this summer. The public realm works focused on making key routes around the city centre attractive and welcoming, and helped to highlight some of the city centre's assets to residents and visitors alike. As well as boosting civic pride in the city, new assets like Broadgate are already having a positive impact on the retail offer in the city, with footfall figures in the Upper Precinct boosted by more than 10% during the fortnight the International Market was held on Broadgate. New financial options have now provided the Council with an opportunity to continue and enhance these public realm works to further encourage investment and regeneration and complement the works already completed.

It is important to note that the first phase was completed on time, despite the extremely short timescale, with only a 1.85% variation in budget – a considerable achievement given the speed of design and build.

This report proposes a total budget for the second phase of up to £2.833m. It is proposed that this would comprise money either released from existing agreements, additional monies provided

by Centro and the private sector, and existing uncommitted City Council resources earmarked for highways and street lighting. No additional call on corporate resources is proposed. It is proposed that the principal schemes will be High Street, the area in front of the Council House; Earl Street; the second access to Pool Meadow (funded by Centro) and associated works to Fairfax Street; Belgrade junction; and Queen Victoria Road/Lidice Place/Spon Street. It is proposed that these works will be completed by Summer 2013.

As with Phase 1, these works do not require funding from the Council's highways maintenance programme (other than where maintenance is due on a 'worst first' basis).

Recommendations:

Cabinet are requested to recommend that Council approve:

1. The updated financing of Coventry 2012 Phase 1 as set out in section 5.1 of the report
2. The delegation of authority to the Cabinet Member (City Services) to agree the detailed works for schemes in Coventry 2012 Phase 2 as set out in appendices B, C and D and their implementation subject to the availability of funding.

Council are requested to approve the above recommendations

List of Appendices included:

- Appendix A – Phase 1 schemes completed
- Appendix B – Phase 2 schemes and cost estimates
- Appendix C – Scheme descriptions
- Appendix D – Plan of phase 1 and phase 2 schemes
- Appendix E – Proposed Governance Arrangements

Other useful background papers:

- Cabinet Report: Coventry 2012 Public Realm – 21st January 2011
- Cabinet Report: Coventry 2012 Public Realm – 8th November 2011

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No

Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

Yes – 23rd October, 2012

1. Context (or background)

1.1 The background to the Coventry 2012 Public Realm Project was covered in a report to Cabinet on 21st January 2011. Cabinet approved a programme (as modified by the report to Cabinet on 8th November 2011) to deliver a programme of infrastructure and public realm improvements to:

- Promote regeneration of the city centre
- Provide a lasting legacy for the people of Coventry City Council
- Engender a feeling of pride in Coventry and ensure that the many visitors in 2012 leave with a positive image of the city.

1.2 The Coventry 2012 works are already having a major impact in terms of regeneration. For example:

- The creation of a new square for Broadgate is already having a positive impact on retail trade in the city centre, particularly when large events are being held in the square that are encouraging visitors and residents into the city centre. Total footfall across the city centre was up 3.1% when the International Market was held in Broadgate from 1 August to 12 August, with footfall at the top of Upper Precinct being up 10.6%;
- Cathedral Lanes: following completion of the new look Broadgate, the owners have proposed an ambitious scheme to completely transform the look of the building and to introduce bars and restaurants which will completely revitalise the Broadgate area;
- Bishopgate: Barberry, the developer, has stated that one of the drivers for them investing in Coventry has been the investment in the public realm.

1.3 The Cabinet Report of 8th November split the Coventry 2012 works into committed (and funded) and uncommitted schemes; these were classified in that report as 'green' and 'yellow' schemes respectively. In line with the recommendations of the report, the schemes were subject to rigorous value engineering and further funding was identified, thus enabling some of the uncommitted schemes to be completed in time for July 2012. This programme of works is now referred to as Phase 1 and Appendix A lists the schemes completed.

1.4 A major achievement has been ensuring that overall construction costs have been on target. A significant contributor to this has been the use of the Council's Direct Labour Organization (DLO) on the majority of Station to Bull Yard which resulted in significant cost savings. However, set against this, has been a loss of grant (totalling £140,000) and cost increases because of increased professional fees and site running costs arising from the exceptionally wet weather which prolonged the contract. The net result is a shortfall of funding for Phase 1 of £260,000.

1.5 As part of developing the funding package referred to in the 8th November 2011 Cabinet Report, almost £1 million has been negotiated from previously committed capital funding in return for a commitment to spend on public realm schemes in the city centre. This provides the opportunity to develop a Phase 2 to build on and complement the benefits achieved from Phase 1. The aim of Phase 2 is to complete the provision of high quality public realm based on the 'medieval' routes linking major attractions and development sites within the city centre as shown in Appendix D. The Cycling Coventry project (see separate report to this Cabinet) will complement the Phase 2 works by providing high quality links into and out of the city centre for cyclists and pedestrians.

1.6 Other opportunities for Phase 2 result from discussions with the private sector which is keen to work with the City Council to improve the city centre. Additionally, Centro have allocated funding for the creation of a second access to Pool Meadow on the basis of establishing a comprehensive scheme which includes the re-engineering of a section of Fairfax Street.

2 Options considered and recommended proposal

2.1 **Option 1 Do minimum:** The Phase 1 schemes have been designed so that they are free standing and not reliant on any further phases. For minimal investment (up to £50,000), the de-cluttering exercise could be completed. Furthermore, given the benefits outlined in paragraph 1.2 resulting from the investment to date, there is a very good case to complete the transformation of the city centre roads and pavements to ensure Coventry is best placed to take advantage of the next economic upturn. It should also be noted that over £1 million of the funding identified for Phase 2 is tied to city centre improvements.

2.2 **Option 2 Implement all or part of Phase 2:** Appendix B sets out the full list of Phase 2 proposals. This is as per the list provided in the 8th November Cabinet Report with the addition of the second access at Pool Meadow and new junctions to replace the signals by the Belgrade Theatre and the Police Station. The scheme to replace the signals by the Belgrade has arisen from ongoing operational difficulties with the existing signals.

2.3 Appendix C provides a more detailed description and justification of the schemes and Appendix D shows how Phase 1 and Phase 2 schemes combine to provide a comprehensive transformation of the city. The outcome will be a network of high quality routes linking existing attractions and proposed development sites.

2.4 The total estimated construction value of the Phase 2 schemes (including professional fees) is £2.833M. The table below sets out the proposed funding sources:

Funding Source	Amount £'000
Capital programme (previously approved)	993
Centro	250
Private sector contribution (potential)	200 (min)
Maintenance programme	50
Cycling Coventry	100
Revenue Street Lighting Legacy Budget	500 (13/14 and 14/15)
LTP	1000 (13/14 and 14/15)
TOTAL	3,093 (min)

2.5 The above funding would fully fund the balance of Phase 1 and achieve all of the proposed Phase 2 works and fees, subject to external contributions coming to fruition. However, timing of spend would not fully match the timing of resources as approximately £750k of the proposed resources are not available until 2014/15. If approved, this would require cashflowing the accelerated spend within the current and forthcoming capital programmes.

2.6 It is proposed that the DLO delivers all of the Phase 2 works. Experience using the DLO on Phase 1 has demonstrated excellent value for money and the quality has also been good. The use of the DLO also allows for greater cost control and reduces risk in the face of design changes or unforeseen circumstances given our ability to redeploy teams flexibly and quickly when needed.

2.7 Appendix B sets out Phase 2 schemes in priority order; the availability or otherwise of external funding and changes to council finances may amend this order.

- 2.8 In addition to the schemes listed in Appendix B, there are also proposals being developed to continue the improvements along Gosford Street beyond the ring road flyover. These proposals are being developed in partnership with Coventry University; the timescale will be dependent on negotiations with the University. There are also proposals to remove the footbridge over the Ring Road at the top of Bishop Street and to replace it with a surface level crossing to improve access to the canal basin. This future scheme, to be funded through a section 106 agreement linked to the Barberry development, will complete a key link in the cross city centre route from the railway station to the canal basin, and will be the subject of a subsequent report.
- 2.9 The advantage of implementing Phase 2 over a short period of time is that it will complete the transformation of the driving environment within the city centre by creating consistency thus helping reduce speeds and improve conditions for pedestrians and cyclists. This is particularly relevant in view of the Cycling Coventry project and our ability to extend good quality walking and cycling routes out into the suburbs.
- 2.10 To oversee the delivery of Phase 2, to minimize risk and to ensure value for money, a comprehensive governance arrangement is proposed as set out in Appendix E. This is similar to the arrangement for Phase 1 but is less reliant on external support in order to reduce costs.

3.0 Results of consultation undertaken

- 3.1 A public consultation exercise was undertaken in early 2011 which resulted in significant changes to the design of the schemes. Over 2,500 people took part in this exercise. Since then, there has been an ongoing discussion with city centre stakeholders, access groups and Centro.
- 3.2 The Spon Street package has been developed in consultation with and as a result of discussions with Spon St Traders and the proposals for the Upper Well St/Corporation St junction have been developed following discussions with West Orchards and Deeleys for example. Consultation with Access Groups has led to a number of changes including modifications to kerb heights and the use of more zebra crossings. All schemes incorporate trees and grass wherever practical in response to repeated calls for more greenery in the city centre.
- 3.3 There have also been discussions with developers and potential investors to understand what is important to them in terms of transforming the city centre and ensuring it is a place where businesses want to be located.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

- 4.1 Subject to approval it is proposed to start work on the second access to Pool Meadow in Autumn 2012. Works in the Council House Square/Earl Street/Jordan Well area and around Fairfax Street will be linked into the Heatline works. Subject to funding, it is proposed that all of Phase 2 would be completed by the end of June 2013.

5. Comments from Director of Finance and Legal Services

- 5.1 Financial implications

The November 2011 report identified a shortfall which required managing from a combination of additional resource and/or reduced programme. Whilst still not completely finalised, the Phase 1 cost is expected to total £10,685m. The revised resourcing position has changed to reflect external contribution negotiation and final grant values, and is expected to be as follows:

	£m
ERDF Grant	3.360
Approved Corporate Capital Resources	3.083
Capital – LTP	1.917
PFI Savings	0.518
Centro contributions	0.518
Private Sector contributions	0.494
Other Grants	0.344
Revenue	0.191
	10,425

The total resource shortfall for Phase 1 is £0.260m of which £0.140m is due to loss of ERDF grant.

The future additional costs identified in this report amount to £2.833m. In addition, the phase 1 variance of £0.260m requires financing and must be the first call on remaining resources. A total resource requirement of £3,093k is therefore required. This can be funded from a combination of primarily existing resources and requires no additional corporate funding, as follows:

Funding Source	Amount £'000
Capital programme (previously approved)	993
Centro	250
Private sector contribution (potential)	200 (min)
Maintenance programme	50
Cycling Coventry	100
Revenue Street Lighting Legacy Budget	500 (13/14 and 14/15)
LTP	1000 (13/14 and 14/15)
TOTAL	3,093 (min)

The use of £250k revenue and £500k capital in relation to 14/15 resources will require cashflowing if the programme of works is approved in full.

5.2 Legal implications

The schemes listed in Appendix B will be delivered under the Council's general highway improvement/traffic management powers except in relation to any new or amended formal pedestrian crossings/traffic regulation orders/traffic-calming which will be implemented following a separate statutory notice/objection process. .

6. Other implications

6.1 How will this contribute to achievement of the Council's key objectives / corporate priorities (corporate plan/scorecard) / organisational blueprint / Local Area Agreement (or Coventry Sustainable Community Strategy)?

The completed Phase 1 works are already demonstrating their ability to help attract investment into the city centre (see paragraph 1.2) and will be instrumental in helping to attract interest for the South Side redevelopment and thereby create jobs. By promoting the city centre in this way, jobs and investment will be attracted to the city in line with the Council's Job Strategy.

6.2 How is risk being managed?

A clear set of governance proposals, as outlined in paragraph 2.10, will be adopted which will ensure that as with Phase 1, risks are effectively managed. The programme board will, as before, be chaired by the Assistant Director, Planning Transport and Highways.

As with Phase 1 the Programme Manager will maintain a Risk Log which will be regularly updated. The work on Phase 1 and development work on Phase 2 has helped to improve our understanding of the risks.

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

The reduction in expenditure on the Integrated Transport Block means that there continues to be sufficient resource to work on Phase 2. The DLO will be working to capacity which will improve its trading account.

6.4 Equalities / EIA

The proposals will make movement around the city centre easier for everyone. This is because of the removal of unnecessary street furniture and measures to reduce the dominance of vehicular traffic. However, access by car for those that need it will be maintained. Discussions with the Access Groups and representative organizations are underway to ensure that the design of Broadgate and other areas properly reflects access needs.

There have been regularly meetings with the Access Development Group and the Coventry and Warwickshire Access Committee to review the impact of Phase 1 schemes and to consider the design of Phase 2. In particular, we have been working closely with the Guide Dogs Association to ensure we properly consider the needs of blind and partially sighted people.

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) the environment

The changes proposed will help to make movement around the city centre easier for people on foot and cycle. Vehicular movements will benefit from the removal of traffic signals which will reduce stopping and starting and therefore carbon dioxide emissions. The reduction in street furniture will reduce raw material consumption and therefore carbon dioxide emissions.

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

The main objective of these changes is to 'kickstart' the regeneration of the city centre and to improve perceptions of the city. This will bring major benefits to all organizations that have a stake in the city.

Report author(s):**Name and job title:**

Colin Knight, Assistant Director, Planning, Transport and Highways

Directorate:

City Services and Development

Tel and email contact:

Tel: 024 7683 4001

E-mail: colin.knight@coventry.gov.uk

Enquiries should be directed to the above person.

Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
Contributors:				
Phil Helm	Finance Manager	Finance & Legal	05/09/12	12/09/12
Suzanne Bennett	Governance Services	Customer and Workforce Services	05/09/12	06/09/12
Names of approvers for submission: (officers and members)				
Finance: Chris West	Director of Finance and Legal Services	Finance & legal	25/09/12	27/09/12
Legal: Christine Forde	Assistant Director/Council Solicitor	Finance & legal	25/09/12	26/09/12
Director: Martin Yardley	Director of CSD	CSD	27/08/12	28/08/12
Members: Cllr Harvard	Cabinet Member City Services		06//09/12	07/09/12
Fran Collingham	Comms		27/08/12	28/08/12

This report is published on the council's website:
www.coventry.gov.uk/meetings

Appendix A

Phase 1 Schemes Completed

Green Schemes

01. Gosford Street

02. Broadgate

03. Burges Hales Street

04. Cox Street Resurfacing

05. Cuckoo Lane Set Resurfacing

06. Ironmonger Bus Stop Works

07. Hertford Street

08. Trinity Street

09. Livesite Screen

10. Whittle Arch Narrowing

11. Corp St/Upper Wells Street

12. Station to Bull yard (de-scoped scheme)

PFI Schemes

13. Broadgate Architectural Lighting

14. Station to Bull Yard Architectural Lighting

Yellow Schemes

15. Station to Bull yard (Enhanced scheme - Bull Yard and Junction 6)

18. Whittle Arch – Enhanced Scheme

19. Traffic and Gateway Projects

22. Wider Decluttering

23. Wayfinding

24. Coach Parking

Appendix B

City Centre Works Phase 2- *Proposed Programme* Scheme

High Street

Council House Square

Pool Meadow / Fairfax St

Methodist Central Hall / Warwick Lane

Spon Street/Queen Victoria Road

Jordan Well

Bishop Street Pocket Park

Belgrade Junction

Little Park Steet / New Union Junction

Public Art

Additional works to Complement Phase 1

Broadgate

Greyfriars Lane

Trinity Street

Cox Street

Gosford Street

Hales Street

APPENDIX C

Phase 2 Scheme Descriptions

High Street

Creation of a kerbed street with sandstone flagged pavements and tarmac carriageway. Existing bollards to be removed and a much smaller number used to protect cellars. Together with the works to Council House Square and Jordan Well this will create a high quality link from Broadgate to the Herbert and University and ultimately to Far Gosford Street.

Council House Square

Linked to the High Street scheme. Removal of traffic lights and widening of refuges to create single lane approaches. Zebra crossing to be introduced on the Council House side of junction. The slip road in front of the Earl of Mercia will be removed and the area paved with sandstone flags to match those in front of the Council House; other paved areas will be repaired and unnecessary clutter removed.

Pool Meadow/Fairfax Street

Centro have allocated funding for the creation of a second access for buses to Pool Meadow. This will come off White Street between the Old Fire Station and Junction 2 of the Ring Road. This will remove many buses off Fairfax Street between Whittle Arch and Priory Street thus allowing this section of Fairfax Street to be re-engineered to reduce the carriageway area, improve facilities for pedestrians and plant trees. The traffic signals at the junction of Priory Street and Fairfax Street will be removed as proposed previously and the layout reconfigured to accommodate the changed bus movements. Coach drop off and pick up bays will be created alongside Pool Meadow to allow coach passengers easy access to toilet facilities. This is an important comprehensive scheme that will massively improve a key link between two of the city's major tourist attractions – the Cathedral and Motor Museum.

Methodist Central Hall/Warwick Lane

This scheme will complement the Phase 1 works in Bull Yard. Essentially the area in front and to the side of the main entrance to Central Hall will be levelled to allow for a pavement café and the size of the adjacent planter reduced to create a more open aspect. Warwick Lane will be resurfaced and reconfigured to create echelon parking with the turning area becoming a pedestrian priority area.

Spon St/Lidice/Queen Victoria Road

This is a re-packaging of previous proposals to repair Spon Street, improve the view of St John's Church and to de-clutter Queen Victoria Road. Discussions with Spon Street traders have led to a more comprehensive approach to tidy up this corner of the city. Spon Street itself is now likely to feature in the 2013/14 maintenance programme on a worst first basis and the opportunity will be taken to do this, the relighting and other associated works on a joined up basis. It is also intended to include the stub of Holyhead Road to the south of Spon Street within the proposals.

Jordan Well

The opportunity will be taken, on the back of the Heatline works, to repave Jordan Well. The carriageway will be resurfaced as part of Heatline and it is proposed to replace the tarmac pavements with conservation flags to complete a high quality walking route from Broadgate to the University.

Bishop Street Pocket Park

Landscaping of the Axa site on the corner of Bishop St and Corporation Street to complement the works already undertaken at that junction.

Belgrade Junction

Despite changes made to the signals at the junction of Upper Well Street and Corporation Street, the lights still cannot cope with peak demands. It is therefore proposed to remove the signals and to replace with a form of roundabout and zebra crossings. This will require significant re-engineering of the surrounding area and also the removal of the lights that control access to West Orchards car park off Corporation Street. This will also create the opportunity to link the Shopping Precincts (Smithford Way) and the Belgrade Plaza and Theatre.

Little Park St/New Union St Junction

The creation of a freer flowing city through the removal of signals has led to increased delays at the remaining traffic signal controlled junctions. It is therefore proposed to remove the signals at this junction and replace with a mini roundabout style arrangement based on that installed at Warwick Road/Greyfriars Road. Formal pedestrian crossings could be provided at the location of the new gateways on Little Park St and New Union St.

Public Art

To enhance the public realm works, it is proposed to create a fund to help attract match funding to support the installation of art works across the city centre. This will be in line with the emerging City Centre Arts Strategy and is in line with DCLG's recommendations in respect of rejuvenating 'high streets'.

Additional Phase 1 Works

Although the works in Broadgate have been completed, there is a proposal to replace the concrete flags in the tunnels between Broadgate and Cross Cheaping and Hertford Street with granite. There is also a proposal to shorten the ramp at the top of the Upper Precinct to ease pedestrian flows. It has also been proposed to install a 'Fourth plinth' for art works at the location of the missing tree (due to the presence of a water pipe) and this would be an opportunity to create added interest in the Square.

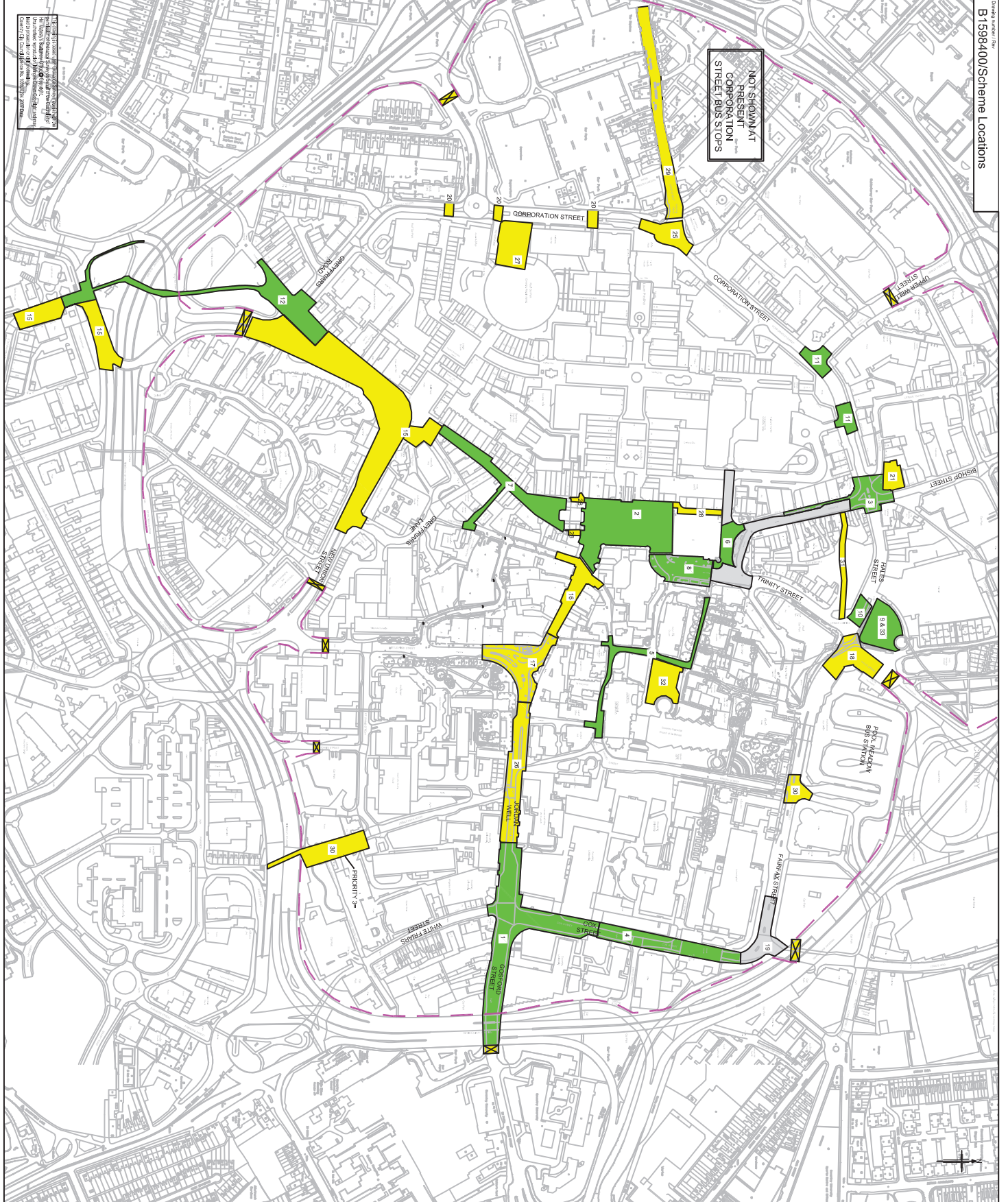
On Greyfriars Green the removal of a large circular blue brick planter will help improve sightlines and public safety. The landscaping of the area in front of the United Reformed Church will help unite the new area of Greyfriars Green with the old. The church supports this plan.

