

## Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council Statement of Decisions made at a meeting of the Executive on Wednesday, 22 June 2022

Published:

The following decisions were made by the Executive at its meeting on **Wednesday, 22 June 2022**. These decisions will come into force on **30<sup>th</sup> June 2022**. A decision by the Executive may be called-in (in accordance with Part 4 – Scrutiny Procedure Rules of the Council’s Constitution) by **30<sup>th</sup> June 2022**. Should you have any queries about any decision that has been made, contact should be made in the first instance to Democratic Services at [democratic\\_services@sandwell.gov.uk](mailto:democratic_services@sandwell.gov.uk). Any declaration of interest made by any member of the Executive is shown below.

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
5	<p><b>New Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy</b></p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <p>(1) That details of the progress made to date in reviewing the Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy be received.</p> <p>(2) That the refreshed Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy 2022, as set out in the Appendix, be approved.</p>	<p>Under the Homelessness Act 2002, local authorities are required to produce on a maximum five-year cycle a homelessness review and a homelessness strategy that sets out the strategic direction that the local authority will take to tackle homelessness. The Council last adopted a homelessness strategy in April 2018 and in partnership with Sandwell’s Homelessness Partnership officers have produced a revised and refreshed strategy to provide this strategic direction from 2022 – 2027 (unless significant developments require</p>	<p>There are no alternative options. The Council is obliged under law to have a Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy.</p>	

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
		a revision at an earlier date).		
6	<p><b>COVID Recovery Fund</b></p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <p>(1) That approval be given to the use of the remaining COVID-19 funding to deliver COVID recovery related projects based on our Fairer Sandwell principles, subject to ensuring £2m of funding is retained for a COVID resilience fund in the event of further COVID restrictions.</p> <p>(2) That approval be given to the use of £8m of COVID funding during 2022/23 to 2024/25 to deliver the proposals set out in Appendix A.</p> <p>(3) That approval be given to a £1m COVID Community Fund to which the voluntary and community sector can bid for funding to deliver their own COVID recovery projects.</p> <p>(4) That subject to (3) above, delegated authority be given to the Director of Business Strategy and Change in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources to implement the COVID Community Fund scheme</p>	<p>During the COVID pandemic, all Local Authorities were given additional funding from central government to mitigate the spend pressures and loss of income caused by COVID restrictions, and to support the Public Health activities needed to contain the spread of the virus.</p> <p>Whilst the funding isn't ring-fenced, the Council does have to report on how it is spent and the COVID pressures that the funding is used for. Given the improved level of COVID infection and impact nationally, it is recommended that the remaining funding is used towards a COVID Recovery Strategy to focus on services where there is either a backlog of work due to the impact of the pandemic or where residents/businesses need extra support to recover from the longer-term impact of COVID. It is also suggested that a proportion is set aside as a contingency for any further restrictions should a new variant emerge.</p>	<p>Not to approve the proposals or to ask for amended proposals to be presented at a future Cabinet meeting.</p>	

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p>(5) That the Director of Finance, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, be authorised to agree further spend proposals from the COVID Recovery earmarked reserve.</p>			
7	<p><b>Towns Fund- Inclusion in Capital Programme and Assurance Framework</b></p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <p>(1) That approval be given to the Towns Fund Programme of £63.6m to be included in the Capital Programme across 2022-2026 with £26.8m being included for 2022/23.</p> <p>(2) That details of the roles and responsibilities of the Section 151 Officer and Accountable Body in managing the Towns Fund Programme be received.</p> <p>(3) That approval be given to the Towns Fund Assurance Framework to enable the Accountable Body to deliver the programme successfully.</p> <p>(4) That in connection with 1.3 above,</p>	<p>This report seeks the approval of the Towns Fund Programme to be included in the Council's Capital Programme and the implementation of an Assurance Framework to enable the Accountable Body to fulfil its responsibilities.</p>	<p>Failure to have key processes and procedures for the Towns Fund Programme could impact on future funding allocations being released.</p>	