The additional tree planters in Trinity Street and Cox Street are needed as it was not possible to plant trees directly into the ground due to the presence of underground services. The planters present an extra cost, but the trees are an important element of the scheme and meet the public's desire for more greenery.

The replacement of tarmac with conservation flags is part of a continued drive to improve the environment at the heart of the University and on a key link between the city centre and Far Gosford Street.

English Heritage have given approval to remove the existing Victorian wall and railings along the Hales Street frontage of the Old Grammar School and to continue the paving up to the building. This will remove a rubbish trap and will improve the setting of a scheduled ancient monument.

Additional drainage and bollards have been found to be required outside Sainsburys adjacent to Whittle Arch and will be picked up as part of these works.



ISSUE FOR INFORMATION

Rev	Issue	Author	Checked	Date
1	Issue for Information

JACOBS

17th Floor, 100 Broad Street, Birmingham, B1 2LN

0121 634 5600

www.jacobs.com

Project Key:

1. Gateway Street Public Realm Improvements
2. Broadgate
3. Bridge Hill Street
4. Cutney Lane
5. Cutney Lane Self-Resurfacing
6. Forengate
7. Trinity Street
8. Trinity Street
9. Linwell Street
10. Linwell Street
11. Corp Street/Wall Street
12. Station to Bull yard (development professional fees)
13. High Street Bull yard (development professional fees)
14. High Street Bull yard (development professional fees)
15. Cannon House Square
16. Cannon House Square
17. Cannon House Square
18. Cannon House Square
19. Cannon House Square
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27. Cannon House Square
28. Cannon House Square
29. Cannon House Square
30. Cannon House Square
31. Cannon House Square
32. Cannon House Square

Key:

- Scheme Completed or In Progress
- Priority Scheme for Additional Funding
- Scheme Delayed
- Scheme Cancelled
- Gateway
- Boundary for Realigned Parking Plus 20m+ Zone & Decluttering

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

DO NOT SCALE

APPENDIX C

2012 CABINET REPORT

B1981400/Scheme Locations

1

Project: COVENTRY 2012 LASTING LEGACY ERDF PUBLIC REALM PROGRAMME

Client: COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL

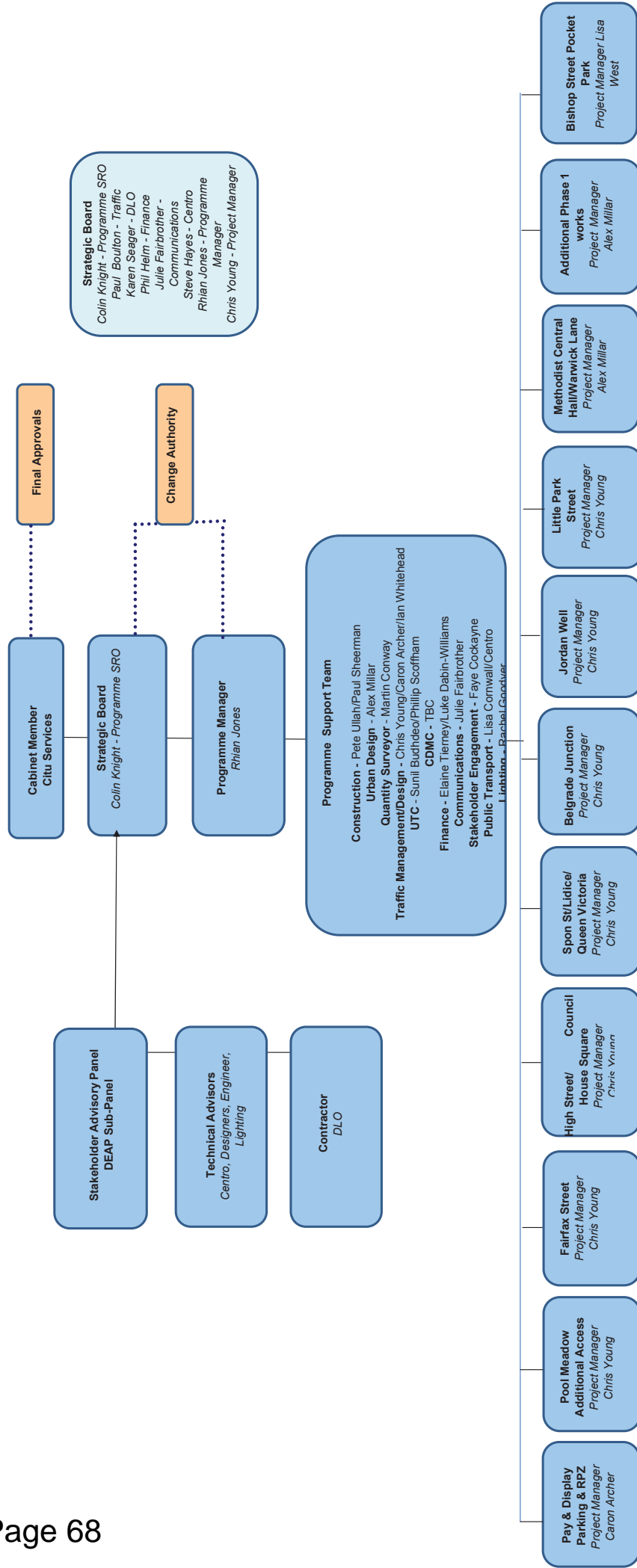
Project Number: 1234567

Scale: 1:1000

Author: ...

Checked: ...

Date: ...





A separate report is submitted in the private part of the agenda in respect of this item, as it contains details of financial information required to be kept private in accordance with Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. The grounds for privacy are that it refers to the identity, financial and business affairs of an organisation other than the Council.

Wellness, Liveability and Public Health Scrutiny Board (Scrutiny Board 1)	08 October 2012
Cabinet	09 October 2012
Council	23 October 2012

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member (Neighbourhood Action, Housing, Leisure and Culture) – Councillor Ruane

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Chief Executive

Ward(s) affected:

St Michael's Ward

Title:

Cultural Trusts Review

Is this a key decision?

Yes.

The proposals within the report identify both initial transitional costs and savings above the financial threshold of £500,000 per annum.

Executive Summary:

Coventry City Council (CCC) currently provides c£4 million a year in total annual grant support and service fees to the Belgrade Theatre, Coventry Heritage and Arts Trust (CHAT, including the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, The Lunt Roman Fort and Priory Visitor Centre) and Coventry Transport Museum (CTM). The economic climate and public spending cuts arising from the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) mean that savings to the Council from the grants and service fees to all three Trusts need to be found.

The City's cultural offer plays a key part in the regeneration of Coventry, and the Cultural Trusts Review - undertaken through collaboration and close consultation with the Trusts - has aimed to ensure the cultural attractions managed by the three Trusts have a viable future, are operated as efficiently as possible and can market themselves effectively to local, regional and national audiences so they can be sustained, grow and succeed in the future.

The purpose of this report is to outline and recommend a new way forward for Coventry's cultural Trusts, recommending the Council support a merger of CHAT and CTM to form one new entity (which is most likely to be in the form of a company limited by guarantee or a trust), with the Belgrade Theatre continuing to operate independently as a separate theatre trust. For the purpose of this report, the new entity shall be referred to as a 'Trust' on the understanding that some other type of legal entity may be chosen.

The report also outlines ways of delivering greater efficiencies across these new structures through the sharing of some services with the Belgrade Theatre and it outlines potential options to generate more revenue.

The recommended "Two Trusts" model generates a total saving of £665,000 per annum in grant/service fees, with delivery of full annual savings from 2014/15. The merger of CTM and CHAT saves £393,000 per annum made primarily through streamlining management arrangements. The Belgrade Theatre would remain in its current form and deliver savings of £272,000 a year by 2014/15 by way of a 25% grant reduction. The anticipated phasing of these savings is detailed in the Private Report.

Recommendations:

Wellness, Liveability and Public Health Scrutiny Board (1) is requested to:

1. Consider this report and provide any recommendations to Cabinet.

Note: The Wellness, Liveability and Public Health Scrutiny Board (1) subsequently made the following recommendations at their meeting on 8th October, 2012:-

1. That the Wellness, Liveability and Public Health Scrutiny Board receive timely reports back on the implementation of the approved option.
2. That there is a clear communications strategy for publishing the reasons behind the proposed changes to the Trusts
3. That the Trusts work together to maximise opportunities to market their facilities and the City
4. The Board acknowledge the opportunities for the Trusts to raise income through fee charging touring exhibitions. However, they would like the Trusts to be mindful of creating as many opportunities for Children and Young People in the City to access these exhibitions through group offers for example via schools and communities groups.
5. The Board wanted to encourage repeat visits to the heritage sites and suggested the Trusts consider, when selling tickets for touring events, allowing re-admittance on the same ticket for the duration of the exhibit.

Cabinet is requested to consider the above recommendations from Wellness, Liveability and Public Health Scrutiny Board (1) and recommend that the Council:

1. Approve the recommended establishment of a new company limited by guarantee, to take over the existing premises, employees, assets, liabilities and contracts of CHAT and CTM, which would receive a phased total reduction of £393,000 per annum in Council grant/service fees by 2014/15.
2. Approve that the Belgrade Theatre remains a separate organisation with a phased reduction in the Belgrade Theatre grant to achieve a total reduction of £272,000 per annum in Council grant to the Theatre by 2014/15.

3. Delegate authority to the Director of City Services & Development and the Director of Finance & Legal Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member (Neighbourhood Action Housing Leisure and Culture) and the Cabinet Member (Strategic Finance and Resources) to:
 - 3.1 Approve the development of a detailed transition plan with the Trusts and the final savings profile for 2013/14, to achieve the Two Trusts operating model.
 - 3.2 Agree the necessary financial means to achieve the objective of full transfer to a new Trust company, limited to a maximum level of one off funding as detailed in the Private Report to enable CHAT and CTM to implement the process of a managed wind-down and transfer to the new Trust to achieve the required savings. This will be linked to agreed measures in the grant/services agreements.
 - 3.3 Agree the detail of Letters of Comfort (if required) by the Trusts' auditors in line with the financial parameters and objectives detailed in this report for signature by the Council's Section 151 Officer.
 - 3.4 Take the necessary steps in conjunction with CHAT and CTM for the formation of the new company, its governance and membership arrangements and to agree any Member representation on its Board of Directors.
 - 3.5 Following the establishment of the new company, to authorise the Council to enter into a grant aid agreement and assign the current leases of Coventry Transport Museum, Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, Lunt Roman Fort and Priory Visitor Centre to the new company.

Council is requested to approve the above recommendations from Cabinet and the Wellness, Liveability and Public Health Scrutiny Board (1).

List of Appendices included:

None.

Other useful background papers:

None.

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

Yes - Wellness, Liveability and Public Health Scrutiny Board (Scrutiny Board 1) on 8 October 2012

Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

Yes - on 23 October 2012

Report title: Cultural Trusts Review

1. Context (or background)

1.1 Coventry City Council (CCC) currently provides c£4 million a year in total annual grant support and service fees to the Belgrade Theatre, Coventry Heritage and Arts Trust (CHAT - including the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, The Lunt Roman Fort and Priory Visitor Centre) and Coventry Transport Museum (CTM). The economic climate and public spending cuts arising from the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) mean that savings to the Council from the grants and service fees to all three trusts need to be found.

1.2 An internal Project Team supported under the Council's abc transformation programme by Price Waterhouse Coopers (PwC) and an independent cultural consultant (Graham Devlin) has, since May 2012, worked closely with all three trust Chief Executives, Council representatives and Arts Council England (ACE) in developing principles and options to achieve the following:

- Maintain and, where possible, enhance the current cultural offer of the City.
- Join up (and encourage the cross-promotion/marketing of) Coventry's cultural offer and create a better customer/visitor experience.
- Maximise revenue and funding opportunities.
- Explore wider, sub-regional links.
- Create greater funding certainty.
- Delivery of savings required.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

2.1 The review considered a wide range of options including:

1. 'Do Nothing' – Considering the impact of the Council's required reduction in grant/service fees if there were to be no change in the operations of individual trusts;
2. 'One Trust Model' - Merger of all three organisations into one Trust.
3. 'Two Trusts' - Merger of CTM and CHAT into one Trust, with the Belgrade Theatre continuing to operate independently.
4. 'Shared Services Model' – Creation of a group structure with back-office services merged and customer-facing services maintained broadly as-is.
5. 'Increased Revenue' - opportunities to increase revenue through sales and charging to mitigate a reduction in grant/service fee income. This option is not mutually exclusive from the other options and is a mechanism for further achieving grant/service fee reductions.

2.2 Option 1 - Do Nothing

2.2.1 This option assumes that there is no change in the individual operations of the Trusts and the Council introduces a modelled grant reduction of circa 25%. The Council has already applied a grant/service fee reduction to the three Trusts in 2012/13 of £200,000 in total representing 5% of the total grant/service fee at that time. The 2012/13 reduction and the resultant grant/service fees provided to each of the Trusts in 2012/13 are as follows:

	2012/13 Grant/service fee reduction (£k)	2012/13 Grant/Service fee (£k)
Belgrade	54	1,037
CHAT	86	1,672
CTM	60	1,169
Total	200	3,878

2.2.2 Further reductions in grant funding/service fees in the order of 15 – 25% are not deliverable by each of the Trusts operating separately whilst maintaining the current cultural offer. Even with changes to the way the Trusts operate and with increased income, it is likely the Trusts could not individually sustain funding reductions at this level without restructuring of some form and their financial future would be unsustainable. Even the existing reduction of £200,000 saving per annum is not sustainable in the longer term without the Trusts making changes to their staffing structures or income generating activities. The other options considered have therefore looked at ways for the Trusts to deliver on an ongoing basis the existing £200,000 grant/service fee reduction, plus make additional savings.

2.3 Option Two – One Trust

2.3.1 This option considered the efficiencies gained through the creation of one Trust by merging the existing operations across the Belgrade, CHAT and CTM, and reducing duplication of back office and front office activities.

2.3.2 In terms of delivering the highest financial benefit, this is the best option, generating a total saving of £903,000 (including the £200,000 existing annual saving). Option Two creates the best opportunity for exploiting economies of scale. Furthermore, this option also has the potential to create a more joined-up cultural offering for the City, facilitated by cross-marketing and the ability to make a stronger case when seeking and applying for new funding. However, this option is potentially the most difficult to achieve in practice and would involve the complexities associated with merging three rather than two different existing organisations. There are considered more similarities between CHAT and CTM in service delivery, business model and objectives terms, than there are with the Belgrade. This and the preference of the majority of key stakeholders (including other key funders) for progressing the Two Trusts option rather than the One Trust option, means this is not the recommended option.

2.4 Option Three – Two Trusts (Preferred Option)

2.4.1 As a revenue generating organisation also attracting National Portfolio funding from Arts Council England, the Belgrade is best placed (out of the three Trusts) to be able to withstand a reduction in funding, and its management accounts for the last three years demonstrate an annual surplus. It also has unrestricted reserves (supported by the Council's grant) which can assist in its financial planning in the short term. It is considered that by remaining as a single organisation, the Belgrade Theatre may best

protect the interests of its existing funders and stakeholders and will therefore most effectively safeguard its cultural offer.

- 2.4.2 Consequently Option Three would involve the Belgrade remaining as a separate organisation and CHAT and CTM merging into a new, single entity. There are significant opportunities to reconfigure and market the offer from both organisations, perhaps working closely with the Cathedral and other partners such as Holy Trinity Church and St. Mary's Guildhall to create a more coherent joint offer focusing on the social, cultural, and economic history of Coventry.
- 2.4.3 The Coventry City Centre Attractions Group and CV One commissioned research in 2010 and this research provides an indication of the wider potential of drawing the city's attractions together. The research project, which was undertaken at several city centre tourist attractions, found that of visitors arriving in Coventry to visit an attraction, 62% stated that they were looking to visit another attraction during their trip. Coventry Cathedral was stated as the most likely destination for those visitors looking to extend their Coventry experience. The Herbert Art Gallery and Museum and Coventry Transport Museum were, similarly, attractions popular with visitors looking to visit multiple venues. There is real potential for CTM and CHAT to join up their offers and explore the opportunities to share marketing with the Cathedral and other partners.
- 2.4.4 Option 3 delivers savings totalling £665,000 (including the £200,000 existing saving). This comprises a £272,000 reduction in grant support for the Belgrade Theatre and £393,000 for the new Trust formed from merging CHAT and CTM.
- 2.4.5 The Council and PwC have worked collaboratively with the Trust Executives to develop a new indicative model that is broadly accepted.
- 2.4.6 The Council and PwC believe that there are still opportunities for the Belgrade to share some services (and thereby reduce costs) with a newly-created, single Trust for the museums and that the Belgrade should explore these opportunities with the new Trust. Within the 'Two Trusts' model, a collegiate approach across Trusts to the provision of the cultural offer and a collaborative approach to the procurement of support services may bring efficiency gains to both organisations. This approach will be advocated to the Trusts by the Council in further business planning and throughout the proposed implementation process and any substantial additional benefits arising as a result will be discussed with the Boards with a view to agreeing benefit sharing principles with the Council.

2.5 Option Four – Shared Services Model

This option was discounted early in the review, given that the Shared Service approach in practice is likely to lead to fewer reductions in staffing levels than envisaged under the One Trust or potentially Two Trusts models, thereby reducing potential savings. It would also mean that the three Trusts would continue to operate as separate organisations, with separate governance arrangements but shared functions, adding complexity to the operational management of the model.

2.6 Increased Revenue

2.6.1 The focus of the options appraisal has been to find a sustainable way for the Trusts to enable the Council to reduce its funding levels. This could be achieved by cost reduction and increased revenue including:

- Increased net revenue generation from commercial activities;
- Increased box office revenue for the Belgrade (which is included as an assumption within the Two Trust preferred option);
- The option of charging for general admission to CHAT and CTM; and
- A combination of the above cost reduction and revenue generation options.

2.6.2 The principle of continuing free admission to both museums is considered key in ensuring that the City's cultural offer is as wide and inclusive as possible, and maintenance of the current cultural offer was a founding principal of the review. The option of charging was therefore fully modelled and tested, with reference to benchmarking with other national visitor attractions and to Department of Culture Media and Sport (DCMS) analysis on the relationship between the introduction of free admission to museums and galleries and observed trends in subsequent visitor numbers. This modelling considered the potential impact of introducing charges for admission at the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum and at the Coventry Transport Museum. The modelling considered the likely demographics of visitors to each attraction and levels of anticipated reductions in admissions. The modelling suggested the potential to generate significant annual net admission revenue through the introduction of such charges, but with a resultant decline in visitor numbers of 50% to 70%, with the reduction in visitors particularly likely to come from those with lower levels of disposable income. The work did not build in any cost associated with implementation and management of charging activities.

2.6.3 Whilst potentially generating significant revenues, the option of introducing charges for admission was not considered to be favoured due to the anticipated level of impact on accessibility (and therefore inclusivity) of the cultural offer, on overall visitor numbers and on the prospects of attracting and retaining further external funding in support of the offer.

2.7 Summary

While the option of merging all three organisations into one Trust would offer the biggest economies of scale, the largest potential savings and the opportunity to create a joined-up cultural offer for the City, it is considered that a merger of the two museums, with the Belgrade continuing to operate independently, is the most deliverable approach, whilst still ensuring an accessible and increasingly joined-up cultural offer. Of all options considered, the Two Trust model was largely considered by the Project Team and stakeholders as the option offering the most protection of the current cultural offer. The Two Trust model is therefore the recommended option.

3. **Results of consultation undertaken**

3.1 A communications plan has been developed and managed for the review. The stakeholders for the review process were identified as:

Internal

- Project Team
- Project Board
- ABC Transformation Board

- Elected Members
- ABC Programme Office

External

- The Belgrade Theatre
- Coventry Transport Museum
- Coventry Heritage and Arts Trust (CHAT)
- Arts Council England

- 3.2 Cabinet Members and Senior Officers have been consulted to ensure that the process has been robust, transparent and targeted in order to achieve the over-arching objectives, as well as seeking advice on the relevant components of the review, such as finance, legal and HR.
- 3.3 Direct consultation with the Belgrade, CTM and CHAT management teams and their Board members was undertaken.
- 3.4 The Project Sponsor and Project Lead, together with the PwC Project Lead and Cultural Advisor, have engaged with Arts Council England. Two meetings were specially held. The first of these meetings was to inform Arts Council England of the evolution and principles of the review. The second meeting was held to present and seek feedback on the draft proposals, which allowed officers to understand any issues and implications with regard to other funding sources in the proposals coming forward.
- 3.5 Subsequent to this decision, TUPE implications and the resolution of the staff transfer will be a matter for the Trusts.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

- 4.1 It is the intention that decisions on the outcomes of the review are reached ahead of the Council's budget setting process in November 2012.
- 4.2 Elected Members will be considering the recommendations of the review at the following meetings:
- Wellness, Liveability and Public Health Scrutiny Board (1) – 8 October 2012
 - Cabinet – 9 October 2012
 - Council – 23 October 2012
- 4.3 The Trusts Boards will be considering the recommendations at Board meetings scheduled in the weeks preceding the above timetable. Subject to Board approvals, the Belgrade is able to immediately implement their plans to deliver the grant reduction. The process for CHAT/CTM requires a number of steps to achieve a new entity:
- 4.3.1 From the date of Council approval, the Council and the Trusts will work collaboratively to establish the legal form and governance for the new company, achieve Charitable Status, seek Admitted Body Status, recruit to the Board, agree a new grant aid agreement and prepare any other required due diligence.
- 4.3.2 Staff, assets and liabilities will then transfer from CTM and CHAT to the new company. The new company will undertake the required changes. An absolute long-stop date for full implementation of the 31 March 2014 is proposed. The earlier this can be achieved, the greater the savings that will be realised during 2013/14.

4.3.3 The above timescales could reasonably be shortened dependent on resources available to implement the change and the speed of agreement of the transition plan.

4.4 During 2013/14 a Letter of Comfort may be required from the Council to the CTM/CHAT Boards and auditors to confirm the Council's funding arrangements to ensure the continued viability of Trusts for a time-limited period of transition from the point of submitting signed accounts.

5. Comments from Director of Finance and Legal Services

5.1 Financial implications

5.1.1 The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy already includes a £200k per annum saving from across the three Trusts from 2012/13 onwards. This has been applied in 2012/13, but the recommendations in this report provide a long-term mechanism for achieving the existing savings plus additional savings.

5.1.2 The recommended option generates a total saving of £665,000 a year (thereby delivering the £200,000 saving already within the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy - MTFs) and providing a further saving of £465,000 per annum from the first full year of implementation. This is split between an annual saving from the Belgrade of £272,000 by 2014/15, compared with the baseline position, and an annual saving from CHAT and CTM combined of £393,000 on the same basis.

5.1.3 The full £665,000 will be delivered from 2014/15. However, in 2013/14 the savings in relation to the new Trust are dependent on the implementation timescales. These timescales will need to be fully developed and agreed with the CHAT and CTM Boards.

5.1.4 CHAT and CTM cannot deliver the savings through the establishment of a new company and managed wind down of the existing Trusts without incurring one-off costs. Therefore, it is considered necessary to support the CHAT/CTM/new company in the transitional period in order to maintain continuity of services for the City and to achieve the long term objective of additional savings once the new company is fully established with a reduced cost base. In order to achieve this, a limited amount of additional funding will need to be provided under the terms of the existing agreement with CHAT/CTM and under a new funding agreement with the new Trust, the details of which are contained in the private section of this report.

This will be subject to:

- further detailed financial work and an open book relationship with the Trusts;
- an agreed transition plan;
- a robust business case for the delivery of longer term savings once the new Trust is established;
- a legal agreement, through varying the existing service/grant agreements and the new terms within the new grant aid agreement; and
- consultation with Members as detailed in the recommendations.

5.1.5 During 2013/14 a Letter of Comfort may be required from the Council to the CTM/CHAT Boards and auditors to confirm the Council's funding arrangements to ensure the continued viability of Trusts for a time-limited period of transition from the point of submitting signed accounts.

5.1.6 The transition plan will need to make arrangements for the transfer of liabilities (including pension liabilities). This will be the subject of a further report back to Members if necessary.

5.1.7 In working with CTM and CHAT over the coming months, the Council and Boards are committed to ensuring continuity and quality of services to the people of Coventry and profile of the City. To this end the Council, CTM, CHAT and the new company will:

- Take decisions on the basis of managing risk (both financial and service);
- Adopt a joint working approach whilst respecting the independence of the Boards and indeed executive power and democratic legitimacy of Members. This will include an open book approach to all aspects of the CHAT/CTM business;
- Agree joint communications about transfer to the new Trust;
- Develop a HR strategy (both internal and external).
- In addition, CHAT and CTM will not renew or enter into any new contracts without approval from the Council. Nor will they recruit or fill any vacancies without approval from the Council.

5.1.8 Although this report recommends Council expenditure, the overall package represents good value for money for the Council, because it assumes that the injection of cash resources up front will release ongoing savings.

5.1.9 Members are asked to support these proposals.

5.2 Legal implications

5.2.1 The Council has the power under Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 which enables the Council to make grants to the Belgrade Theatre and the proposed new Trust to provide the recreational facilities at the theatre, the art gallery, fort, visitor centre and museum. The Council will enter into formal grant aid agreements which will govern the terms and conditions of the grant and how it is to be spent.

5.2.2 The general power of competence contained in the Localism Act 2011 enables the Council to assist with the setting up of the new structure into which it is proposed that CHAT and CTM will merge. It is proposed that this will be a company limited by guarantee which can then be registered as a charity (in order to achieve certain tax benefits available to charities).

5.2.3 In collaboration with CHAT and CTM, the Council will work together to determine the governance structure of the new company including directors and membership and for registration of the company as a charity. Following creation of the new company, transitional steps will include the transfer of staff to the new organisation, seeking Admitted Body Status in respect of the Local Government Pension Scheme and the transfer of existing assets (including land) to the new Trust Company. The Council will also work with CHAT and CTM to assign the existing leases to the new company for each of the properties.

Other implications

6.1 How will this contribute to achievement of the Council's key objectives / corporate priorities (corporate plan/scorecard) / organisational blueprint / Local Area Agreement (or Coventry Sustainable Community Strategy)?

The recommended proposals contribute to the Council's core aims to:

- *Make Coventry an attractive and enjoyable place to be* – by sustaining and joining up the current cultural offer for the City, maintaining access to the City's collections, heritage and programmes and building on momentum from Coventry as a co-host city for the London 2012 Games
- *Ensuring that children and young people are safe, achieve and make a positive contribution* – through the ongoing educational and community cultural offers of the Trusts
- *Encouraging a creative, active and vibrant city* – by sustaining access to the collections, services and expertise of the current offer, and through sustaining and further developing partnerships with wider arts and heritage partners
- *Developing a more equal city with cohesive communities and neighbourhoods* – cultural experiences and events are widely recognised to positively bring communities together and to contribute to developing and defining a sense of place. Sustaining the cultural offer secures the positive benefits to communities presented by the uniqueness of the offer.

In addition to the above contributions to the Council's core aims, the proposals will contribute to the achievement of wider Council objectives through providing better customer service, greater efficiency and sustainable delivery.

6.2 How is risk being managed?

A project risk log has been developed and managed within the review and will be maintained on the corporate system through any subsequent stages of implementation. The risk log will be fully reviewed as the project moves into implementation and will be continue to be managed by the Service Manager Sports and Arts and Project Officer. The risk log will be further reviewed at regular intervals by the Project Sponsor and Project Board.

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

6.3.1 It is anticipated that the report recommendations will deliver improved efficiencies and cost savings to the Council in cultural provision in the City, to a level of £665,000 per annum. The proposals would lead to transition to a new 'Two Trusts' delivery structure. It is proposed the Council would work closely with the current Trusts and the emerging new entity through the period of transition, to manage this transition in a manner that will seek to balance expediency with the protection of the cultural offer.

6.3.2 There are no HR implications for the organisation as these proposals will not affect City Council employees.

6.4 Equalities / EIA

6.4.1 The recommended proposal is predicated on retaining the current level and accessibility of the cultural offer and does not require significant changes to this offer. For example, the model does not require a reduction in opening hours or the introduction of new

charging regimes. (Modelling the introduction of charges for museum admissions suggested a 50-70% fall in visitor numbers, with the reduction in visitors particularly likely to come from those with lower levels of disposable income. This reduction and change in access arrangements has been avoided in the recommended 'Two Trusts' model.) Proposed changes are therefore largely organisational and not expected to negatively impact on the accessibility or experience of services for visitors or users.

- 6.4.2 Any changes to staffing structures across the Trusts would be subject to the change proposals presented by the new entity and would be managed by the Trusts/new entity, as the employer(s) of all potentially affected staff.
- 6.4.3 A key goal of the review has been to protect the cultural offer for visitors/customers of the three current cultural Trusts. As outlined above, the preferred model achieves this, but the detailed proposals for organisational and staffing transition will not be known until the new entity is established, therefore the equalities impact with reference to staffing may only be estimated and not definitively confirmed at this stage. However, any staffing change proposals would be subject to a full 90-day consultation managed through the new Trust.

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) the environment

None

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

- 6.6.1 The recommended proposal reduces the level of funding to the current cultural Trusts by £665,000 per annum, but proposes a new 'Two Trusts' delivery structure and support with the transitional process and with any agreed, eligible change costs. The recommended proposal is predicated on retaining the current level and accessibility of the cultural offer and does not require significant changes to this offer. Any changes to staffing structures across the Trusts resulting as a consequence of the proposal would be subject to the change proposals presented by the Trusts and new entity and would be managed by the Trusts/new entity, as the employer(s) of all potentially affected staff. Detailed proposals for organisational and staffing transition will not be known until the new entity is established and will be a matter for the Trusts.
- 6.6.2 Arts Council England (ACE) is a current funder of both the Belgrade Theatre and CHAT. The Project Sponsor and Project Lead, together with the PwC Project Lead and Cultural Advisor have engaged with ACE to present and seek feedback to the draft proposals, ensuring protection of the current cultural offer and further dialogue concerning any potential issues and implications for ACE that could arise from the above proposals coming forward. ACE has fully engaged with and supported the review process to date.

Report author(s):

Name and job title:

David Nuttall, Service Manager Sports and Arts
Kerry Gallagher, Project Officer

Directorate: City Services and Development

Telephone and email contact:

024 7683 2362 David.Nuttall@coventry.gov.uk
024 7683 1894 Kerry.Gallagher@coventry.gov.uk

Enquiries should be directed to the above person.

Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
Contributors:				
David Cockroft	Assistant Director, City Centre & Development Services	City Services & Development	24/08/2012	04.09.12
Lisa Commane	Assistant Director Special Projects Finance	Finance & Legal Services	24/08/2012	29.08.12
Steve Thomas	Senior Accountant	Finance & Legal Services	24/08/2012	29.08.12
Kevin Malone	Assistant Director ICT	Customer & Workforce Services	24/08/2012	03.09.12
Liz Heald	Head of ICT Change	Customer & Workforce Services	24/08/2012	03.09.12
Carol Williams	HR Manager	Customer & Workforce Services	24/08/2012	04.09.12
Michael Lennox	Senior Solicitor	Finance & Legal Services	24/08/2012	03.09.12
Carl Bainbridge	Communications Team	Chief Executives	24/08/12	03.09.12
Suzanne Bennett	Governance Services Officer	Customer & Workforce Services	24.08.12	24.08.12
Names of approvers for submission: (officers and members)				
Finance: Phil Helm	City Services & Development Finance Manager	Finance & Legal	24.08.12	31.08.12
Legal: Clarissa Evans	Commercial Team Manager	Finance & Legal	24.08.12	29.08.12
Chief Executive: Martin Reeves	Chief Executive		04.09.12	04.09.12
Members: Councillor Ruane	Cabinet Member (Neighbourhood Action, Housing, Leisure and Culture)		04.09.12	06.09.12

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Public report Cabinet

A separate report is submitted in the private part of the agenda in respect of this item, as it contains details of financial information required to be kept private in accordance with Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. The grounds for privacy are that it refers to the identity, financial and business affairs of an organisation and the amount of expenditure proposed to be incurred by the Council under a particular contract for the supply of goods or services.

Cabinet
Council

9 October 2012
23 October 2012

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member (City Development) – Councillor Kelly

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Director of City Services and Development

Ward(s) affected:

Westwood

Title:

Canley Regeneration Programme – Land Disposal and Regeneration Proposals

Is this a key decision?

Yes. The proposals within the report result in income exceeding £500,000.

Executive Summary:

In March 2007, Cabinet approved in principle a programme of physical, social and economic regeneration in Canley, to be funded from the reinvestment of capital received from the sale of Council owned land within the Canley programme area. In addition, Cabinet agreed a procurement strategy for delivering the necessary receipts, based on a developer partner model, together with other measures that would ultimately deliver the regeneration scheme.

Following extensive survey and design work, a master plan for the holistic regeneration of Canley was agreed in consultation with the community, which was subsequently developed into an outline planning application. Outline planning permission was formally granted, in March 2010.

Market conditions and consequent changes in the way property companies fund developments, have favoured an incremental approach to land disposals and following comprehensive marketing of Site D (shown hatched on Plan 1), a freehold disposal has been provisionally agreed, for housing development.

Authority is sought to the proposed freehold sale, a revised disposals strategy and the package of investment proposals required to deliver the first phase of the regeneration scheme agreed with the community.

Recommendations:

Cabinet is requested to recommend to Council that they approve the following:-

1. Delegate authority to the Director of City Services & Development and the Director of Finance and Legal services in conjunction with the Cabinet Member (City Development), to conclude the freehold disposal of Site D, as detailed on the plan appended to the report.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of City Services & Development and the Director of Finance and Legal Services in conjunction with the Cabinet Member (City Development) to procure and deliver the community benefits set out in paragraph 2.7.

Council is requested to approve the above recommendations.

List of Appendices included:

Appendix 1 – contains the Plan 1, referred to.

Other useful background papers:

Canley Regeneration – Masterplanning - Cabinet Member (Urban Regeneration and Regional Planning) - 3 March 2005

Canley Regeneration Scheme – Update on Financial Implications - Cabinet Member (Urban Regeneration and Regional Planning) - 3 March 2005

Canley Regeneration Programme – Scheme Proposals – Cabinet - 20 March 2007

Canley Regeneration Programme Funding - Report to Cabinet Member (City Development) - 9 August 2007

Outline Planning Permission dated 31 March 2010

Design and Access Statement relating to Outline Planning Application

Environmental Assessment relating to Outline Planning Application

Site D lies within the area covered by the outline planning permission (application no. 55000 reference no. R/2009/0010) for housing. All documentation associated with the existing planning permission is available on the Council's Planning Portal, link below:

<http://planning.coventry.gov.uk/portal/servlets/ApplicationSearchServlet?PKID=692518>

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No

Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

Yes - 23rd October 2012.

Report title:

Canley Regeneration Programme – Land Disposal and Regeneration Proposals

1. Context (or background)

- 1.1 The Canley Regeneration Programme area, which is shown by a heavy black verge on the attached Plan 1, contains approximately 3,000 existing dwellings (approximately 50% owner occupied); shops; community, educational and health facilities, together with urban green space, covering an area of 115 ha (284 acres) or thereabouts. The outline planning permission granted in 2010 comprised development of about 730 new residential units, new community facilities, new park and play facilities, public realm improvements and other associated works. The residential units are to be built on approximately 16 ha (40 acres) of Council owned land. Extensive consultation has been undertaken with the community, to agree the principle of selling Council owned land for housing development, in order to fund a package of benefits, which include a new park, better car parking, improvements to local shops, public realm improvements, amongst other things.
- 1.2 The Council has already made substantial investment in the development of the Xcel Sports Centre and Charter Primary School and has directly funded some new play facilities, public realm improvements and the extensive survey, consultancy and design work needed to secure the outline planning permission, in 2010.
- 1.3 The Cabinet report considered at the meeting in March 2007, followed a sustained period of growth and activity in the housing market and recommended a developer partner model, as being the best way of delivering the whole regeneration programme over within 5 -10 years. Current market conditions and development funding arrangements now favour a different approach, whereby the Council controls the release of development land to reflect market conditions, competitively tendering sites as and when appropriate. This approach has been recently used successfully in respect of Site D (shown hatched on Plan 1) where terms have been provisionally agreed with a major developer, to sell the site for housing development. It is considered that this disposal model will be utilised on the remaining sites in Canley, for the present time.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal**2.1 Accept the Offer**

Following a preliminary marketing exercise in relation to the freehold sale of Site D, which indicated that there was potential interest from developers for both commercial and housing uses, a two stage tender was undertaken.

- 2.2 The site, which comprises 5.4 ha (13.34 acres) or thereabouts and has a frontage to the A45, was perceived to be of interest to both residential developers and developers interested in "roadside uses" (car showrooms etc.) and as such, was marketed for commercial uses, residential uses (in compliance with the outline planning permission) and a combination of the two. The site included an additional strip of land that did not form part of the outline planning permission but extended the site nearer to the railway and to the boundary of the A45, the reason for this is that roadside uses require close proximity to a main road. Planning colleagues have informally indicated support for development on this additional land.
- 2.3 The tenders received clearly demonstrated that residential development generates higher land values than roadside uses, in this location. The preferred developer offered the highest figure, the greatest security and the most compliant scheme. The draft layout

included with the bid, comprises just over 200 properties, 20% of which are affordable (equally split between social rented and intermediate tenure). The level of affordable housing at 20% of the total rather than the Council standard of 25%, has been approved by planning committee to reflect the high level of affordable housing already present within the Canley Regeneration Area.

- 2.4 The offer has been verified as representing Best Consideration under S123 of The Local Government Act 1972 by the Council's Valuation Panel.

2.5 Decline the Offer

The offer received could be declined and the site further marketed again in the future when general economic conditions have improved. However this would result in further delays to the Canley Regeneration Project and the loss of a capital receipt, with no guarantees of achieving a higher receipt in the immediate future.

- 2.6 Accordingly it is recommended that the offer is accepted.

2.7 Community Benefits

- 2.7.1 The report to Cabinet in March 2007, set out anticipated receipts and expenditure in relation to the Canley Regeneration Project. It is clear that current market conditions will deliver a lower capital receipt for Canley overall, than estimated in 2007 and consequently, there will be a corresponding reduction in the size of the benefits package and its make up.

- 2.7.2 The proposal is to deliver the benefits package approved on an incremental basis, with the content of each package to be determined once the net receipt from each disposal is known.

- 2.7.3 Subject to detailed costings, it is proposed to utilise receipts from Site D to remodel Prior Deram Park and deliver public realm and other improvements, around the Prior Deram shopping parade.

- 2.7.4 An improvement in the appearance of the Prior Deram area, will not only benefit the community but should be directly reflected in a proportionately higher receipt from the next land disposal (Site E shown cross hatched on Plan 1), providing these works are done before marketing commences (approximate programme 2015). It should be noted that there is a condition in the existing outline planning permission that the new park must be delivered before Site E can be developed. Whilst the community will expect further benefits and improvements in other parts of the regeneration area, it is recommended that community benefits be approved on an incremental basis following confirmation of each net receipt, subject to a further report to Cabinet Member (City Development), once individual projects are worked up in more detail.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

- 3.1 During the spring and summer of 2006 the master planners, in conjunction with the City Council and other stakeholders (Warwick University and Whitefriars Housing Association), undertook a series of consultation events with local residents.

- 3.2 Four key themes emerged from those events; Creating a Heart to Canley, Development Sites, Improvements to the Environment and Green Spaces in Canley and Transport and Movement.

- 3.3 As part of the consultation process, all residents and local businesses were provided with questionnaires. The feedback amongst other things, was that development was accepted as a means to achieve reinvestment in benefits that would improve the existing Canley neighbourhood and remedy existing problems on the estate, improving local services and community facilities was the main priority and refurbishment of the Prior Deram shops area, was seen as important.
- 3.4 Consultation has been on-going with the community and the broad themes have remained.
- 3.5 Further consultation will be required prior to a planning application and will form part of any submission documents.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

Expected timetable of events

Exchange contracts – October 2012

Planning application submitted – November 2012

Planning Permission received – March 2013

Complete disposal and first payment made – March 2013

Construction commences – July 2013

Remainder of payment released – March 2014

Construction completes – 2019

5. Comments from Director of Finance and Legal Services

5.1 Financial implications

5.1.1 Capital Receipt

Following the invitation of tenders earlier this year, the preferred developer submitted a phased gross bid, subject to receipt of a satisfactory planning permission. This bid was also subject to a deduction to reflect abnormal ground conditions and costs arising from any conditions which form part of the planning permission, when it is granted.

5.2 Legal implications

- 5.2.1 The land has been disposed of under open competition and satisfies the requirements for S.123 of the Local Government Act 1972. The purchase price will be paid in 2 tranches and to reduce risk, the second tranche of payment will be secured by way of a first charge over part of the site.
- 5.2.2 The proposed disposal of Site D has been advertised in the Coventry Telegraph, in accordance with the provisions of S123 (2) (A) of the Local Government Act 1972 and no objections have been received.

6. Other implications

6.1 How will this contribute to achievement of the Council's key objectives / corporate priorities (corporate plan/scorecard) / organisational blueprint / Local Area Agreement (or Coventry Sustainable Community Strategy)?

- 6.1.1 The capital receipt will contribute towards corporate resources and the delivery of objectives laid out in the masterplan document formulated in 2007 and forming the basis for the outline planning application granted in March 2010.

- 6.1.2 The likely benefits delivered with the release of receipts from this sale, will be the remodelling of Prior Deram Park, Public Realm improvement works to Prior Deram Walk and other smaller minor interventions impacting on many areas of the estate.
- 6.1.3 Full community consultation over the delivery of benefits is to be undertaken as part of the planning process.
- 6.1.4 During construction, the development will provide jobs and business opportunities for the city's residents.

6.2 How is risk being managed?

- 6.2.1 Risk will be managed by a dedicated Project Manager throughout the process.
- 6.2.2 The risks to this project are referred to in each approach considered and the recommended option gives the Council the greatest certainty over the capital receipt, outline planning has already been granted and establishes the principles of residential development.
- 6.2.3 Risks associated with the delivery of wider benefits to Canley will be managed separately and included in future reports.

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

- 6.3.1 The positive impact on the organisation is considerable as it will allow promises made at the master planning stage, to be delivered.
- 6.3.2 Work will be required by both the Property Development Team in negotiating the detail of the disposal with Taylor Wimpey and Finance and Legal Services, in preparing documentation.

6.4 Equalities / EIA

- 6.4.1 No Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken as the recommendations do not constitute a change in service policy.

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) the environment

- 6.5.1 The principal of development has been established through the outline planning consent and a thorough Design and Access Statement has outlined the principles of the scheme design along with an Environmental Assessment for all development sites in the Canley Programme area.

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

- 6.6.1 There is a requirement for any development of the site to provide 20% affordable housing and there will be an opportunity for registered providers in the area to partner with the developer to own and manage these. Half of these will be general needs rent and the other half will be another form of intermediate tenure. The rented units are to be constructed to an increased energy performance standard (Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4), thereby helping to ease fuel poverty to the most affected.

Report author(s):**Name and job title:**

Dave Cass – Development Surveyor

Directorate:

City Services and Development Directorate

Tel and email contact:

024 7683 2793: david.cass@coventry.gov.uk

Enquiries should be directed to the above person.