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p>the Towns Fund Programme Manager, in consultation with the Director of Regeneration &amp; Growth, Section 151 Officer and Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Growth, be authorised to make any amendments to the Framework subject to updated government guidance or council procedures.</p>			
8	<p><b>Draft Black Country Plan: Consultation on Additional Housing Sites and amendment to the Local Development Scheme</b></p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <p>(1) That approval be given to an additional Regulation 18 consultation to include in the Black Country Plan the additional Walsall sites.</p> <p>(2) That approval be given to the approach to the consultation as set out in Appendix A and Sustainability Appraisal Report Appendix B.</p> <p>(3) That approval be given to update of the Sandwell Local Development Scheme 2021 and updated timeline set out in Appendices C &amp; D.</p>	<p>The purpose of this report is to seek approval for Regulation 18 consultation on the additional sites identified in Walsall for the Black Country Plan (BCP) set out in Appendix A and to seek approval for the updated Local Development Scheme (LDS) and timeline 2022 set out in Appendices C &amp; D.</p>	<p>If we do not consult on the additional Walsall sites then the BCP could be found un sound at Examination In Public by the Planning Inspector.</p> <p>Preparation of a LDS is a requirement of the Planning &amp; Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. As such there is no alternative to its preparation.</p>	

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p>(4) That the Director for Regeneration and Growth be authorised to make any necessary minor amendments to the Draft Plan and other consultation documents prior to the commencement of the Regulation 18 consultation process.</p> <p>(5) That the Director for Regeneration and Growth be authorised to make minor changes to the Local Development Scheme that may be required prior to making it available to the Public, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration &amp; Growth.</p>			
9	<p><b>Award of Corporate Hybrid Print and Mail Contract</b></p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <p>(1) That the Director of Business Strategy and Change and the Director of Finance - Section 151 Officer, in consultation with Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, be authorised to award a contract for corporate Hybrid Print and Mail Services, via the ESPO Framework Agreement RM6017-19 Postal Goods, Services and Solutions for a</p>	<p>This report is seeking approval to award a contract for corporate Hybrid Print and Mail Services following a compliant procurement process.</p> <p>The estimated cashable savings that will be achieved upon successful implementation of Hybrid Print and Mail are over £220,000 per annum. Savings will increase further as we use the intelligence about what we print to identify opportunities for online/digital notifications.</p>	<p>The Council could continue with the current printing arrangements where most of the printing and dispatch is done from Council Offices. This option would not realise any of the benefits outlined in the report. We would also incur additional expense in the future as machinery in the Central Print Unit would need to be replaced.</p>	

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p>5 year period commencing on 1 September 2022 with an option to extend for up to a further 2 years.</p> <p>(2) That the Director Law and Governance – Monitoring Officer be authorised to execute any documentation necessary to enable the action referred to in (1) above.</p>			
10	<p><b>Drug Strategy Grant: Supplemental Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Grant</b></p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <p>(1) That the Director of Public Health be authorised to distribute the Supplemental Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Grant (SSMTRG) as required by Office for Health Improvement &amp; Disparities (OHID) grant conditions.</p> <p>(2) That the Director of Public Health be authorised to have final sign off on the distribution of the funds over the grant period covering the following financial years: 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25.</p>	<p>Strategy ‘<i>From Harm to Hope: A ten-year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives</i>’ With this Strategy the Government has announced additional funding for substance misuse treatment and recovery provision for a period of 3 years covering the following financial years: 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25.</p> <p>Sandwell’s allocated SSMTRG amount for the 2022/23 period is £532,036. The funding is to be additional to existing Public Health grant expenditure on substance misuse treatment services. Future years funding for 2023/24 and 2024/25 are subject to annual approval by Her Majesty’s Treasury (HMT).</p> <p>We therefore propose to secure approval to use the remaining and any future SSMTRG (the monies not already covered by previous Cabinet approvals)</p>	<p>Do not approve distribution of the SSMTRG as required by OHID and not utilise the additional funding but simply return the monies to government. This will mean that the local treatment population will not benefit from the potential quality and capacity improvements that the monies could afford</p>	

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		as required by Office for Health Improvement & Disparities (OHID) grant conditions.		
11	<p><b>Permission to consult on the Black Country Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan</b></p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <p>That approval be given to approve the public consultation of the Black Country Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.</p>	<p>The Government's Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy was published in April 2017 with the aim of making cycling and walking the natural choices for shorter journeys, or as part of a longer journey. The strategy seeks to double the 2013 number of journeys, or part journeys, made by cycle by 2025. It recognises that achieving this will require a sustained investment in cycling infrastructure by Central Government, Local Transport Authorities and third parties. The Government anticipates that Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs) will be the principal vehicle for targeting this investment.</p> <p>Consultants AECOM were appointed by Black Country Transport to prepare Black Country's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan to support mode shift to active modes across the four local authority areas. The process undertaken conformed to the Department for Transport (DfT)'s defined six-stage LCWIP process. The geographical scope was the whole of the area within the four authority's boundaries. A policy and data led</p>	For each scheme within the BCLCWIP, the options considered and the reasons for the recommended option will be set out in the individual approval reports as they are submitted to the Cabinet Member for Environment	