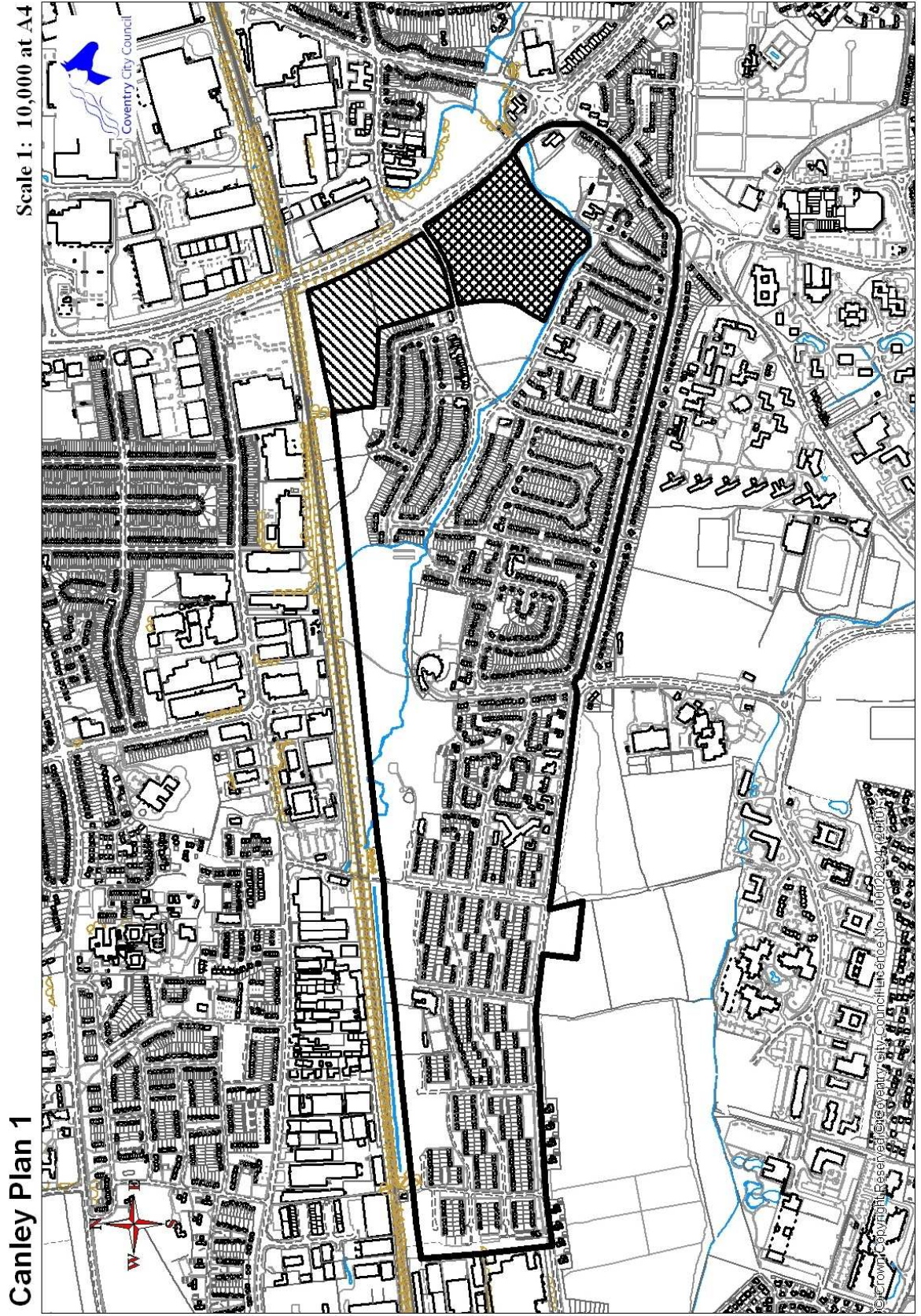
Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
Contributors:				
Steve Barker	Project Manager	City Services and Development Directorate	23:08:12	23:08:12
Richard Moon	Senior Development Executive	City Services and Development Directorate	23:08:12	23:08:12
Janice Nichols	Head of Building Sustainable Communities	City Services and Development Directorate	23:08:12	24:08:12
Suzanne Bennett	Governance Services Officer	Customer and Workforce Services	05.09.12	06.09.12
Names of approvers for submission: (officers and members)				
Finance: Lisa Commane	Special Projects Finance	Finance & legal Services	23:08:12	24:08:12
Finance: Phil Helm	Finance Manager (CS&D)	Finance & legal Services	30:08:12	31:08:12
Legal: Clarissa Evans	Commercial Team	Finance & legal Services	23:08:12	31:08:12
Comms: Darren O'Shaughnessy	Communications Team	Chief Executives Office	23:08:12	
Director: Martin Yardley	Director of City Services and Development	City Services and Development Directorate	31:08:12	05:09:12
Members: Councillor Kelly	Cabinet Member (City Development)		17:09:12	19:09:12

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Site D cabinet report public 100912.G.doc

Appendix 1





A separate report is submitted in the private part of the agenda in respect of this item, as it contains details of financial information required to be kept private in accordance with Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. The grounds for privacy are that it refers to the identity, financial and business affairs of an organisation and the amount of expenditure proposed to be incurred by the Council under a particular contract for the supply of goods or services.

Cabinet
Council

9th October 2012
23rd October 2012

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member (City Development) – Councillor Kelly

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Director of City Services and Development

Ward(s) affected: Outside of city boundary, land situated in Warwickshire

Title:

Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway

Is this a key decision?

Yes

The proposals will have financial implications in excess of £500k per annum

Executive Summary:

Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway is a major new development of strategic importance for Coventry and Warwickshire, delivering upwards of 14,000 new jobs for the region by creating circa 4.5million Sq.Ft. of commercial space.

Following the unsuccessful bid by the LEP to have the site designated as an Enterprise Zone both Warwick District Council and Coventry City Council have worked together to develop a strategy to bring the site into economic use with the developers Roxhill Developments who represent Rigby holdings who have the long leasehold interest in Coventry Airport.

The outline planning application for the development was submitted in September 2012 to both Coventry City Council and Warwick District Council. It is anticipated that the applications should be considered by both Planning authorities before the end of the year.

Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway will also help deliver a new infrastructure solution with the Highways Agency having announced a major £100m road improvement scheme at Tollbar junction which will be married up to the Gateway scheme infrastructure

The Council owns a significant proportion of the land within the proposed scheme area, the majority of which is currently agricultural land. It is the intention for the parties to enter into a conditional development agreement that ensures best value for the Council's land whilst giving the developer, Roxhill Developments the certainty that they require around assembling the site ahead of investing the significant at risk costs producing detailed development proposals for the overall site.

In order to prepare and progress an appropriate development agreement, the Council will incur up front legal, surveying and highway modelling fees which are proposed to be offset against any future disposal proceeds.

Recommendations:

Cabinet is requested to recommend that the Council:

1. Approve that negotiations continue with Roxhill for the Council to enter into a development agreement where it will dispose of a 999 year leasehold interest in land at best consideration to enable the comprehensive development of Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of City Services and Development and the Director of Finance in consultation with Cabinet Member for City Development to finalise the financial terms of the leasehold transfer of the Council's land.
3. Delegate to the Director of City Services and Development the negotiation of vacant possession of part of the Council's land within Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway.
4. Approve the upfront costs of sale which will be recovered from the sale proceeds should the disposals proceed.

Council is recommended to:

1. Approve that negotiations continue with Roxhill for the Council to enter into a development agreement where it will dispose of a 999 year leasehold interest in land at best consideration to enable the comprehensive development of Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of City Services and Development and the Director of Finance in consultation with Cabinet member for City Development to finalise the financial terms of the leasehold transfer of the Council's land.
3. Delegate to the Director of City Services and Development the negotiation of vacant possession of part of the Council's land within Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway.
4. Approve the upfront costs of sale which will be recovered from the sale proceeds should the disposals proceed.

List of Appendices included:

Plan of Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway

Other useful background papers:

None.

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No

Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

Yes – 23rd October 2012

Report title: Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway

1. Context (or background)

- 1.1 Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway is a major new development of strategic importance for Coventry and Warwickshire and the wider region, The multi million pound scheme is designed to deliver up to 14,000 new jobs on a circa 450 acre (182 ha) site adjoining the A45 including St Modwen's site at Whitley to the North and the Council's land etc adjacent to the airport to the south. The scheme will comprise approximately 3.5m Sq.Ft. of B2 manufacturing and B8 warehousing accommodation together with 1m Sq.Ft. of, B1b research and development and B1c light industrial, generating significant additional business rate growth for the region.
- 1.2 As well as delivering up to 14,000 new jobs at the Gateway development the project also enables the St Modwen / Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) site at Whitley to expand by delivering new infrastructure from the Gateway site through the development. The site is currently constrained by the Whitley junction which in turn is prohibiting the growth of both the JLR's corporate HQ and the development of the rest of the site. The Gateway scheme delivers a new infrastructure solution that greatly improves the Whitley junction and enables JLR / St Modwen to fully develop their land bringing further investment benefits to the area in the order of 2,000 new jobs.
- 1.3 The Gateway scheme also brings the benefit that it will, at the developers cost, deliver the remediation of land owned by Severn Trent Water included in the scheme. The site which is scheduled for closure has in the past caused problems with leakage into the local water course and needs to be remediated.
- 1.4 The Council is currently negotiating with the developer, Roxhill, to agree terms that would provide certainty to both sides that in return for a consideration the Council would transfer the freehold of its land.
- 1.5 It is intended that the Council would enter into a development agreement that would establish the best value for its landholding taking into consideration the infrastructure to be provided and reflecting a return to the developer for the risk the developer is undertaking with a significant investment in a speculative planning application.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 2.1 At the current time the Highways Agency have announced a £100m major road scheme that will greatly improve Tollbar junction, producing a grade separated solution to ease traffic congestion. The Highway Agency will undertake any compulsory purchase orders that are necessary for its scheme. A significant amount of work has been undertaken to ensure that the Highways Agency scheme compliments the infrastructure proposed for the site and following a number of changes both parties are happy that the two schemes can be implemented together successfully provided that there is some security the Gateway scheme will come forward in the appropriate timescale.
- 2.2 **Not to agree terms to sell land to Roxhill to accommodate the development** – Were the Council not to enter into negotiations with Roxhill, the scheme could not proceed as the development relies on access from the A45 which passes across the Councils land. As such it is unlikely that Roxhill would want to proceed with making a speculative planning application on this land and the opportunity would probably be lost or significantly diminished.
- 2.3 **Recommendation** – The current heads of terms agreed with Roxhill provide that the leasehold interest in the Councils landholding will be valued in advance of any development and that such landholding will be transferred to Roxhill in return for a capital

sum paid at the commencement of the development. It is considered that, subject to agreeing the value of land, this is the best option for the Council to both secure development of the scheme and obtaining best value for the Councils land.

3 Results of consultation undertaken

- 3.1 Any development on the Site will require planning permission and as part of this process, the local community and local stakeholders will be informed and consulted about the proposals for the Site.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

- 4.1 Providing Member approval is secured, legal documentation should be completed and the value agreed prior to development commencing in 2013

5. Comments from Director of Finance and Legal Services

5.1 Financial implications

- 5.1.1 The commercially sensitive financial implications for Coventry City Council are dealt with within the private part of your report.

5.2 Legal implications

- 5.2.1 The Council's officers consider that the base price and profit share agreed are considered to be the best that can be reasonably obtainable under section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 and therefore satisfy the Council's obligation to obtain best consideration.

- 5.2.2 The Development Agreement will be conditional upon securing full planning consent for the project and vacant possession of part of the land within the scheme

- 5.2.3 The Council in disposing of its leasehold interest will, through the agreement impose a clause ensuring the land is used for the purposes detailed in the agreed planning permission, enforceable by forfeiture of the lease.

- 5.2.4 The Council will be negotiating part surrenders of agricultural tenancies and wherever possible relocating tenants elsewhere.

6. Other implications

None

6.1 How will this contribute to achievement of the Council's key objectives / corporate priorities (corporate plan/scorecard) / organisational blueprint / Local Area Agreement (or Coventry Sustainable Community Strategy)?

- 6.1.1 The capital receipt will contribute towards corporate resources and once the Site has been developed it is likely to contribute towards providing a good choice of jobs and business opportunities for all the city's residents.

6.2 How is risk being managed?

- 6.2.1 The risks to this project are that the scheme does not get planning or proceed in which case the Council will be exposed purely to the cost of fees in preparing a suitable development agreement.

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

6.3.1 The impact on the organisation is minimal, however it will generate work for Finance and Legal Services in preparing documentation, Highways in preparing any modelling and ensuring the infrastructure links to the re provision of the Tollbar junction works and the Development team in agreeing terms with the developer.

6.4 Equalities / EIA

An Equality Impact Assessment has not been undertaken as the proposal concerns the disposal of land for commercial or residential development and no group has use of the land which falls within the protected characteristics of the Equality Act 2010 will be impacted.

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) the environment

6.5.1 The impact of the scheme will be minimised with large landscaping bunds between the development and the surrounding villages. Further access to Bagington Village is likely to improve following the development as new infrastructure is intended to be provided that will see heavy goods vehicles diverted from the village.

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

Warwick District Council, Warwickshire County Council and the LEP all fully support this scheme.

Report author(s):

Name and job title:

David Cockroft – Assistant Director City Services and Development

Directorate:

City Services and Development Directorate

Tel and email contact:

024 7683 3964; david.cockroft@coventry.gov.uk

Enquiries should be directed to the above person.

Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
Contributors:				
Comms: David Iles	Communications Team	Chief Executives Office		
Other members				
Names of approvers for submission: (officers and members)				
Finance: Phil Helm	Finance Manager - City Services and Development Directorate	Finance and Legal Services	09.07.12	13.07.12
Legal: Clarissa Evans	Commercial Team	Finance & Legal Services	09.07.12	10.07.12

Director: Martin Yardley	Director	City Services and Development	17.08.12	20.08.12
Members: Cllr L Kelly	Cabinet Member (City Development)		13.09.12	27.09.12

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Coventry & Warwickshire
Gateway



RED LINE APPLICATION
www.geton-hillside.com

Drawing Status: PRELIMINARY
 CAD Reference: CAD008
 Drawn: RM
 Date: MAR 2012
 Scale: @A1: 1:10,000
 Project No: 3924
 Drawing No: 025
 Rev: P.11

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Council

23 October 2012

Name of Cabinet Member:

City Development – Cllr Dr Lynette Kelly

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Director of City Services & Development

Ward(s) affected:

All

Title:

Submission of Coventry Core Strategy 2012

Is this a key decision?

Yes

1. Adopt the revised Local Development Scheme at Appendix 1
 2. Note the representations made to the Proposed Submission Core Strategy, and the officer responses to representations, summarised at Appendix 2 and available in full at www.coventry.gov.uk/ldf
 3. Endorse the proposed minor amendments to the Core Strategy at Appendix 3
 4. Endorse the Duty To Cooperate Statements (West Midlands Metropolitan Authorities' Statement and Coventry, Solihull & Warwickshire Statement) at Appendix 4
 5. Submit the Core Strategy and all associated documentation to the Secretary of State on or as soon as practicable after 24th October 2012
-

Executive Summary:

1. The Local Development Scheme is the timetable, and this needs to be up to date when the Core Strategy is submitted, so the revised LDS at Appendix 1 should be adopted.
2. The regulations set out that the Council should formally consider the representations received to the Proposed Submission Core Strategy, and the schedule at Appendix 2 summarises the issues raised. The representations, together with officer responses and recommendations are available in full at www.coventry.gov.uk/ldf
3. A small number of minor amendments are proposed to be made to the Core Strategy, and these are set out at Appendix 3
4. The Duty to Cooperate, as described by the Localism Act and associated regulations, must be discharged when the Core Strategy is Submitted. The documents at Appendix 4 have been agreed by (4a.) the West Midlands Planning & Transportation Sub-Committee;

and (4b.) the Warwickshire Chief Executives Group. Both of these statements should be formally endorsed by the Council to demonstrate commitment to the agreements reached.

5. The 2012 Core Strategy, and all associated documentation, can be submitted to the Secretary of State for Examination in Public (EiP) once actions 1-4 are completed.

Recommendations:

Council is recommended to

1. Adopt the revised Local Development Scheme at Appendix 1
2. Note the representations made to the Proposed Submission Core Strategy, and the officer responses to representations, summarised at Appendix 2 and available in full at www.coventry.gov.uk/ldf
3. Endorse the proposed minor amendments to the Core Strategy at Appendix 3
4. Endorse the Duty To Cooperate Statements (West Midlands Metropolitan Authorities' Statement and Coventry, Solihull & Warwickshire Statement) at Appendix 4
5. Submit the Core Strategy and all associated documentation to the Secretary of State on or as soon as practicable after 24th October 2012

List of Appendices included:

- Appendix 1 Local Development Scheme October 2012
- Appendix 2 Summary of issues raised by representations to July 2012 Submission Core Strategy
- Appendix 3 Proposed Minor Changes to Core Strategy
- Appendix 4 Duty to Cooperate Statements
 - a. West Midlands Metropolitan Authorities
 - b. Coventry, Solihull & Warwickshire

Other useful background papers:

Representations made to the Coventry Core Strategy Proposed Submission 2012, officer responses and recommendations, available at www.coventry.gov.uk/ldf

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No

Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

Yes

23rd October 2012

Report title: Submission of Coventry Core Strategy 2012

1. Context (or background)

1.1 The Council resolved on 24th July 2012 to publish the Coventry Core Strategy Submission 2012 for representations, and then to Submit the document to the Secretary of State. To comply with the regulations, the Council needs to formally consider the representations received, to adopt an updated timetable (known as the Local Development Scheme or LDS), and to endorse the agreements that have been reached to discharge the Duty to Cooperate.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

2.1 There are three options available to the Council. The first is to resolve to accept the 5 recommendations of this report. This is the proposal. The second option is to do nothing. This is not recommended, because the National Planning Policy Framework has come into effect to override the Coventry Development Plan "saved" policies, and the Core Strategy will lend the Council an element of control over development in the city. The third option is to adopt the 2009 Core Strategy. This is not recommended, because that would put significant areas of Green Belt land, notably in the Keresley area, at unnecessary risk of development.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

3.1 Consultation, where it has been required, has taken place with all relevant internal and external partners and other stakeholders.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

4.1 The updated Local Development Scheme (Appendix 1, noting the representations received (Appendix 2), endorsement of minor amendments (Appendix 3), and endorsement of the Duty to Cooperate statements (Appendix 4), would take immediate effect.

4.2 Submission of the Core Strategy is intended to be implemented on or as soon as practicable after the 24th October 2012.

5. Comments from Director of Finance and Legal Services

5.1 Financial implications

The Council resolved on 24th July 2012 to authorise expenditure of up to £150,000 in connection with the Examination in Public of the Coventry Core Strategy Submission 2012. This will come into effect on or shortly after 24th October 2012 once the strategy has been submitted. Costs associated with posting letters to stakeholders and placing a statutory notice will be immediately incurred in addition to this, but will be funded from existing Planning revenue budgets. There are no other direct financial implications of the recommendations in this report.

5.2 Legal implications

The legal implications of this report are as follows:

- i) Adoption of the revised Local Development Scheme is a legal requirement, and a small number of administrative tasks are required as a result. In the event that the revised LDS were to not be adopted by the Council, strictly speaking the Core Strategy would not be legally compliant so should not proceed to Examination
- ii) Regulations governing the preparation of Core Strategies stipulate that the Council should consider all representations received. In the event that the Council were minded not to do so, the Core Strategy would technically not be legally compliant and should not proceed to Examination.
- iii) The Council is recommended to endorse a schedule of minor amendments. These are relatively few, and do not go to the heart of the Plan. It is not considered that

- they are so significant to warrant specific consultation, in accordance with relevant regulations. This is a matter that the Inspector will have the power to consider.
- iv) The Duty to Cooperate is in two key parts. The first, in accordance with Section 33 of the Localism Act 2011, is whether the Council has taken reasonable steps to engage with neighbouring Councils, and other statutory bodies, in a constructive and an ongoing basis. It is considered that the statements at Appendix 4 demonstrate this, and therefore the Core Strategy will be able to proceed to Examination. The second test is whether reasonable steps have been taken to secure robust agreements relating to important matters listed in paragraph 156 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

There are current outstanding issues with three Councils; Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council and North Warwickshire District Council with respect to Coventry's housing evidence base, and Birmingham City Council because it has asked, at a very late stage, for assistance in accommodating what it sees as its unmet housing need.

It is worth considering each of these cases in detail, as the risk associated with submitting the Core Strategy with outstanding disagreements with other Councils are that the Coventry Core Strategy could fail, and the Council would be forced to start at the beginning of the process towards a new Core Strategy.

It is considered that the Council's position with respect to both of these issues can be robustly and successfully defended. North Warwickshire District Council has indicated that it will withdraw its representation subject to Coventry City Council formally endorsing the Statement at Appendix 4b. In the case of the Nuneaton & Bedworth concern that, if the Coventry Core Strategy fails, it may find itself under pressure to accommodate extra housing, the Coventry, Solihull & Warwickshire agreement (Appendix 4b) deals with this eventuality. Coventry is not asking Nuneaton & Bedworth to accommodate any of its development needs. Birmingham City Council wrote to a number of other Councils, during the final Coventry Core Strategy consultation. The letter sets out what Birmingham considers the problem to be, and requests assistance to accommodate some of the homes that BCC considers it needs but cannot provide. The timing of the request was after the Coventry strategy and housing target had already been established, and it is therefore not anticipated that this issue will be sufficient to render the Coventry Core Strategy unsound or not legally compliant.

- vi) There is a current outstanding risk that is connected to a potential application for a Judicial Review (JR) of what is claimed to be the Council's failure to formally adopt the 2009 draft Core Strategy. In the event that a formal application for JR is submitted, this may result in delay to the process to the 2012 Core Strategy pending its resolution. This matter remains current, and is subject to specific consideration.

6. Other implications

There are no other implications to this report.

6.1 How will this contribute to achievement of the Council's key objectives / corporate priorities (corporate plan/scorecard) / organisational blueprint / Local Area Agreement (or Coventry Sustainable Community Strategy)?

The proposal will contribute to a number of the Council's core aims as follows:

- A prosperous Coventry: The housing target will ensure that sufficient new homes are provided to meet the needs of local people, and that businesses are not deprived of staff through a lack of housing;
- Making Coventry an attractive and enjoyable place to be. The Core Strategy strikes the correct balance that provides enough new homes for local people, and protects the Green Belt from inappropriate development;
- Providing a good choice of housing. The housing target will ensure that sufficient new homes are provided to meet the needs of local people;
- Making places and services easily accessible. The Core Strategy will, in practical terms, ensure that the right amount of new development happens to ensure that services are viable and accessible;
- Developing a more equal city with cohesive communities and neighbourhoods. One of the benefits of the housing target in the Core Strategy will be that more people will be adequately housed; and
- Improving the environment and tackling climate change. The housing target will bring about improvements to areas in need of investment, and will protect the Green Belt from inappropriate development.

6.2 How is risk being managed?

The primary purpose of this report is to ensure that the Core Strategy is legally compliant and 'sound'. Risks are principally concerned with the legal implications discussed in section 5.2 of this report, which also details the steps being taken to manage the identified risks.

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

There are no significant impacts on the organisation as a direct result of this report.

6.4 Equalities / EIA

The section 149 duty requires the Council to pay due regard to the three aims of the Equality Act 2010 and when exercising functions, the Council will need to consider the impact on people protected by the Equality Act 2010. An Equality Impact Assessment of the Core Strategy has been completed.

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) the environment

A Sustainability Appraisal, incorporating the EU requirements of Strategic Environmental Assessment, (or SA/SEA for short) is a statutory requirement which aims to promote sustainable development through the integration of economic, environmental and social considerations into the preparation plans or programmes. A key function of the Sustainability Appraisal is to illustrate the benefits and risks of different policy options, identify potential negative effects and suggest appropriate mitigation measures. A SA/SEA of the Core Strategy will be published alongside the Core Strategy.

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

There are no significant impacts on partner organisations as a direct result of this report.

Report author(s):

Name and job title: Jim Newton, Planning & Policy Manager

Directorate: City Services & Development Directorate (CSDD)

Tel and email contact: Telephone 024 7683 1187 (direct); email jim.newton@coventry.gov.uk

Enquiries should be directed to the above person.

Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
Contributors:				
Colin Knight	Assistant Director, Planning Transportation & Highways	CSDD	02/10/12	02/10/12
Tracy Darke	Group Manager Planning & Building Control	CSDD	02/10/12	04/10/12
Names of approvers for submission: (officers and members)				
Finance: Phil Helm		Finance & legal	02/10/12	04/10/12
Legal: Clarissa Evans		Finance & legal	02/10/12	04/10/12
HR: Jaz Bilen	HR Manager	CWS	02/10/12	02/10/12
Director: Martin Yardley	Director of City Services & Development	CSDD	04/10/12	09/10/12
Members: Cllr Dr Lynette Kelly	Cabinet Member for City Development			09/10/12

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Appendices

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COVENTRY LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME OCTOBER 2012



COVENTRY LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

OCTOBER 2012

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS UNDER THE PLANNING AND COMPULSORY PURCHASE ACT 2004

Coventry Development Plan	CDP	The adopted Unitary Development Plan for the City of Coventry
Local Development Scheme	LDS	A programme of what is to be produced, the timescales and arrangements for production.
Local Development Framework	LDF	The portfolio of Local Development Documents which constitute the planning policies for the City.
Local Development Document	LDD	One of a number of documents which make up the LDF, including Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents.
Development Plan Document	DPD	One of a number of documents which are part of the development plan for the City and which are subject to independent testing.
Core Strategy	CS	The document which will set out the vision, objectives and spatial strategy for the City.
Supplementary Planning Document	SPD	A document which elaborates on policies in DPDs and does not have development plan status. It requires community involvement in line with the SCI or minimum regulations.
Statement of Community Involvement	SCI	A document which sets out how stakeholders and communities will be involved in the process of producing LDDs. The SCI will be subject to independent testing.
Annual Monitoring Report	AMR	A report which assesses the implementation of the LDS and the extent to which the policies are being achieved.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Planning System

- 1.1 The basis of the planning system is the Local Development Framework (LDF). This comprises a collection of documents which include: Development Plan Documents (DPDs); Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs); a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI); and this document, a Local Development Scheme (LDS).
- 1.2 Thus, the Local Development Framework for Coventry will comprise a set of connected individual documents, progressively replacing the current Coventry Development Plan 2001. A significant difference from the latter is that it will not be subject to complete review and revision every five or ten years: different individual documents will be revised, added or removed, as necessary.

Role of Local Development Scheme

- 1.3 The purpose of the Local Development Scheme is to set out the documents that Coventry City Council intends to prepare and programme as part of the new planning policy framework. It also provides a starting point for the community and interested parties to become involved and help to continue to shape the City's planning policies.
- 1.4 The LDS is a mandatory requirement of the Act and is a public statement of the Council's programme of work. It is published on the City Council's website, which can be viewed at www.coventry.gov.uk.
- 1.5 The LDS can be reviewed, as necessary, either because monitoring has shown a need for revision or because there is a need to prepare a new DPD. Any review will involve public consultation and will be submitted to the Secretary of State.

Planning in Coventry

- 1.6 The current development plan for Coventry is the City of Coventry Unitary Development Plan – the Coventry Development Plan (CDP), which was adopted in December 2001. This plan is based on three central themes: Economic Regeneration; Social Equity; and Environmental Quality. In 2007, and again in 2009, policies were formally "saved", recognising that they were consistent with national policy and up to date. In addition to the statutory CDP, the City Council has prepared area and topic based Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPGs) which assist in the planning decision-making framework.

2. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK – SUMMARY

Structure and Timing

- 2.1 The Statement of Community Involvement was adopted by the City Council in July 2012. It outlines how the City Council involves local communities and stakeholders in the preparation of the constituent parts of the LDF and also major planning applications. It has regard to the consultation strategies of both the City Council and the Coventry Partnership, particularly aiming to reduce potential duplication.
- 2.2 Key overall strategy policies will be developed in the Core Strategy that deliver the Sustainable Communities strategy. Clearly the programming of the documents is very important and work will be required to be undertaken simultaneously in order to achieve a cogent LDF. Each LDD being proposed by the City Council is set out in Section 5. The timetable and programming of each document is also set out, including the pre-submission and post-submission timelines.
- 2.3 The diagram below illustrates the proposed LDF structure for Coventry.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (this document)
STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (adopted 24/07/12)
CORE STRATEGY Vision, Strategic Objectives and Policies, Deliverability
SITE ALLOCATIONS DPD
PROPOSALS MAP
COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) CHARGING SCHEDULE
CITY CENTRE AREA ACTION PLAN DPD
SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENTS

Saved Policies

- 2.4 In September 2007 the vast majority of policies in the CDP were saved. It is intended that the Core Strategy will supersede the majority of the saved policies.

Supplementary Planning Guidance and Supplementary Planning Documents

- 2.6 SPG prepared under the former planning system can retain its status as a material consideration, provided that it is linked to 'saved' policies. SPD elaborates on specific DPD policies and it is possible for SPG to be transferred into SPD.

3. RESOURCES, INPUTS AND MANAGEMENT

General Arrangements

- 3.1 The broad resources and management arrangements for each LDD are set out in Section 5. In general, the principal resources for overall lead of the process, LDF preparation and the monitoring of progress on the LDF will come from the Policy Team in the City Services & Development Directorate. Other officers and resources from within the Directorate, other Directorates of the City Council, the Coventry Partnership, other networks and constituent agencies and organisations will also be involved in the process to a significant extent. Consultants may also be used to assist with specific aspects of preparation.

Political Management

- 3.2 DPDs and the CIL Charging Schedule will be approved by the Council, although their preparation will be overseen by the Cabinet Member (City Development). A Local Development Framework Cabinet Advisory Panel provides a steer.
- 3.3 As a non-Development Plan Document, the Statement of Community Involvement has been approved by the Cabinet. Supplementary Planning Documents will be approved by Planning Committee.

Evidence Base

- 3.4 Development plans need to be underpinned by sound evidence to support planning policies and the Government has reiterated this in regard to LDFs. The documents will continue to be produced either by, or for, the City Council and will be made publicly available. In addition, there are two further major sources of information. Firstly, there will be documents published to support strategic plans of Council services (such as Housing) and major partners (such as Transport and Health providers). Secondly, the Policy Team maintains a Land Availability System, which records land use across the City and monitors planning applications. Monitoring will identify any need for further reviews of the LDS.

Monitoring

- 3.5 The Council regards monitoring as an integral part of the planning process and, in particular, it sees an objectives-led monitoring system as essential so that policy and implementation measures can be evaluated and reviewed as an ongoing process. The findings of the AMR will inform the need to review the

LDS and consider the need for further DPD's, The AMR will be publicly available, sent to key stakeholders and published online.

3.6 Annual Monitoring Reports will:

- assess progress against targets and milestones within LDDs;
- provide information in relation to targets;
- assess the need for review in circumstances where policies are not working effectively or objectives are not being met.

4. CONTACTS AND AVAILABILITY

4.1 For more information about any of the issues raised in this Local Development Scheme, please contact Jim Newton:

Planning Policy Manager
City Development Directorate,
Coventry City Council,
Floor 3, Civic Centre 4,
Much Park Street,
Coventry,
CV1 2PY

Telephone: 024 7683 1187
Email: ldf@coventry.gov.uk

5 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK - DETAILS

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME SUMMARY

The table below summarises the programme for the preparation of individual Local Development Documents

		Core Strategy	Site Allocations	City Centre Area Action Plan	Community Infrastructure Levy
2011	Jan – Mar				
	Apr – Jun	I			
	Jul – Sep				
	Oct – Dec				
2012	Jan – Mar	N			
	Apr – Jun				
	Jul – Sep	P			
	Oct – Dec	S			
2013	Jan – Mar				I
	Apr – Jun	R			P
	Jul – Sep	A	I		S
	Oct – Dec				R
2014	Jan – Mar		P	I	A
	Apr – Jun				
	Jul – Sep		S	P	
	Oct – Dec				
2015	Jan – Mar		R	S	
	Apr – Jun		A		
	Jul – Sep			R	
	Oct – Dec			A	

Key

I = Publication of Issues and Options Paper / Preliminary Schedule (CIL)

N = Publication of Housing Target Options Paper

P = Publication of proposed Submission DPD / Draft Schedule (CIL)

S = Submission of DPD to the Secretary of State

R = Inspectors report

A = Adoption of DPD

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME : SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENTS

Document Title	Status	Role and Content	Chain of Conformity	Dates for pre-submission consultation	Date for public participation on emerging options	Date of submission to Secretary of State	Proposed date of adoption
Statement of Community Involvement	n/a	Sets out standards and approach to community involvement	n/a				Adopted November 2006. Amended July 2012
Core Strategy	DPD	Sets out spatial vision, objectives and overall strategy	Consistent with national planning policy	July-September 2012	July 2011	October – November 2012	September 2013
Site Allocations	DPD	Identifies specific sites to accommodate new development	Consistent with Core Strategy and national policy	January – March 2014	July - September 2013	July - September 2014	April - June 2015
City Centre Area Action Plan	DPD	Sets out specific strategy and identifies specific development sites within city centre	Consistent with Core Strategy and national policy	July – September 2014	January – March 2014	January – March 2015	October – December 2015
Community Infrastructure Levy	Charging Schedule	Sets out infrastructure requirements, costs, and enabling mechanism for regular review through SPD	Consistent with Core Strategy, City Centre Area Action Plan, and national policy and regulations	April – June 2013	January - March 2013	July - September 2013	March 2014

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENTS

CORE STRATEGY

Role	To set out the vision, objectives and spatial strategy for the future development of the City, linking with the themes of the Coventry Sustainable Community Strategy and demonstrating its deliverability
Coverage	City-wide
Status	Development Plan Document

Conformity

The Coventry Development Plan Proposals Map will be revised through the Core Strategy.

Thus, the Proposals Map is likely to be formally amended in March 2013, with the adoption of the Core Strategy.

Timetable

Stage	Estimated Dates
Start	Jan 2011
Issues & Options Consultation	July 2011
Housing Target Consultation	March 2012
Publication of Submission Document	July 2012
Submission (incl Sustainability Report) to Secretary of State	Oct/Nov 2012
Pre-Hearing Meeting	December 2012
Hearing commences	January 2013
Receipt of Inspector's Report	April 2013

Arrangements for Production

Political DPDs will be approved by the Council. Political responsibility for the producing the Core Strategy will rest with Cabinet Member (City Development)

Internal Led by Planning & Policy Manager and prepared by Planning Policy Team, supported by colleagues from other departments and agencies

External Resources

Community and Stakeholder Involvement In accordance with the SCI and regulations

SITE ALLOCATIONS

Role To allocate sufficient specific land to deliver the Core Strategy

Coverage City-wide

Status Development Plan Document

Conformity

The Coventry Local Development Plan Proposals Map will be revised through the Site Allocations.

Thus, the Proposals Map is likely to be formally amended in April - June 2015, with the adoption of the Site Allocations.

Timetable

Stage	Estimated Dates
Start	April - June 2013
Issues & Options Consultation	Jul - Sep 2013
Publication of Submission Document	Jan - Mar 2014
Submission (incl Sustainability Report) to Secretary of State	Jul - Sep 2014
Pre-Hearing Meeting	October 2014
Hearing commences	December 2014
Receipt of Inspector's Report	Jan - Mar 2015

Arrangements for Production

Political DPDs will be approved by the Council. Political responsibility for the producing the Core Strategy will rest with Cabinet Member (City Development)

Internal Led by Planning & Policy Manager and prepared by Planning Policy Team, supported by colleagues from other departments and agencies

External Resources

Community and Stakeholder Involvement In accordance with the SCI and regulations

CITY CENTRE AREA ACTION PLAN

Role To set out the vision, objectives and spatial strategy for the future development of the City centre, linking with the themes of the Core Strategy and allocating specific land to ensure its deliverability

Coverage City centre

Status Development Plan Document

Conformity

The Coventry Local Development Plan City Centre Proposals Map will be revised through the Area Action Plan.

Thus, the City Centre Proposals Map is likely to be formally amended in July 2015, with the adoption of the City Centre Area Action Plan.

Timetable

Stage	Estimated Dates
Start	October 2013
Issues & Options Consultation	Jan – Mar 2014
Publication of Submission Document	Jul – Sep 2014
Submission (incl Sustainability Report) to Secretary of State	Jan – Mar 2015
Pre-Hearing Meeting	Mar – Apr 2015
Hearing commences	Apr – May 2015
Receipt of Inspector's Report	Jul – Sep 2015

Arrangements for Production

Political DPDs will be approved by the Council. Political responsibility for the producing the Core Strategy will rest with Cabinet Member (City Development)

Internal Led by Planning & Policy Manager and prepared by Planning Policy Team, supported by colleagues from other departments and agencies

External Resources

Community and Stakeholder Involvement In accordance with the SCI and regulations

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY

Role To assist the delivery of the Coventry Local Development Plan by capturing some of the uplift in land value resulting from the grant of planning permission, and using the money generated to fund infrastructure

Coverage City-wide

Status Development Plan Document

Conformity

The Infrastructure Delivery Plan, enshrined within the Core Strategy, will be updated regularly. The Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule will contain provision to regularly review the costs of delivering infrastructure, and hence the amount of the Levy itself.

It will be prepared in accordance with relevant regulations issued by Government.

Timetable

Stage	Estimated Dates
Start	August 2012
Preliminary Schedule Consultation	Jan – Mar 2013
Publication of Draft Charging Schedule	Apr - Jun 2013
Submission (incl Viability Report) to Secretary of State	Jul - Sep 2013
Hearing commences	Sep - Oct 2013
Receipt of Inspector's Report	December 2013

Arrangements for Production

Political Charging Schedule will be approved by the Council. Political responsibility for the producing the CIL will rest with Cabinet Member (City Development)

Internal Led by Planning & Policy Manager and prepared by Planning Policy Team, supported by colleagues from other departments and agencies

External Resources

Community and Stakeholder Involvement In accordance with the SCI and regulations

APPENDIX 1 - SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENTS

Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG)

Following the adoption of the Core Strategy, a review will place to prioritise preparation of SPD's to supersede existing SPG. In the interim, they will remain a material consideration

The Council has adopted the "Delivering a More Sustainable City" SPD in January 2009 and is consulting on an SPD titled "Urban Design Framework for the City Centre"

Appendix 2: Summary of issues raised by representations to July 2012 Submission Core Strategy

Policy	No of Comments*		Issues Raised	Officer Response	Proposed Change
	Support	Object			
OS1 – Hub & Spokes	6	9	Housing target is too low Not using exact “model” wording Should not identify University of Warwick in ‘spoke’ No mention of safety	SHMA informed housing target Includes “model” wording University of Warwick is an important site Agreed, make change	No change No change No change Add bullet point to OS1 to read “Developing an inclusive, safe and crime free environment”
EM1 – Building Sustainability Standards	1	6	Goes beyond Building Regulations requirements without justification or evidence and viability testing. Not consistent with CIL regulations	Agreed in part	Delete “and code level 5 from April 2016” from first sentence of EM1 Delete “the mechanism for achieving this will be set out in the CIL charging levy” from EM1
EM2 – Reducing Carbon Dioxide Emissions	0	6	Inflexible requiring DEN connection, it won’t always be available, should encourage instead of requiring.	If it is available, schemes should ordinarily connect to DEN, otherwise pointless exercise	No change
EM3 – Renewable Energy Generation	0	0	No specific comments	N/A	N/A
EM4 – Climate Change	0	2	Should define blue infrastructure	It does	No change

*numbers may not sum as various representations make more than one point, or are concerned with more than one policy. The table is indicative only, of the issues raised and how they have been responded to

Appendix 2: Summary of issues raised by representations to July 2012 Submission Core Strategy

Policy	No of Comments*		Issues Raised	Officer Response	Proposed Change
	Support	Object			
Adaptation			No mention of trees No national requirement for new green space	Agreed, make appropriate change Agreed, make appropriate change	Insert “including trees” after ‘shading’ in second bullet point Insert “may” after ‘such measures’ in second sentence
EM5 – Green & Blue Infrastructure	1	1	Not flexible enough Not always possible to keep the same amount of GI post – development	It does not rigidly stipulate GI must all be provided on site	No change No change
EM6 – Water Efficiency	0	2	No local evidence, requirement is arbitrary	Water cycle Study sets out justification	No change
EM7 – Flood Risk Management	0	0	No specific comments	N/A	N/A
EM8 – Sustainable Drainage Systems	0	1	No basis for SAB sign off before validating planning applications	This is preferred approach, to avoid unnecessary refusal of planning permission in the event that SAB approval is not in place in time if the processes were to run in parallel	No change
EM9 – Air Quality	0	1	Not justified, not clear what is being sought or how	Air Quality Action Plan (2007) currently under review. Consistent	No change

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Appendix 2: Summary of issues raised by representations to July 2012 Submission Core Strategy

Policy	No of Comments*		Issues Raised	Officer Response	Proposed Change
	Support	Object			
				with NPPF	
EM10 – Waste Management	0	1	Is unlawful because it gives competitive advantage to recycled materials	Manages the process of recycling	No change
EM11 – Safeguarding Mineral Resources	0	0	No specific comments	N/A	N/A
H1 – Release of Housing Land	12	29	Target is too low, not ONS figure, SHMA only city-wide in scope	SHMA is robust and informs the minimum target	No change
H2 – Provision of New Housing	1	7	Too prescriptive, requiring proximity to facilities and services	Large schemes may, where appropriate, include facilities or services	No change
H3 – Managing Existing Housing Stock	0	0	No specific comments	N/A	N/A
H4 – Affordable Housing	0	7	Percentages are too low/too high Should be flexibility for off-site provision (make high value areas' provision in lower value areas)	Based on SHMA / AHEVA Approach sought runs counter to objectives of rebalancing communities	No change No change
H5 – Student Housing	0	2	Too prescriptive, requiring accessibility to university would	It is anticipated that on-campus location would be accessible to	No change

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Appendix 2: Summary of issues raised by representations to July 2012 Submission Core Strategy

Policy	No of Comments*		Issues Raised	Officer Response	Proposed Change
	Support	Object			
			preclude on campus provision Too flexible, should restrict numbers of students in residential areas	campus so would comply with H5 Policy strikes a realistic and proportionate balance	
H6 – Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation	1	1	Too general, caveats can be used to resist proposals too easily	Agreed	In Criterion (a) add "relevant" before development plan and delete the words "issues such as" Replace criterion (d) with "The site should be capable of being served by adequate water and power supplies and have adequate foul and surface water drainage facilities." In criterion (e) add "significant" before adverse impact
H7 – Care Homes, Nursing Homes, & Older People's Housing	1	1	Policy is skewed in favour of extra care	Agreed in part	Insert "and other forms of specialist accommodation for the elderly"
H8 – Residential Density	0	5	Too prescriptive	Efficient use of land is important	No change
H9 – City Centre	0	0	No specific comments	N/A	N/A

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Appendix 2: Summary of issues raised by representations to July 2012 Submission Core Strategy

Policy	No of Comments*		Issues Raised	Officer Response	Proposed Change
	Support	Object			
Housing					
JE1 – Overall Economy & Employment Strategy	1	8	Should not support University of Warwick Should allocate land to meet the 100 hectare figure Should be more flexible regarding alternative use/s	University of Warwick is an important asset to Coventry 'Churn' will replenish supply, will only allocate if it does not JE1-4 offer sufficient flexibility, need to retain enough land for jobs	No change
JE2 – Provision of Employment Land & Premises	2	4	'Churn' sites need infrastructure and are therefore not viable. Should have higher target linked to higher housing target	'Churn' sites already have infrastructure in place Not agreed	No change
JE3 – Protection of Best Quality Employment Land	1	3	Too prescriptive / too flexible	Strikes an appropriate balance, but need to enable other appropriate job-creating use/s	Amend final sentence to read "...employment GENERATING use or uses". Delete "(B1/B2/B8)"
JE4 – Mixed Use Redevelopment of Employment Land	0	3	50% figure is not viable	Policy enables viability to be taken into account. Without a 'default' 50% figure, could not claim it to be a jobs-led strategy	No change
JE5 – Storage &	0	3	Too prescriptive / too flexible.	Large scale B8 needs to be appropriately located, to enable	No change

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Appendix 2: Summary of issues raised by representations to July 2012 Submission Core Strategy

Policy	No of Comments*		Issues Raised	Officer Response	Proposed Change
	Support	Object			
Distribution (B8)			Should not support Gateway scheme	24-hour operation, high bay configuration, and this is not usually compatible with residential neighbours	
SC1 – The Network of Centres	2	3	No justification for local shopping parades No justification for 250 sqm threshold for convenience retail impact assessment	Established the principle in 2009 draft CS Established in 2001 CDP, consistent with NPPF	No change
SC2 – Shops Outside Centres	1	4	Not consistent with NPPF to have 250 sqm threshold for convenience retail impact assessment	Established in 2001 CDP, consistent with NPPF	No change
SC3 – Ground Floor Units in Defined Centres	0	0	No specific comments	N/A	N/A
SC4 – Restaurants, Bars & Hot Food Take Aways	0	1	Approach is inconsistent with sequential/impact assessments	Town centre uses, set out in NPPF	No change
SC5 – Local Community	1	0	Suggest Sport England is involved with viability testing where	Agreed	Insert “For sports facilities the methodology showing the lack of