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
		<p>analysis was carried out to establish areas of highest cycle and walking demand. The areas within Sandwell were then reviewed by Sandwell's Transportation team to select those which aligned with Sandwell's policy objectives. These included: air quality improvement areas, regeneration corridors, proximity to secondary schools, proximity to transport hubs, current and planned 20mph zones and areas of high congestion.</p>		
12	<p><b>Disposal of Grafton Lodge, Grafton Road, Oldbury</b></p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <p>(1) That approval be given to declare Grafton Lodge, Grafton Road, Oldbury B68 8BJ, as site plan SAM/20100/007, former Adult Services led care home, surplus to all council use.</p> <p>(2) That the Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer be authorised to dispose of the site, on terms and conditions to be agreed by the Director of Regeneration &amp; Growth, in consultation with the Director of Housing and Director of Finance.</p>	<p>The purpose to this report is to authorise the disposal of the property identified under section 1 of the report to provide much needed housing within Sandwell. Disposal and subsequent redevelopment will also remove the ongoing management costs associated with an empty building.</p> <p>To confirm the former care home and current site has been declared surplus to both Adult Services requirements and wider council service provision.</p>	<p>Retain the asset in the General Fund. The building is currently surplus to General Fund needs. There is an opportunity to make better use of this asset and remove ongoing revenue and maintenance costs.</p> <p>Subject to no realistic bids being received or bids not meeting the set criterion, via the open market exercise, the asset could be considered for appropriation into the Housing Revenue Account. It would then support housing development, possibly modular build to deliver 100% affordable housing on the site. These homes would be part of SMBC stock. This option had been</p>	

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			<p>considered initially. However, by considering disposal on the open market for a developer or registered landlord to deliver the scheme the council would look to obtain a sizable capital receipt whilst still providing affordable housing helping to meet housing targets for the area. In the event of no suitable bids being received this option can be reconsidered.</p>	
13	<p><b>Council new build homes on land at West End Avenue, Smethwick</b></p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <p>(1) That approval be given to develop approximately 3002.3 m2 of land at West End Avenue Smethwick with new council housing for affordable rent, subject to planning permission, as shown for identification purposes only at Appendix 1.</p> <p>(2) That the Director of Finance be authorised to allocate adequate resources from the Council's Housing Revenue Account to deliver the scheme and to utilise grant funding offered by Homes England, under the extended Homes England Strategic Partnership 1</p>	<p>The Council is able to develop this site with circa 11 homes, subject to planning permission, as part of the new strategic approach to provide more and better housing in the borough.</p>	<p>Option A – Dispose of the Site on the Open Market</p> <p>Option B – Work in partnership with a Registered Provider Partner with the assistance of Homes England to build new affordable homes for rent</p> <p>Option C – Leave the site undeveloped</p>	

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p>Programme 2016 to 2021 to assist with the delivery of the project.</p> <p>1.3 In connection with 1.1 and 1.2 above, approval be given to authorise the necessary steps for the delivery of the proposed project, including:</p> <p>a) the Director of Regeneration and Growth in consultation with the Director of Finance and the Director of Housing be authorised to prepare tendering documentation and subsequently procure, in accordance with any statutory regulations and the Council's Procurement and Financial Regulations;</p> <p>b) execute any requirements in accordance with the Homes England Delivery Partner Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) framework including appointing a contractor/contractors to develop, on behalf of the Council, the proposed housing scheme; to enter into or execute under seal any financial agreement in relation to the Homes England grant on terms and conditions to be agreed by the Director of Finance;</p> <p>c) that any necessary exemptions are made to the Council's Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules to enable the course</p>			

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p>of action referred to b above to proceed;</p> <p>d) subject to a, b and c above, the Director – Monitoring Officer be authorised to enter into or execute under seal any documentation in relation to award of the contract and/or development/partnership agreement, Homes England developer status, licence, undertaking, framework joining agreement, any consents or applications required for Planning or Highways appertaining to the delivery of the scheme and any other agreements with the procured contractor(s) and with the Homes England, as may be deemed necessary to facilitate development of the site with a housing scheme as described in below on terms and conditions to be agreed by the Director of Regeneration and Growth;</p> <p>e) the Director of Regeneration and Growth in consultation with the Director of Housing and the Director of Finance be authorised to accept a tender of up to 10% above the approved estimated costs as a contingency to mitigate uncertain market conditions and</p>			