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Appendix 2: Summary of issues raised by representations to July 2012 Submission Core Strategy

Policy	No of Comments*		Issues Raised	Officer Response	Proposed Change
	Support	Object			
Facilities			appropriate		need or financial viability should be agreed with Coventry City Council and in conjunction with Sport England”
Acc1 – Accessible Transport Network	0	0	No specific comments	N/A	N/A
Acc2 – Network Capacity	0	0	No specific comments	N/A	N/A
Acc3 – Demand Management	0	0	No specific comments	N/A	N/A
Acc4 – Walking & Cycling	0	1	Not justified by a viability assessment	Each case is considered on its merits, CIL work includes viability testing	No change
Acc5 – Bus & Rapid Transit	0	1	Not justified by a viability assessment	Each case is considered on its merits, CIL work includes viability testing	No change
Acc6 – Rail	0	1	Does not address upgrade, notably to Birmingham	Noted	No change
Acc7 – Freight	0	0	No specific comments	N/A	N/A

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Appendix 2: Summary of issues raised by representations to July 2012 Submission Core Strategy

Policy	No of Comments*		Issues Raised	Officer Response	Proposed Change
	Support	Object			
GB1 – Green Belt	7	16	Should make specific boundary changes to Green Belt. Should preclude Kings Hill Triangle, and Gateway, from development	The changes promoted either have been considered by recent appeal, or the current boundary is strong Sites lie in Warwick District, not Coventry	No change
GB2 – Industrial or Commercial Buildings in the Green Belt	1	1	Should be more flexible	Is consistent with national policy	No change
HE1 – Conservation and Heritage Assets	1	0	General support	Welcomed	No change
DE1 – Ensuring High Quality Design	0	3	Not precise enough, does not refer to designing out crime	Agreed in part	Additional criterion included within policy DE1. “...All development will be expected to meet the following key principles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take into account ground conditions and land instability, including from activities such as coal mining, and include appropriate remediation and mitigation measures”. Insert additional bullet point DE1

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Appendix 2: Summary of issues raised by representations to July 2012 Submission Core Strategy

Policy	No of Comments*		Issues Raised	Officer Response	Proposed Change
	Support	Object			
					to read "Promote safe and secure communities"
GE1 – Green Infrastructure	2	9	Should have specific policy relating to trees Not viability tested Should show GI network on PM	Amend EM4 & GE3 to refer to trees CIL process will consider viability in more detail Not desirable, would require frequent amendment	Amend EM4 & GE3 to refer to trees
GE2 – parks, Open Space, Outdoor Sports & Recreational Facilities	2	0	Reference formal and informal provision in policy	Agreed	Insert the following words 'there is no longer a demand, or prospect of demand, for the formal or informal recreational use of the site or any other green space use' at the end of the first sentence of bullet point 1 in Policy GE2.
GE3 – Biodiversity, Geological, Landscape and Archaeological Conservation	0	4	Does not refer to ancient trees Does not protect trees during construction process	Agreed The policy can be used to require protective fencing etc	Amend final sentence to read "ancient woodland and ancient trees..."
IM1 – Developer Contributions for	2	4	Should refer to CIL funding for	Not agreed, general taxation funds	No change

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Appendix 2: Summary of issues raised by representations to July 2012 Submission Core Strategy

Policy	No of Comments*		Issues Raised	Officer Response	Proposed Change
	Support	Object			
Infrastructure			police Should set out how CS will be monitored	police services Table 6 does this	
Consultation	1	5	Was adequate / inadequate	Was in accordance with SCI and regulations	No change
Duty to Cooperate	0	5	Has not been discharged	Is a continuous process, will clarify with minor change	Delete "draft" from second sentence of paragraph 3.1
Gateway Scheme	1	5	CCC should not support Gateway, no need for it, land is in Green Belt	Is in Warwick District, current planning application will deal with issues	No change
Housing Target	8	13	Target is too low, various alternatives promoted	Informed by a robust SHMA	No change
8.13, JE1 – JE4	0	5	Inconsistent, not justified	Taken together the policies manage supply of employment land	No change
8.4	0	2	Planning for the wrong number of jobs in the wrong places	That is why the policy approach is flexible, based on best available information	No change
Centre boundaries	0	6	Various boundaries should be	Not necessary or desirable, need to be flexible enough to operate	No change

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Appendix 2: Summary of issues raised by representations to July 2012 Submission Core Strategy

Policy	No of Comments*		Issues Raised	Officer Response	Proposed Change
	Support	Object			
			amended (notably Cheylesmore)	sequential approach	
Transport Section	0	22	Various clarifications sought	Noted	Add terms to glossary
Charterhouse	0	1	Make specific reference to aspiration for riverside walkway	Agreed but with amendment to suggested wording	Add sentence at end of para 11.27 to read "The Charterhouse Residents Association has an aspiration to open up a green corridor along the River Sherbourne from Far Gosford Street through the Charterhouse Fields"
Park Hill Lane triangle	0	1	Should take land out of Green Belt, previous Inspector recommended this	String of planning applications have been refused, the most recent post-dated 2009 CS, and was dismissed at appeal	No change
Cromwell Lane	0	2	Move Green belt boundary to rear of gardens, previous CS Inspector recommended this	Existing Green Belt boundary is clear, defensible and in CCC control	No change
Level Crossings	0	2	Use CIL to fund removal / upgrading of level crossings	That is the responsibility of Network Rail and not development	No change

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Appendix 2: Summary of issues raised by representations to July 2012 Submission Core Strategy

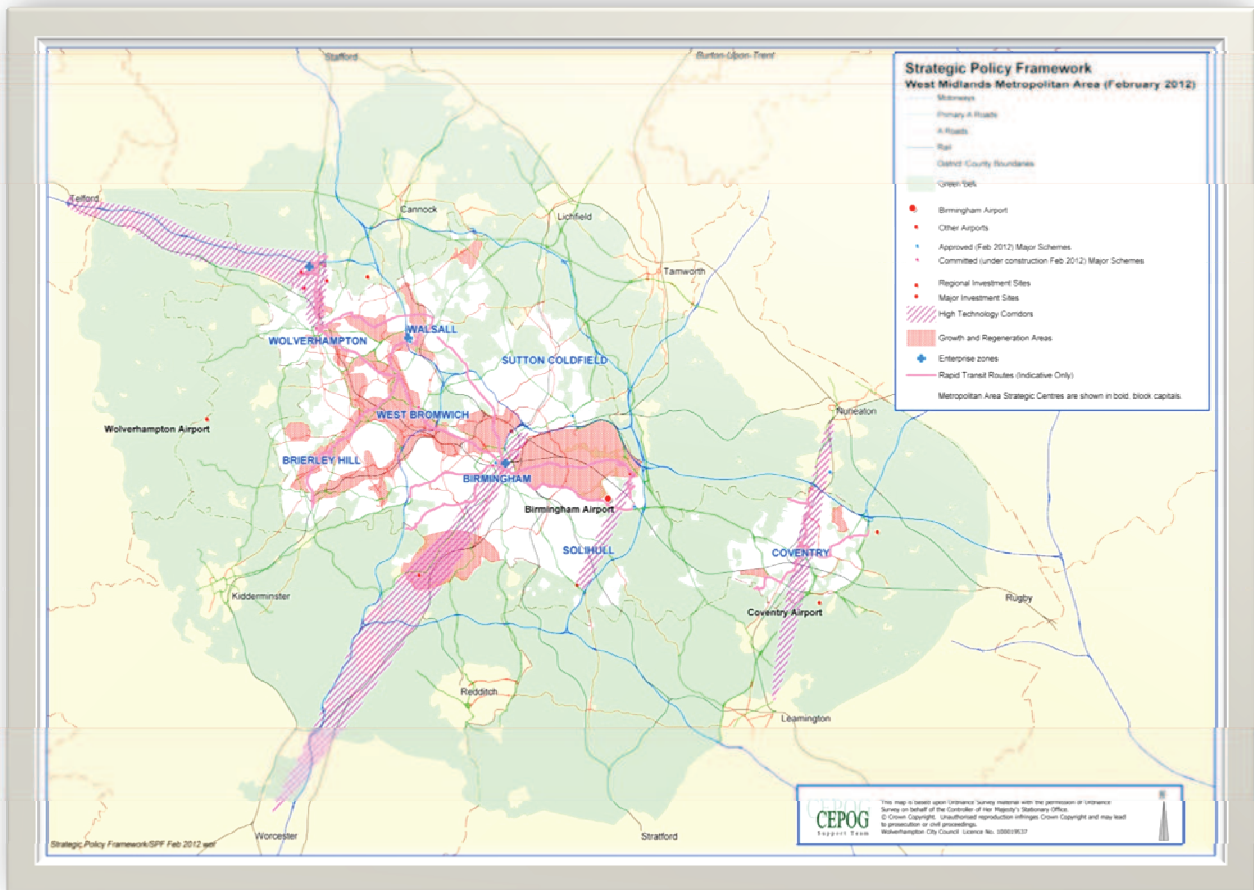
Policy	No of Comments*		Issues Raised	Officer Response	Proposed Change
	Support	Object			
Viability	0	N	Not enough account of viability	Each case is considered on its merits, there are flexibilities included in policies, specifically to address viability issue, CIL will add detail to viability evidence soon	No change
Typographical errors	0	2	Various typos	Make corrections	Make typographical corrections
Page numbers and paragraph number references	0	2	Page numbers are absent, some paragraph numbers are wrong	Make corrections, insert page numbers	Make corrections, insert page numbers

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Para/Policy	Source	Ref	Maps/Tables	Other	Change
3.1	Queens College Oxford JG Grey Ltd	093/03			Delete "draft" from 2nd sentence
	Theatres Trust	025/01			Delete "draft" from 2nd sentence
3.10	Queens College Oxford JG Grey Ltd	093/04			Amend paragraph 3.10 to read "The Localism Act introduced a new "duty to co-operate", which means that Councils and others have to work together and not on their own in isolation."
3.11	Centro	042/03			Add "Centro" to the list of Duty to Cooperate bodies in the Table in section 3.11
OS1	West Midlands Police Authority	024/03			Insert additional bullet point to policy OS1 to read "Developing an inclusive, safe and crime free environment"
EM1	Queens College Oxford JG Grey Ltd	093/11			Delete the words 'The mechanism for achieving this will be set out in the CIL charging levy'.
EM1	Home Builders Federation	081/04			Delete the words 'and code level 5 from April 2016' from the first sentence of Policy EM1.
EM4	Queens College Oxford JG Grey Ltd	093/09			Add the word 'may ' after 'such measures' at the second sentence of para 1 of policy EM4.
EM4	Woodland Trust	021/01			Amend second bullet point of policy EM4 to read "provision of summer shading INCLUDING TREES, and use of passive....
	Anna Bush	070/08			Amend second bullet point of policy EM4 to read "provision of summer shading INCLUDING TREES, and use of passive....
EM11	Coal Authority	003			Policy criteria should be included within the Core Strategy to provide a mechanism for assessing non-mineral development proposals within the defined MSAs.
6.15	Staff	N/A			After para 6.15, insert the following text verbatim: providing natural cooling and heating benefits to the occupants of buildings; the preservation of biodiversity by creating and maintaining urban habitats improving the city's image and raising the competitiveness of the city. This could bring economic benefits including increased inward investment, which may in turn stimulate further expansion of green and blue infrastructure.
7.11	Merle Gering	N/A			Replace "manor" with "manner"
7.17	Staff	N/A			Change 14,400 to 15,053
H6	National Federation Of Gypsy Liaison Groups	054/01			In Criterion (a) add "relevant" before development plan and delete the words "issues such as" Replace criterion (d) with "The site should be capable of being served by adequate water and power supplies and have adequate foul and surface water drainage facilities." In criterion (e) add "significant" before adverse impact
H7	McCarthy and Stone	087/01			Amend policy H7 to include "and other forms of specialist accommodation for the elderly" in order to add clarity about the types of residential provision to be covered in the policy. The first bullet point would then read as follows: "Proposals for care homes, nursing homes and other forms of specialist accommodation for the elderly will be encouraged in areas that are accessible by a choice of means of transport and that are situated in close proximity to key local services".
7.21	Staff	N/A			Add "The mix of types and tenures of new homes should have regard to policy H4 of this plan and the Council's SHMA".
7.30	Staff	N/A			Change 391 to 390. This reflects the finalised evidence base and is a result of rounding.
8.12	Staff	N/A			replace "Policy SG15" with "Policy JE2"
JE3	Meggitt Aerospace Ltd	041/04			Amend final sentence of policy JE3 to read "the site will not be permitted to transfer to non-employment GENERATING use or uses
JE3	Coventry & Warwickshire LEP	L4/05			Delete "(B1/B2/B8)" from final sentence of Policy JE3.
9.9	Mike Ashworth	020/02			Delete "Asda, Daventry Road 960m2 gross, 801m2 net (trading) area"
9.11	Spen Hill	088/02			Amend the relevant sentence within Para 9.11 to read as follows: '...Centres should include a residential element, where appropriate, either through "over the shop" conversions or new build and be a focus for further improvements to public transport services, walking and cycling to ensure their sustainability.'
SC1 C	Staff	N/A			Second bullet point remove "include"
SC2 B	sTAFF	N/A			Remove "a" from end of first sentence, to read role and character of defined centres
SC4	STAFF	N/A			Insert "and" to read within defined centres and employment areas "and" will normally
SC5	Sport England	89/03			Add additional wording after the first bullet point of SC5 to include "...For sports facilities the methodology showing the lack of need or financial viability should be agreed with Coventry City Council and in conjunction with Sport England'.
10.55	Coventry Partnership	073/17			Addition term, rapid transport to glossary
10.6	Coventry Partnership	073/02			Addition of terms, trips generators and trip attractors and permeable to glossary.

11.10	English Heritage	022/02			Amend paragraph 11.10 to read: "The policy will be implemented through the Development Management process and the following positive conservation initiatives. The Council will continue to maintain an up-to-date and accessible Historic Environment Record as the principal evidence base on the city's Historic Environment. This information, including Historic Landscape Characterisation and the Arden Design Guidance, will help to guide appropriate change and inform decisions regarding historic character and local distinctiveness. The Council will continue to maintain an up-to-date Local List. The Council will produce Appraisals and Management Plans for all of the city's Conservation Areas to guide their protection and enhancement, and will also investigate the potential for designating new conservation areas and for reviewing the boundaries of existing conservation areas. The Council will help maintain its Heritage at Risk Register and work with owners to reduce the number of heritage assets at risk in Coventry. The Council will propose buildings for Listing by national government where it is felt to be appropriate.
11.15	West Midlands Police Authority	024/04			Include reference to Safer Places-Planning System and Crime Prevention (2004) ODPM, in the "existing guidance" box following paragraph 11.15
DE1	Coal Authority	003			Additional criterion included within policy DE1. "...All development will be expected to meet the following key principles: • Take into account ground conditions and land instability, including from activities such as coal mining, and include appropriate remediation and mitigation measures".
DE1	West Midlands Police Authority	024/04			Insert additional bullet point DE1 to read "Promote safe and secure communities"
DE1	Staff	N/A			New bullet point to read "wherever possible, mature trees will be retained and planted, where space permits, in accordance with the Council's Trees and Development Guidelines" to help support carbon capture
11.27	Charterhouse residents Association	029/01			Add sentence at end of para 11.27 to read "The Charterhouse Residents Association has an aspiration to open up a green corridor along the River Sherbourne from Far Gosford Street through the Charterhouse Fields"
GE2	Sport England	089/04			insert the following words 'there is no longer a demand, or prospect of demand, for the formal or informal recreational use of the site or any other green space use' at the end of the first sentence of bullet point 1 in Policy GE2.
GE3	Woodland Trust	021/03			Amend final sentence of policy GE3 to read "Ancient Woodlands AND ANCIENT TREES, historic..."
	Sport England	089/07	Table 5		Remove reference to BSF in table 5 and add Sport England and National Governing Bodies of Sport references in table 5 under sports and cultural facilities.
	Coal Authority	003	Proposals		The detailed boundaries for MSAs should be identified on the Proposals Map and be removed from the Key Diagram
	Staff		Proposals		Additon of LWS at Coventry Supergrid B
	Staff		Proposals		Deletion of SSSI at Websters Park
	Staff			Housing Evidence List	Delete the Coventry and Warwickshire Duty to Cooperate - Housing Strategy (2012) from the list of local evidence base
	Staff			Factual Correction	Correct errors in paragraph numbering in sections 2 and 12
	Staff			Factual Correction	Insert Page numbers throughout document.
	Merle Gering			Factual Correction	Replace "cities" with "city's" throughout document

STRATEGIC POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR THE WEST MIDLANDS METROPOLITAN AREA



 Birmingham City Council

 Coventry City Council

 Dudley
Metropolitan Borough Council

 Sandwell
Metropolitan Borough Council

 Solihull
METROPOLITAN
BOROUGH COUNCIL

 Walsall Council

 Wolverhampton
City Council

STRATEGIC POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR THE WEST MIDLANDS METROPOLITAN AREA

Purpose of the Strategic Policy Framework

1. A long term Urban Renaissance strategy was put in place through the West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS), 2004 and updated in 2008. In short this sought to develop urban areas in such a way that they can increasingly meet their own economic and social needs in order to counter the unsustainable movement of people and jobs facilitated by previous strategies. These previous development patterns were also leading to greater car reliance and longer journeys resulting in congestion, air pollution and limiting the scope to reduce carbon emissions.
2. This approach has been independently examined on three separate occasions, most recently via the RSS Phase II Revision Examination in Public in 2009, and was reaffirmed as the most appropriate way forward. This, however, predated the current economic downturn.
3. As these unsustainable trends had evolved over time, it follows that this approach requires time to bed down and as such the strategy was considered to be a long term one. Monitoring thus far suggests that the strategy is beginning to take effect; further information is set out in the attached appendix.
4. In the light of the Government's early commitment to revoke Regional Spatial Strategies (RSSs), the West Midlands Planning and Transportation Sub Committee (WMP&TSC)¹ approved a Strategic Planning Position Statement its meeting on 21st January 2011, which continued to support the broad Urban Renaissance principles set out in the RSS. This was subsequently endorsed by the West Midlands Joint Committee (WMJC) at its meeting on 26th January 2011.
5. In November 2011, the Localism Act attained Royal Assent. Section 110 sets out the 'duty to cooperate', which Government intends will replace RSS as a basis for strategic / cross boundary planning. Section 109 gives Government the powers to revoke the eight RSSs outside London following completion of an 'environmental assessment' for each; until this time RSS remains part of the statutory development plan. Consequently, WMP&TSC took the opportunity to refresh the statement at its meeting on 2nd March 2012.

¹ The West Midlands Joint Committee (WMJC) was established by the District Councils of the County of West Midlands on 24 July 1985. The Constitution of the WMJC has been updated to reflect changes in law brought about, primarily, by the Local Government Act 2000. All seven Metropolitan leaders sit on WMJC. In terms of its functions; the WMJC is responsible for co-ordination and joint action on issues of mutual interest. The WMJC may appoint such sub-committees to consider and deal with its functions of the Committee as may be thought desirable. A long-established example is the West Midlands Planning and Transportation Sub Committee (WMP&TSC), which is made up of senior elected members from the seven Metropolitan Authorities and the Integrated Transport Authority / Centro. WMP&TSC considers strategic planning and transportation matters as they affect the area as a whole.

6. Strategic planning issues in the West Midlands Metropolitan Area include, inter alia:
 - Cross boundary housing market areas;
 - Cross boundary labour markets and commuting patterns;
 - Promoting urban regeneration through the reuse of previously developed land;
 - The provision of major infrastructure, particularly transport and green infrastructure;
 - Major retail and leisure facilities with cross boundary catchments;
 - The need to retain and enhance environmental quality and prevent urban sprawl through strategically important designations such as the Meriden Gap;
 - Measures to address the causes and consequences of climate change and the need to improve air quality.
7. Once the RSS has been abolished Local Plans² will be sovereign. If, however, Local Plans are not in place then the draft National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) suggests that there is a 'presumption in favour of sustainable development'; a final NPPF is due to be published by April 2012³.
8. Due to the procedures that must to be followed and the need for independent examination, it is not possible for all local plans to be in place before the proposed abolition of the RSS and publication of the NPPF. Moreover, the Localism Act is now in place and it is a statutory requirement to comply with the Duty to Cooperate.
9. The purpose of this Framework, therefore, is to:
 - Enable a smooth transition between abolition of RSS, and up to date local plans and effective wider Duty to Cooperate mechanisms being in place;
 - Demonstrate commitment to ongoing collaboration in order to meet Duty to Cooperate responsibilities within the Metropolitan Area;
 - Advise those bodies subject to the Duty to Cooperate and other key stakeholders including Local Enterprise Partnerships that Metropolitan Authorities remain committed to urban renaissance and are responding to Government's growth agenda;
 - Be a material consideration in plan preparation and development management decisions; and
 - Continue to provide a coherent strategic spatial context for the third West Midlands Local Transport Plan (LTP3), which covers the administrative areas of the seven Metropolitan Authorities.

² Including saved UDP policies and Local Development Frameworks.

³ NPPF paragraph 214

Urban Renaissance and Government Policy

10. Since taking office, Government has issued several plans, strategies and statements seeking to foster local economic growth to support the national economy and reduce the budget deficit. A summary and chronology of the most salient issues that impact on cities and urban areas, and by inference support Urban Renaissance, is set out below.

White Paper for Growth – Realising every place’s potential

11. The White Paper Local Growth⁴ sets out Government’s ambition to foster prosperity in all parts of the country, harnessing the potential across the range of industries. Previously growth has been concentrated in some areas of the country but not others, and within a limited number of sectors, notably financial services. Instead, the economy must be rebalanced ensuring that growth is spread and prosperity shared.
12. Cities and urban areas have a key role to play in this as there can often be a mutually beneficial economic relationship between larger cities and surrounding urban areas, which the Government wishes to support, for example in the eight core city-regions outside London: Birmingham, Bristol, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham and Sheffield.
13. Through the Growth White Paper, Government offered Council Leaders and prominent members of the business community to form Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs). The White Paper sets out the diverse roles the LEPs can play depending on their local priorities. These could include ensuring that planning and infrastructure investment support business needs, and working with Government to support enterprise, innovation, global trade and inward investment. A combination of strong business leadership with groups of local authorities whose planning, regulatory and public realm roles are critical to growth will help achieve this. The West Midlands Metropolitan Area straddles three LEP areas:
 - Black Country
 - Coventry and Warwickshire
 - Greater Birmingham and Solihull

The Budget Statement and Plan for Growth

14. The Plan for Growth⁵ that accompanied the Budget in March 2011 reiterated this and seeks an increase in private sector employment, especially in regions outside London and the South East. It cites increases in investment and exports as a route to a more balanced economy.

⁴ <http://www.bis.gov.uk/policies/economic-development/local-growth-white-paper>

⁵ http://cdn.hm-treasury.gov.uk/2011budget_growth.pdf

15. The West Midlands Metropolitan Area is well placed to benefit from this agenda, with its manufacturing base contributing to export led growth. The region performs strongly in terms of exports to EU and non EU countries, especially when compared to areas other than London and the South East. The West Midlands is at the heart of the automotive industry, which is one of the largest in terms of the value of its exports.
16. The Plan for Growth also announced that Enterprise Zones would be created, including in Greater Birmingham / Solihull and the Black Country LEP areas. Businesses within these zones would benefit from business rate discounts and a simplified regulatory framework, whilst the LEP would be able to retain business rate growth. These zones are based around Birmingham City Centre, the i54 site to the north of Wolverhampton and the Darlaston Strategic Development Area in Walsall. The i54 site has subsequently attracted a £335 million investment in the form of Jaguar Land Rover's Advanced Engineering facility
17. The Plan for Growth also signaled the need to reform the planning system to make it simpler, easier to navigate and consequently a tool to enable growth. In doing so, however, it stated that:

This policy change does not affect the Government's commitment to maintain the greenbelt, Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and other environmental designations.

18. On 23rd March 2011, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government issued a complementary Ministerial Statement which advised that:

Councils will be able to identify the most suitable locations for growth in their areas, having regard to the coalition commitment to protecting the environment, including maintaining the Green Belt and other environmental designations

National Infrastructure Plan

19. A revised National Infrastructure Plan⁶ was published in November 2011 to accompany the Autumn Budget Statement, this made further commitments to growth in the West Midlands Metropolitan Area through announcing the below investment:
 - M6 managed motorway scheme between Birmingham and Manchester
 - A45 Westbound Bridge (Solihull) – Replacement bridge over the West Coast Main Line close from Birmingham Airport on the A45 strategic corridor into Birmingham
 - A45/46 Tollbar End improvement scheme
 - A45 Corridor (Damson Parkway to M42 junction 6) diversion

⁶ http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/national_infrastructure_plan2011.htm

20. The document also pledged to submit a hybrid Bill to Parliament for the first Phase of High Speed Two (London-West Midlands rail line) in late 2013 subject to the Secretary of State for Transport's announcement. Following consultation, the Secretary of State announced her support for High Speed Two in January 2012.

Department for Transport Major Scheme Announcements

21. Following the Autumn Statement, Government also announced support for further local transport schemes in December 2011, including the following within the Metropolitan Area:
- **Coventry-Nuneaton Rail Upgrade (formerly known as NUCKLE).** Enhanced rail service and two new stations on the Coventry to Nuneaton railway line; total cost of £18.8m).
 - **Darlaston (Walsall).** Various road improvements including new bridges over the canal and railway, junction improvements, modifications to existing roads to open up development area; total cost of £25.9m.
 - **Chester Road (Birmingham).** Widening of Chester Road to a three lane dual carriageway from M6 Jct 5 with bus priority and pedestrian improvements; total cost of £10.5m.
22. These schemes are now in a position to proceed to seek statutory powers and formal tender prices prior to final approval. In February 2012, the Local Transport Minister gave final approval for the £128m extension of the Midland Metro to Birmingham New Street.

Government Response to the Communities and Local Government Committee's report on Regeneration

23. The Communities and Local Government Committee's report on Regeneration⁷ was published in November 2011; the Government published its response on 13th January 2012. In short, it deemed that regeneration is about addressing problems faced by a community, widening opportunities and growing the local economy. It is not a matter for Government to define regeneration beyond this; consequently, there is no requirement for a national regeneration strategy.
24. The response, however, states that Government and the Homes and Communities Agency, however, continue to support housing and regeneration in places that have previously experienced housing market challenges. Its response also expects local plans to identify areas for economic regeneration, supports town centre first and prioritising development of sites of lower environmental quality. It also anticipates that local authorities will want development on previously developed land and, in order to support this, draws attention to retention of Land Remediation Relief for developers.

⁷ <http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/communities-and-local-government-committee/news/regen-report-publication>

Urban Renaissance Guiding Principles

25. The guiding principles supporting Urban Renaissance can be summarised as follows:

- Stemming the uncontrolled decentralisation of people, jobs and other activities away from the Metropolitan Area by improving the quality of the urban environment as a whole.
- Making the best use of existing urban capacity
- Improving, or where necessary replacing existing infrastructure
- Ensuring that development is directed sequentially with priority given to promoting brownfield development in sustainable locations

Refreshed Shared Policy Priorities

26. Government has powers to abolish RSSs through the Localism Act once environmental assessments have been undertaken, until that time RSS remains part of the statutory development plan.

27. Once RSS has been abolished, it is necessary to ensure a smooth transition until up to date local plans are in place and effective Duty to Cooperate arrangements established. The below shared policy priorities which support Urban Renaissance guiding principles, continue to be collectively supported

Employment Land Supply

- Provision for a rolling five year supply of employment land in each plan area sufficient to meet development needs of the plan period
- Protecting the employment land portfolio to meet the identified range of needs in each plan area
- Promoting development within the Black Country LEP and Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP Enterprise Zones
- Support for the development at key nodes in the identified High Technology Corridors⁸ to counter structural changes in the manufacturing sector and to fully exploit agglomeration effects. These are:
 - * The Central Technology Belt (Birmingham City Centre – Worcestershire A38 Corridor)
 - * Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire
 - * Wolverhampton to Telford
- Regional Investment Sites⁹ and Major Investment Sites are large, high quality sites with good access to the strategic highway network and have

⁸ These are shown diagrammatically and do not denote corridor based ribbon development or Green Belt land release for development. It is nodes within these corridors such as research and educational institutions and key sites that will be identified for development

been identified to support growth and diversification of the local economy; their benefits in terms of job creation transgress local authority boundaries. Their retention, implementation, appropriate expansion is supported as is the identification of further sites to meet identified shortfalls

- Support ongoing work to make adequate provision to meet the needs of the logistics industry, including the need for an Regional Logistics Site to support the economic growth and diversification of the Black Country

Housing

- Within the context of Urban Renaissance, enable housing needs to be met, including the full range of market and affordable housing to be provided
- Priority for the reuse of brownfield land and, where appropriate, re-use of existing buildings
- Application of the following criteria at a local level to govern the identification and release of land:
 - * The need to maintain and accelerate Urban Renaissance
 - * Bring forward previously developed land in sustainable locations prior to the phasing of greenfield sites
 - * Prioritise sites where development would support regeneration through opening up further opportunities for mixed use sustainable development

Growth and Regeneration

- Regeneration led growth and investment focussed on bringing forward previously developed land and making the best use of existing infrastructure and resources within the identified Regeneration Zones.¹⁰

Strategic Centres

- The strategic centres of Birmingham, Brierley Hill, Coventry, Solihull, Sutton Coldfield, Walsall, West Bromwich and Wolverhampton should be the focus for new major comparison retail development and large scale leisure and office developments. Their roles as the most accessible locations to serve large catchments should be maintained and enhanced.
- Other important centres should be the subject of local policies to meet more local needs.

⁹ Ansty, Birmingham Business Park, Blythe Valley Park, Hilton Cross, Wolverhampton Business Park, i54 Wobaston Road, Longbridge, East Aston

¹⁰ East Birmingham / North Solihull, North Black Country / South Staffordshire, West Birmingham / South Black Country

Transport

- Implementation of a Rapid Transit Network and the public transport and highway schemes as identified in the LTP3 to support the Urban Renaissance.
- Support for the runway extension of Birmingham Airport and improved access to the Airport and the National Exhibition Centre from all parts of the Metropolitan Area.
- Support for strategic Park and Ride provision at appropriate locations to relieve congestion in the Metropolitan Area subject to impacts on the strategic highway network and other environmental impacts.

Green Belt and Infrastructure

- Strategic adjustments to Green Belt boundaries are not supported where they would encourage selective out migration of population from urban areas and run counter to regeneration objectives.
- Support for cross boundary identification and co-ordination of Green Infrastructure Networks

Current and Emerging Priorities for Spatial Development

28. All of the authorities have saved UDP policies that support the urban renaissance, all have or are working on Core Strategies / Local Plans to update and develop the strategy for the regeneration of their areas and all are working on other development plan documents to plan for growth and regeneration within this framework. Together these plans should deliver at the local level the Urban Renaissance strategy for the wider area.
29. The current status of the main strategic elements of the authorities' local plans and their spatial priorities are set out in summary below:

Birmingham

30. Consultation on the Birmingham draft Core Strategy ended in March 2011, it is anticipated that a publication version will be approved by the Council in October 2012.
31. The draft Core Strategy focuses on growth within the Eastern Corridor, the City Centre, identified Sustainable Urban Neighbourhoods¹¹ (including Longbridge) and the Aston, Newtown and Lozells area. This coincides with growth proposals in the Black Country to the west and Solihull to the east. The Big City Plan outlines specific areas in the City Centre where resources will be focussed along with details of individual projects, schemes and infrastructure; sites within

¹¹ Greater Icknield, Southern Gateway / Highgate, Bordesley Park, Stechford, Meadway, Shard End, Druids Heath, Kings Norton 3 Estates, Longbridge

the City Centre have been designated as the Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP Enterprise Zone.

Black Country

32. The Black Country Joint Core Strategy, covering the administrative areas of Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton, was adopted in February 2011. The majority of growth is directed towards an identified Growth Network, which comprises the strategic centres of Brierley Hill, Walsall, West Bromwich, Wolverhampton and 16 Regeneration Corridors. The Growth Network coincides with growth proposals in Birmingham to the south east. Land to the north of Wolverhampton (i54) and at Darlaston in Walsall comprises the Black Country LEP Regeneration Zone.

Coventry

33. Consultation on a proposed Core Strategy ended in October 2011.
34. This proposes employment led growth focussed in the City Centre and the Strategic Regeneration Areas of Canley, Swanswell and the Wood End, Henley Green and Manor Farm New Deal for Communities Area. Unless already committed Green Belt and Greenfield sites to be protected from development.

Solihull

35. Following consultation on Issues & Options and on an Emerging Core Strategy, the pre-submission draft Local Plan was published in January 2012.
36. It focuses housing growth and new employment opportunities in or near North Solihull including Green Belt adjustments to facilitate local regeneration and growth ambitions with additional development in the urban west and its town centres, especially in areas well served by public transport, and small scale development to meet local needs in rural settlements. The Meriden Gap will be maintained and economic assets such as Birmingham Airport, the National Exhibition Centre and the two Regional Investment Sites in the M42 Gateway will be sustained and further developed to drive the growth of the sub regional economy.

Cross Boundary Issues

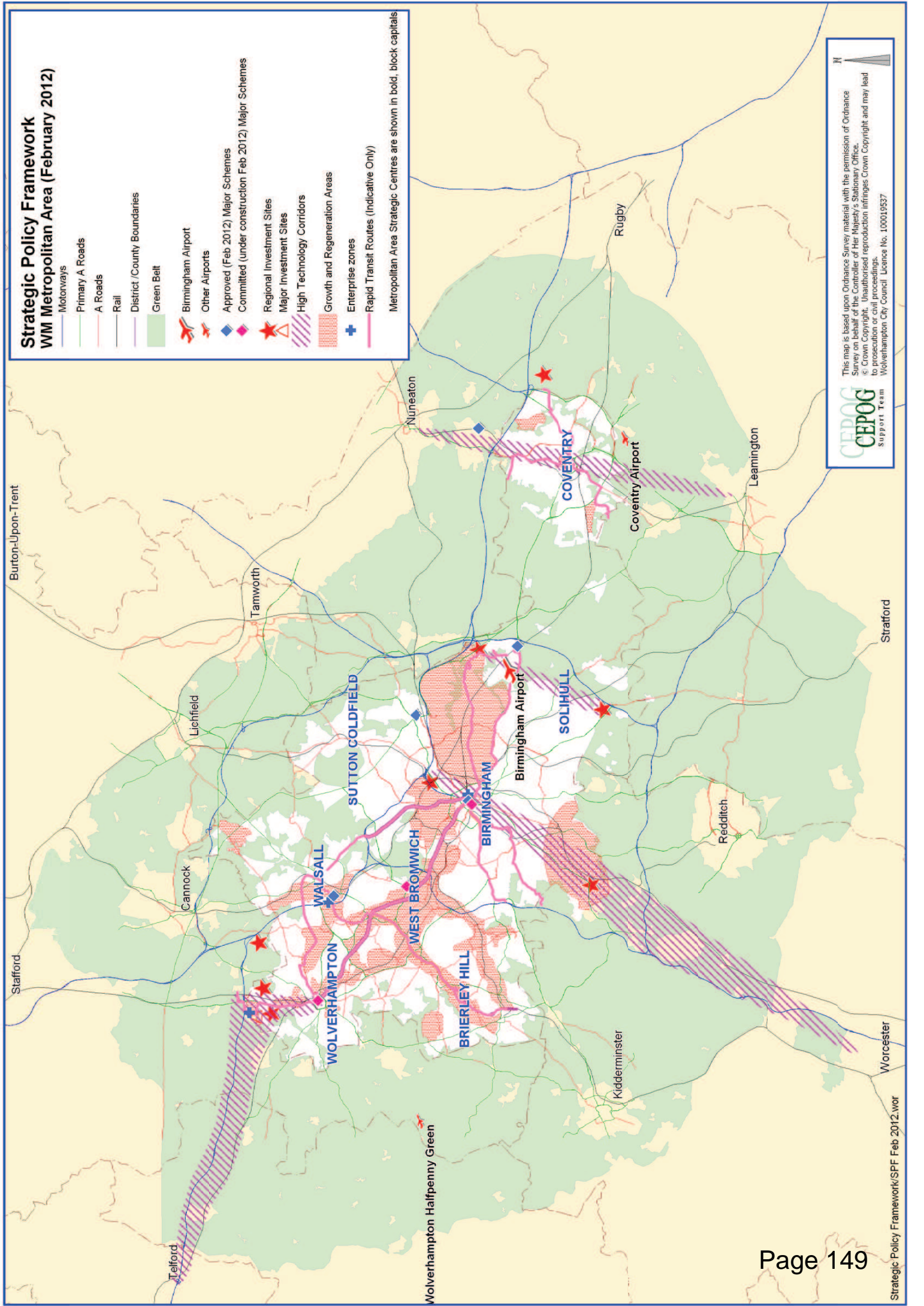
37. These plan making areas cannot be considered in isolation, there are cross boundary relationships and opportunities to be exploited. The successful implementation of the Urban Renaissance Strategy, therefore, requires an element of redistribution to direct growth and investment to the most sustainable locations within the Metropolitan Area.
38. Within the conurbation, Birmingham and Solihull cannot meet all of the development needs that are generated. The neighbouring Black Country, however, can meet more than its own needs and a bold growth led Core Strategy is in place which can accommodate some of this growth in a manner

consistent with the BCJCS's objectives. There is considerable evidence that show population movement to the Black Country from other parts of conurbation is an established pattern and this needs to be accelerated. This supports Urban Renaissance through stemming out migration from the Metropolitan Area, encouraging physical regeneration and investment, whilst relieving pressure on more environmentally sensitive areas.

39. Coventry is physically separated from the rest of the conurbation by the strategically important Meriden Gap, encroachment into it is inappropriate as it would undermine urban regeneration and the longstanding commitment to retaining its openness. Coventry's economic geography is closely related to Warwickshire, and the Council is working with Shire districts to refresh the Coventry and Warwickshire Strategy,
40. Not all needs, particularly from Birmingham, Coventry and Solihull, can be met in their entirety with the collective boundaries of the Metropolitan Area, and there will an ongoing requirement for a reasonable level of migration to some Shire Districts to be accommodated whilst not undermining regeneration of the Black Country. A failure to address this could have adverse implications on housing affordability and the actual provision of affordable housing and on the local economy, especially as migrants from elsewhere may outbid local people.

Strategic Policy Framework WM Metropolitan Area (February 2012)

- Motownways
- Primary A Roads
- A Roads
- Rail
- District / County Boundaries
- Green Belt
- Birmingham Airport
- Other Airports
- Approved (Feb 2012) Major Schemes
- Committed (under construction Feb 2012) Major Schemes
- Regional Investment Sites
- Major Investment Sites
- High Technology Corridors
- Growth and Regeneration Areas
- Enterprise zones
- Rapid Transit Routes (Indicative Only)
- Metropolitan Area Strategic Centres are shown in bold, block capitals



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Support Team
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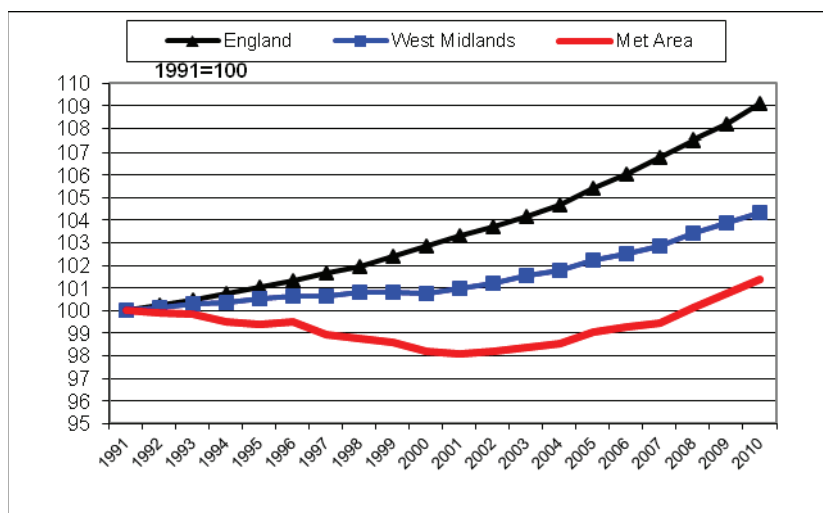
Appendix: Progress towards Urban Renaissance

41. As set out in the main Strategic Policy Framework, the urban renaissance strategy seeks to ensure that the Metropolitan Area can meet more of its own needs through population growth and retention, an increase in the number of jobs available and an accompanying acceleration of development, particularly on previously developed land.
42. This is a long term approach given that decentralisation of activity, population decline and dereliction were deep rooted trends. Progress towards urban renaissance was monitored through Annual Monitoring Reports (AMR) published by the former West Midlands Regional Assembly¹²; the final 2009 AMR was published in February 2010.
43. Headline data from these reports is presented below and augmented by other sources where appropriate. Since the abandonment of the West Midlands RSS AMR key data has been collected from West Midlands authorities on a voluntary basis.

Population and Migration

44. Figure 1 demonstrates the scale of the challenge in terms of delivering urban renaissance through stemming population decline. Between 1991 and 2000, population in the Metropolitan Area declined by over 47,400 (1.8%), whereas it continued to grow steadily elsewhere in the region. Between 2001 and 2010, population within the Metropolitan Area grew by 87,100 (3.4%), whilst the rate of growth elsewhere in the region remained comparable to past rates.

Figure1: Population change in the Metropolitan Area, West Midlands and England 1991–2010

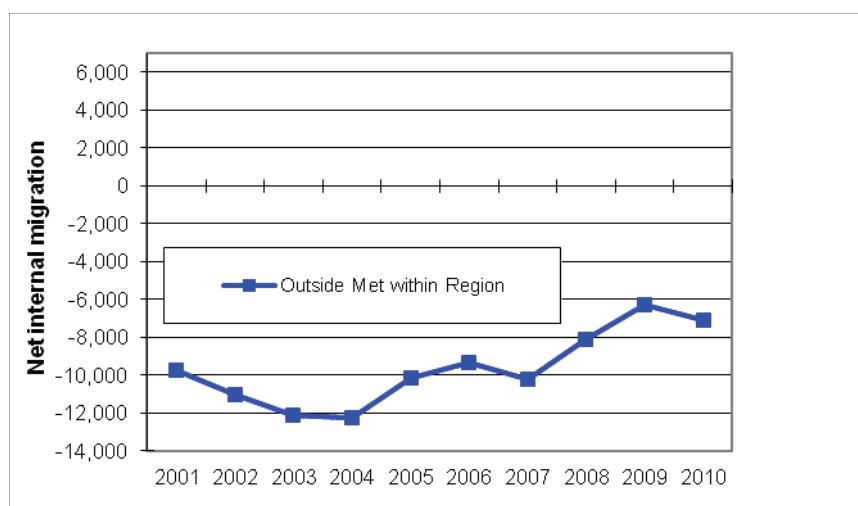


Source: ONS Mid Year Estimates

¹² http://www.wmra.gov.uk/Planning_and_Regional_Spatial_Strategy/Monitoring_/Monitoring.aspx

45. Table 1 sets out population change for each local plan / core strategy area over the last 20 years. All local authorities experienced population decline between 1991 and 2000 with this being most pronounced in Birmingham and the Black Country witnessed the greatest population decline between 1991 and 2000. Since 2001, population has grown in all local authorities with the highest increases being in Birmingham and Coventry.
46. Much of the growth from 2001 onwards can be accounted for by higher birth rates and particularly in Birmingham's case, international migration¹³. There is, however, evidence of a reduction in the net outflow of people from the Metropolitan Area to surrounding Shire Districts as illustrated in figure 2.