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p>inflationary cost uplifts.</p> <p>f) Subject to the practical completion of each property, the Director of Housing be authorised to manage and let the properties built in accordance with the Council's housing allocation policy.</p> <p>g) That the following action points identified within the financial appraisal of the funding application by Strategic Finance, be implemented to reduce the risk to the Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That Cabinet consider the alternatives and are satisfied that the</li> <li>• proposal to construct the new build homes will meet the Council's</li> <li>• objectives in the most appropriate manner.</li> <li>• That a process is developed to prioritise the development of sites</li> <li>• against pre-determined criteria and alternative options for</li> </ul>			

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>achieving the Council's housing objectives within each locality.</li> </ul>			
14	<p><b>Council new build homes on land at Whitgreave Street, West Bromwich</b></p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <p>(1) That approval be given to develop approximately 2355 m2 of land at Whitgreave Street, West Bromwich with new council housing for affordable rent, subject to planning permission, as shown for identification purposes only at Appendix 1.</p> <p>(2) That the Director of Finance be authorised to allocate adequate resources from the Council's Housing Revenue Account to deliver the scheme and to utilise grant funding offered by Homes England, under the extended Homes England Strategic Partnership 1 Programme 2016 to 2021 to assist with the delivery of the project.</p> <p>1.3 In connection with 1.1 and 1.2 above, approval be given to authorise the necessary steps for the delivery of the proposed project, including:</p> <p>a) the Director of Regeneration and</p>	<p>The Council is able to develop this site with circa 6 homes, subject to planning permission, as part of the new strategic approach to provide more and better housing in the borough.</p>	<p>Option A – Dispose of the Site on the Open Market</p> <p>Option B – Work in partnerships with a Registered Provider Partner with the assistance of Homes England to build new affordable homes for rent</p> <p>Option C – Leave the site undeveloped</p>	

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	<p>Growth in consultation with the Director of Finance and the Director of Housing be authorised to prepare tendering documentation and subsequently procure, in accordance with any statutory regulations and the Council's Procurement and Financial Regulations;</p> <p>b) execute any requirements in accordance with the Homes England Delivery Partner Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) framework including appointing a contractor/contractors to develop, on behalf of the Council, the proposed housing scheme; to enter into or execute under seal any financial agreement in relation to the Homes England grant on terms and conditions to be agreed by the Director of Finance;</p> <p>c) that any necessary exemptions are made to the Council's Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules to enable the course of action referred to b above to proceed;</p> <p>d) subject to a, b and c above, the Director – Monitoring Officer be authorised to enter into or execute under seal any documentation in relation to award of the contract and/or development/partnership</p>			

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	<p>agreement, Homes England developer status, licence, undertaking, framework joining agreement, any consents or applications required for Planning or Highways appertaining to the delivery of the scheme and any other agreements with the procured contractor(s) and with the Homes England, as may be deemed necessary to facilitate development of the site with a housing scheme as described in below on terms and conditions to be agreed by the Director of Regeneration and Growth;</p> <p>e) the Director of Regeneration and Growth in consultation with the Director of Housing and the Director of Finance be authorised to accept a tender of up to 10% above the approved estimated costs as a contingency to mitigate uncertain market conditions and inflationary cost uplifts.</p> <p>f) Subject to the practical completion of each property, the Director of Housing be authorised to manage and let the properties built in accordance with the Council's housing allocation policy.</p>			

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p>g) That the following action points identified within the financial appraisal of the funding application by Strategic Finance, be implemented to reduce the risk to the Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That Cabinet consider the alternatives and are satisfied that the proposal to construct the new build homes will meet the Council's objectives in the most appropriate manner.</li> <li>• That a process is developed to prioritise the development of site against pre-determined criteria and alternative options for achieving the Council's housing objectives within each locality.</li> <li>• That the planned use of Right to Buy receipts is reviewed prior to the submission of a 'firm scheme' to Homes England to ensure that the project secures the most appropriate and financially advantageous source of funding.</li> </ul> <p>That the relocation of the electricity sub-</p>			