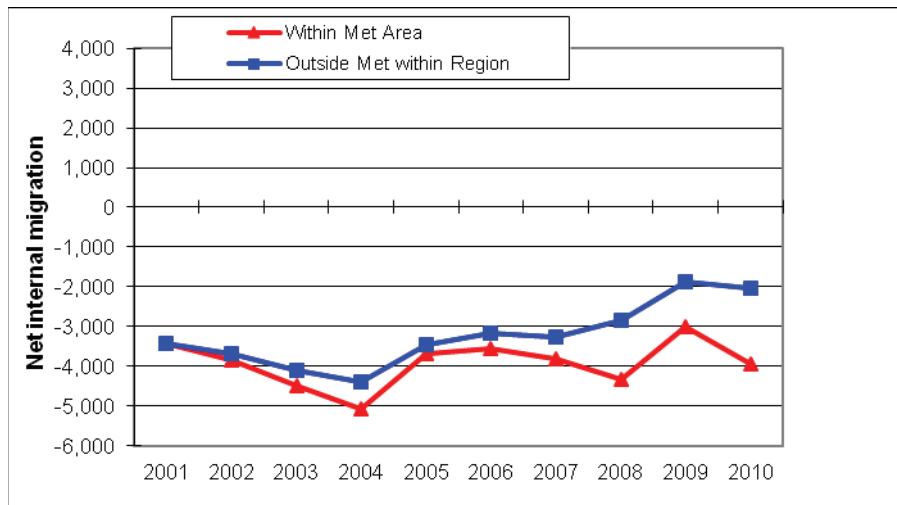
Figure 2: Net migration from Metropolitan Area to elsewhere in region



47. Given its size and physical constraints, Birmingham is the origin of most population movements. In 2001, people relocated from Birmingham to the adjoining Shire Districts and its Metropolitan Authority neighbours in equal proportion, by 2010 two thirds of all intra regional movements were to other Metropolitan Authorities (see figure 3).

¹³ <http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/cs/Satellite?c=Page&childpagename=Planning-and-Regeneration%2FPageLayout&cid=1223096353755&pagename=BCC%2FCommon%2FWrapper%2FWrapper>

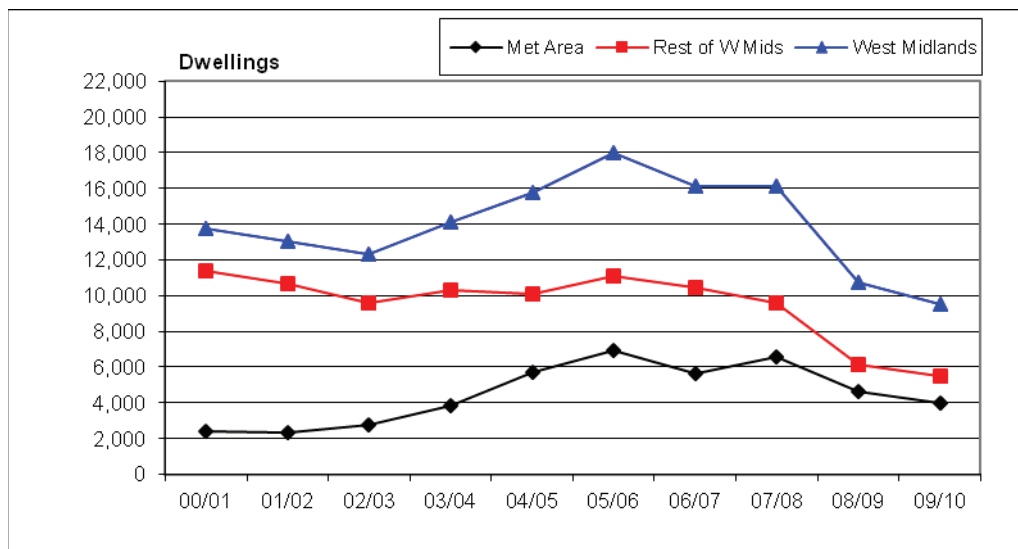
Figure 3: Migration from Birmingham to adjoining Metropolitan Authorities/ elsewhere



Housing

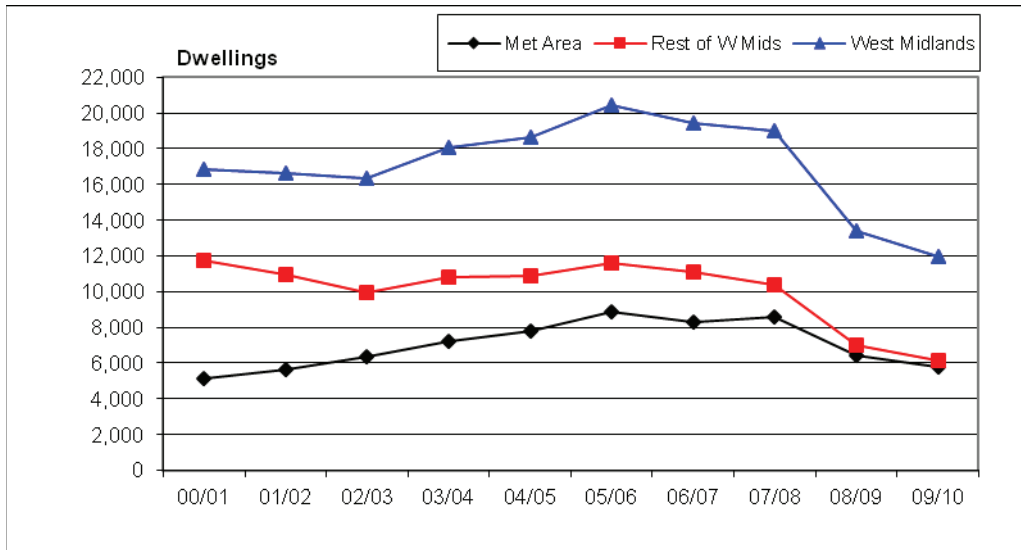
48. Despite the economic downturn net housing completions in the Metropolitan Area were twice their 2000/1 levels in 2019/10; at their peak in 2005/6 they were three times higher. Net housing completions beyond the Metropolitan Area in 2009/10 were only half of their 2000/1 levels (figure 4)

Figure 4: Net housing completions in the West Midlands



49. Gross housing completions in the Metropolitan Area, which take into account demolitions and replacement dwellings increased significantly from 2001/2 before tailing off as a result of the economic downturn whilst remaining stable elsewhere. Since 2002/3, over 90% of housing completions in the Metropolitan Area have taken place on previously developed land.

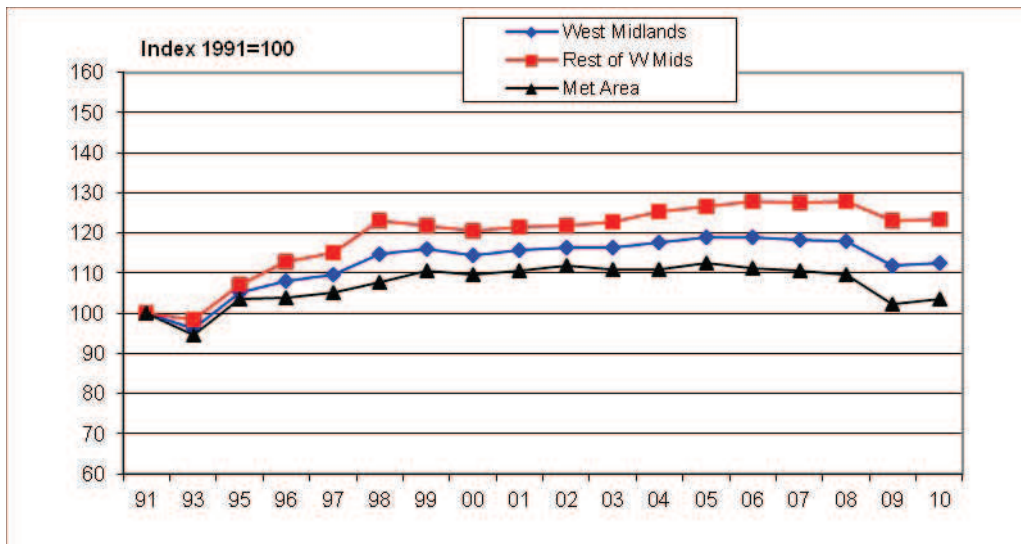
Figure 5: Gross housing completions in the West Midlands



Employment

50. Total employment in the Metropolitan Area grew steadily throughout the 1990s and levelled off during the last decade before returning to near 1991 levels as a result of the recession. The rest of the West Midlands followed a similar pattern albeit job growth was higher (figure 6).

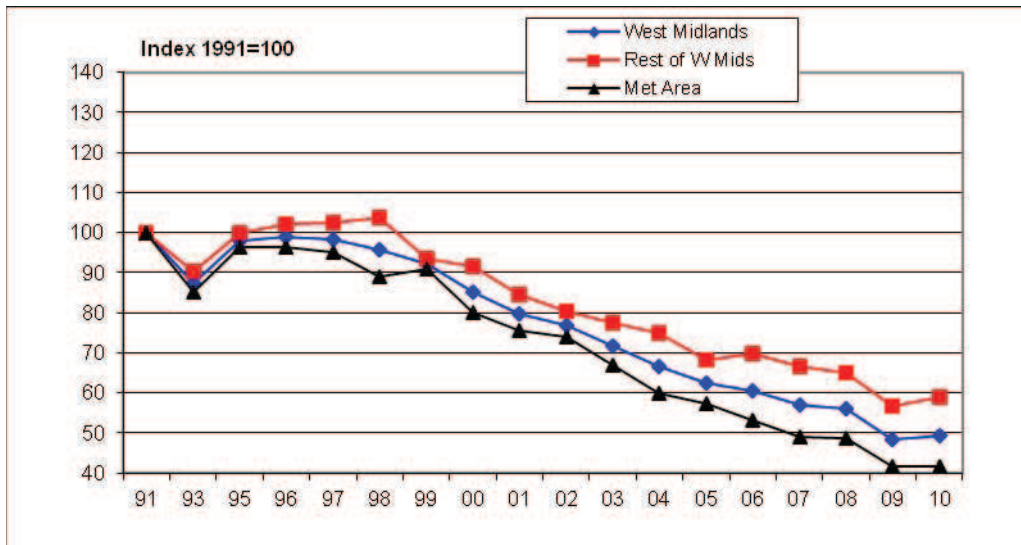
Figure 6: Total Employees in the West Midlands by Workplace, 1991-2010



Source: ONS (Annual Employment Survey, Annual Business Inquiry and Business Register & Employment Survey). Note that ABI has been rescaled in line with BRES.

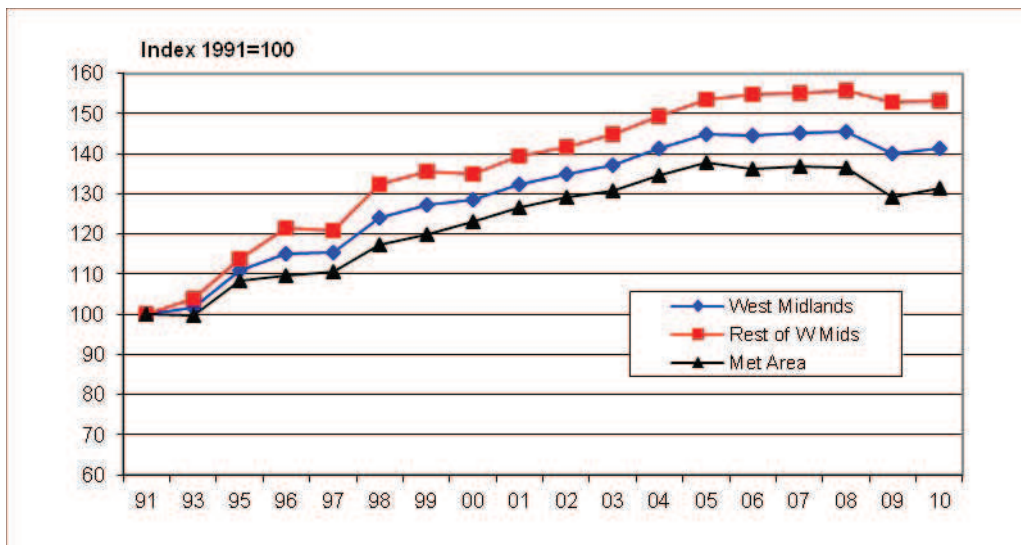
51. There is a familiar pattern across the West Midlands in terms of a reduction in manufacturing based employment and a growth in jobs in the service sector. Jobs have been lost at a greater rate and created at a lower rate in the Metropolitan Area compared to elsewhere.

Figure 7: Manufacturing Employees in the West Midlands by Workplace, 1991-2010



Source: ONS (Annual Employment Survey, Annual Business Inquiry and Business Register & Employment Survey). Note that ABI has been rescaled in line with BRES.

Figure 8: Service Employees in the West Midlands by Workplace, 1991-2010



Conclusions

52. The above trends relating to housing and population suggest that urban renaissance may have been beginning to have an effect on people's decisions about where to live. However, it is not clear what impact the recession and the related fall in house prices from their peak has had on people's desire or capacity to move.

- Following decline through the 1990's population growth, particular in terms of stemming out flows is welcomed and supports urban renaissance.

- An increasing number of people who leave Birmingham move elsewhere in the Metropolitan Area, movements to the Black Country are particularly welcomed given that it has capacity to meet more than its own requirements through its growth led Core Strategy
- There is evidence of a relationship between population growth and acceleration in housing completions in the Metropolitan Area.
- High proportions of housing development on previously developed land and provision of new dwellings through replacement / renewal of dwellings (gross completions), is consistent with urban renaissance in terms of improving the urban environment and preventing environmental degradation elsewhere.
- The economic downturn appears to have had a less pronounced impact in terms of a tail off in housing completions in the Metropolitan Area compared to elsewhere in the region.
- There is an urgent need to create new jobs in the Metropolitan Area to match the growth in population and reduce worklessness, LEPs and their designated enterprise zones and growth strategies are in a position to assist.

Table 1: Population change in the West Midlands 2001 – 2010

	Population		Absolute Change	% change	Population		Absolute Change	% change
	1991	2000			2001	2010		
Birmingham	1,004,500	985,100	-19,400	-1.9	984,600	1,036,900	52,300	5.3
Black Country	1,110,100	1,084,200	-25,900	-2	1,081,000	1,096,500	15,500	1.4
Coventry	303,900	303,100	-800	-0.3	302,800	315,700	12,900	4.3
Solihull	200,400	199,000	-1,400	-0.7	199,600	206,100	6,500	3.3
Metropolitan Area	2,618,800	2,571,400	-47,400	-1.8	2,568,000	2,655,100	87,100	3.4
Elsewhere in West Midlands	2,610,900	2,698,200	87,300	3.3	2,712,700	2,800,100	87,400	3.2

Source: Office for National Statistics

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**Draft Statement of Common Ground and Cooperation
for the Coventry, Solihull & Warwickshire (CSW) Sub-Region**

September 2012

This agreement is between:

Coventry City Council
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Warwick District Council
Stratford District Council
Rugby Borough Council
Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council
North Warwickshire Borough Council
Warwickshire County Council

1. Context

- 1.1 The Localism Act 2011 (the Act), accompanying regulations, and National Planning Policy Framework 2012 (NPPF) have introduced and described the 'Duty to Cooperate' (DtC). This ostensibly replaces the Regional (Spatial) Strategy (RS), which at the time of writing remains legally in force as part of the development plan.
- 1.2 This statement sets out:
- a) how the Councils within the sub-region have been and intend to cooperate on common issues
 - b) our joint position with regard to the key common issues facing the sub-region
- 1.3 We have discussed the possibility of preparing a joint Core Strategy (CS) / Local Plan (LP) and have concluded that this is not practical because we are at different stages of plan preparation and with Rugby Borough Council having an adopted Core Strategy (June 2011).
- 1.4 Notwithstanding the impracticalities of preparing a joint plan, this statement comprises agreement that has been reached between the parties listed above, for the purposes of guiding strategic decisions and to set out clearly any issues that may require further work towards individual (bilateral) agreements.

2 How will we discharge the Duty to Cooperate

- 2.1 The Coventry, Solihull & Warwickshire Sub-Region (CSW) has a proven track record of working constructively together to set out and deliver a shared vision for the area. In the past, this has resulted in the strategy promoted by CSW being used to deliver a brief period of substantial housing growth in Coventry, by holding a moratorium on windfall housing developments in the south of the county (Warwick and Stratford Districts), thereby directing delivery of new housing to the city of Coventry.

- 2.2 Notwithstanding the Duty to Cooperate as described by the Localism Act 2011, CSW will continue to work together to find new ways of delivering our shared ambitions, wherever possible in accordance with the principles set out in paragraph 3.3 of this statement.
- 2.3 In the event that there is broad agreement that a strategic issue affects some but not all of the CSW member authorities, specific discussions will be held to reach consensus. These meetings will be scheduled in a timely manner. In the event that agreement cannot be reached, a common statement will be published to identify the precise area/s of dispute, and each party's position with respect to each outstanding issue.
- 2.4 It is acknowledged that a situation with each party finding themselves in an entrenched position is likely to result in formal objections being made. This is the last resort. To avoid this as far as possible, we each commit to discuss concerns openly, at the earliest opportunity, in an effort to reach formal agreement. This can take the form of a specific bilateral or multilateral agreement, a statement of common ground, or any other appropriate format.

3 Overall development strategy

- 3.1 The general CSW approach is to pursue a jobs-led growth strategy. This means striking a balance between employment-generating development and its associated housing needs. This remains a key corner stone for the sub-region.
- 3.2 A key element of this will be to ensure that each Core Strategy/Local Plan contains an infrastructure delivery plan, which can inform strategic infrastructure planning and funding at the same time as ensuring development across all parts of the sub region remains viable.

4 Level of housing provision

- 4.1 Although there is no sub-regional Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA), there is broad consistency between methodologies and assumptions used by individual SHMA's. They however do not all consider the same timescales which means that specific housing targets cannot be set out in a consistent way across the area.
- 4.2 There is agreement between CSW member authorities that the current interpretation of evidence shows that all CSW member authorities are capable of meeting their housing requirements within their borders. This means that there is no requirement from any local authority to seek to meet any part of their housing requirements within another area.
- 4.3 The CSW member authorities will, as a matter of course, continue to plan to accommodate their own needs. However in the event of:
- a) any Council needing to increase its housing requirement
and
 - b) there is strong evidence that the constraints set out in footnote 9 of paragraph 14 of the NPPF make it impractical to provide for the required level of housing growth within its borders

then (and only then), the shortfall in the requirement should be addressed through discussion with the other sub regional authorities and/or with neighbouring sub regions.

5 Distribution of housing provision

- 5.1** In the spirit of Localism, the distribution of housing is a matter for each Council to address to best suit local circumstances. Where the distribution of housing has potential cross-border impacts then bi-lateral discussions will take place between the Councils concerned.

6 Employment Land Provision

- 6.1** Local targets for the amount of employment land (B-class) to be available will be set with the intention that local needs will be met, by providing an appropriate range and choice of sites that are attractive to the market.
- 6.2** As part of the jobs led strategy we will seek to support large scale inward investment in to the sub region by ensuring, through our Core Strategies/Local Plans, there is good provision of a variety of inward investment sites.
- 6.3** We recognise the proposals for the Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway are of particular significance and will have a sub-regional impact. We will work together across the sub region to identify how best to address that impact.

7 Other Sub-regional issues

- 7.1** In addition to the issues identified above, there are a number of other issues that need to be addressed at a sub-regional level. The mechanisms described in section 2 above will be used to address these issues.
- 7.2** Other issues include:
- a) The amount and distribution of new office and retail space
 - b) Housing mix and types, including gypsies and travellers and accommodating an ageing population
 - c) Transport strategy
 - d) Sub-regional health inequalities
 - e) Strategic Infrastructure Planning – including Community Infrastructure Levy schemes
 - f) Climate change mitigation and adaptation, conservation and enhancement of the natural and historic environment, including landscape
 - g) Minerals safeguarding, winning, working and reinstatement of land; and
 - h) Strategic waste management

8 Cross-boundary planning

- 8.1** The Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire sub-region will seek to work across the boundary of the sub-region to work with neighbouring sub-regions on a range of planning and environmental matters.
- 8.2** Where individual local authorities border neighbours who are outside this sub-region, it will be important to ensure that cooperation is undertaken with those

neighbours. Examples include Rugby working with Daventry, Stratford-on-Avon working with Redditch and Bromsgrove, Solihull and Coventry working with the other metropolitan authorities in the West Midlands and North Warwickshire working with Tamworth and Lichfield. A Strategic agreement is has been prepared for the West Midlands Metropolitan Councils and an agreement is in place between North Warwickshire, Tamworth and Lichfield, relating to Tamworth's housing need being partly provided for in North Warwickshire and Lichfield. These agreements will impact on our sub-region and need to be taken in to account in the work we do.

- 8.3 Warwickshire County Council will continue to work beyond the sub-regional boundaries with Coventry City Council Northamptonshire CC, Gloucestershire CC, Leicestershire CC and a Staffordshire on Highway and Solihull, Centro, Network Rail and the Highways Agency on transport matters.
- 8.4 Warwickshire County Council, as the Waste Planning Authority, is working collaboratively with the other Waste Planning Authorities across the West Midlands through the Resource Technical Advisory Body (RTAB). Further, the County has entered into an Inter Authority Agreement with Staffordshire County Council to divert residual waste from the north of the county to a treatment facility at Four Ashes.
- 8.5 Warwickshire County Council, as the Minerals Planning Authority, has a duty to ensure that there is sufficient supply of aggregates to meet the demands of the construction industry, therefore, to meet the demands for growth. The County Council is working with other Mineral Planning Authorities and industry to collect data on supply and demand for aggregates (Aggregates Working Party). The information indicates land-banks for aggregates, supply in the sub-region and flows in and out of the sub-region for aggregates.

Council Meeting

23rd October 2012

Booklet 2

Questions

1.	<p>QUESTION SUBMITTED BY: Councillor Blundell</p> <p>TO BE ANSWERED BY: Councillor Duggins</p>
<p>TEXT OF QUESTION:</p> <p>Would the Cabinet Member please provide the following information for the municipal year so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) How many cases were referred to bailiffs for non-payment of Council Tax? ii) Is there a breakdown of the above cases by groups using (a) age and (b) mosaic profiling data? iii) How many warrants for committal in relation to non-payment of Council Tax have been issued? iv) Can he supply a tariff and/or schedule of charges agreed with the bailiffs contracted by the Council for the enforcement of Council Tax? 	

2.	<p>QUESTION SUBMITTED BY: Councillor Lepoidevin</p> <p>TO BE ANSWERED BY: Councillor Kershaw</p>
<p>TEXT OF QUESTION:</p> <p>Would the Cabinet Member confirm what consideration was given to utilising land available at Bannerbrook Park for a new primary school as part of the program to increase reception places across Coventry?</p> <p>What other land has been made available for primary provision across the city?</p>	

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