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p>station and related lease are completed as a matter of urgency to ensure no delays to project timesca</p>			
15	<p><b>Proposed West Bromwich Definitive Map and Statement for Public Rights of Way</b></p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <p>(1) That the Director of Regeneration and Growth and the Director Law &amp; Governance &amp; Monitoring Officer be authorised to make representations to the Secretary of State requesting formal abandonment of the West Bromwich Draft Map under section 55 (1) (b) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.</p> <p>(2) That the Director of Regeneration and Growth and the Director Law &amp; Governance &amp; Monitoring Officer be authorised to take the necessary steps under section 55 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to create the West Bromwich Definitive Map and Statement.</p> <p>(3) That the Director of Regeneration and Growth be authorised to procure external support to carry out this work as required.</p>	<p>The Council proposes to abandon the draft map and statement under the 1949 Act and commence the creation of a new Definitive Map &amp; Statement under the 1981 Act. To do this, the Council is required to make an application to the Secretary of State seeking a direction to abandon the survey carried out under the 1949 Act in relation to West Bromwich in its entirety. If the Secretary of State approves the abandonment under section 55, the Council will be required to prepare a new draft map and statement for the West Bromwich area in accordance with the 1981 Act.</p> <p>The abandonment process and subsequent creation of the definitive map and statement for the West Bromwich area will allow the Council to comply with its statutory duty of having a Definitive Map and Statement and keeping it up-to-date and under continuous review as required by the 1981 Act. Furthermore, once the West Bromwich Definitive Map</p>	<p>Advice was sought from a leading PRoW Barrister on an alternative approach. The advice concluded that “the alternative proposal...has the benefits which have been identified by the Council and which I acknowledge...but the Council [would be] protracting the already lengthy period over which it is in breach of its statutory duty and for a significant period. [Therefore] I am unable to advise that the Alternative Proposal be pursued” (para. 11, page 5).</p> <p>Until the Council formally abandons the survey undertaken under the 1949 Act, it is under a statutory duty to either complete the process of preparing the Definitive Map, or to abandon the survey and create a new Definitive Map under the 1981 Act – and to do so as soon as reasonably practicable.</p>	

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		<p>and Statement is confirmed, the Council can consolidate the nine separate maps into a single Sandwell Definitive Map and Statement.</p> <p>The Definitive Map and Statement will also give much greater certainty for property search enquiries in the West Bromwich area. The map will also allow a more robust method of managing the public right of way network, particularly where issues are raised in relation to lack of maintenance or obstructed routes. The Definitive Map will also allow formal map modification to remove routes that have been legally stopped up or diverted. Current legislation does not allow formal modification of a draft map.</p>		
16	<p><b>Council new build homes on land at Higham's Close, Rowley Regis</b></p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <p>(1) That approval be given to appropriate approximately 1961.7 m2 of land at Higham's Close, Rowley Regis from the General Fund to the Housing Revenue Account for housing purposes with the accounts being adjusted accordingly and to develop the site with circa 6 new</p>		<p>Option A – Dispose of the Site on the Open Market</p> <p>Option B – Work in partnership with a Registered Provider Partner with the assistance of Homes England to build new affordable homes for rent</p> <p>Option C – Leave the site undeveloped</p>	

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	<p>affordable rent council houses, subject to planning permission, as shown for identification purposes only at Appendix 1.</p> <p>(2) That the Director of Finance be authorised to allocate adequate resources from the Council's Housing Revenue Account and the Right to Buy one for one receipts to deliver the scheme.</p> <p>(3) In connection with 1.1 and 1.2 above, approval be given to authorise the necessary steps for the delivery of the proposed project, including:</p> <p>a) the Director of Regeneration and Growth in consultation with the Director of Finance and the Director of Housing be authorised to prepare tendering documentation and subsequently procure, in accordance with any statutory regulations and the Council's Procurement and Financial Regulations;</p> <p>b) execute any requirements in accordance with the Homes England Delivery Partner Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) framework including appointing a contractor/contractors to develop, on behalf of the Council, the</p>			

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	<p>proposed housing scheme; to enter into or execute under seal any financial agreement in relation to the Homes England grant on terms and conditions to be agreed by the Director of Finance;</p> <p>c) that any necessary exemptions are made to the Council's Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules to enable the course of action referred to b above to proceed;</p> <p>d) subject to a, b and c above, the Director – Monitoring Officer be authorised to enter into or execute under seal any documentation in relation to award of the contract and/or development/partnership agreement, Homes England developer status, licence, undertaking, framework joining agreement, any consents or applications required for Planning or Highways appertaining to the delivery of the scheme and any other agreements with the procured contractor(s) and with the Homes England, as may be deemed necessary to facilitate development of the site with a housing scheme as described in below on terms and conditions to be agreed by the Director of Regeneration and Growth;</p>			

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p>e) the Director of Regeneration and Growth in consultation with the Director of Housing and the Director of Finance be authorised to accept a tender of up to 10% above the approved estimated costs as a contingency to mitigate uncertain market conditions and inflationary cost uplifts.</p> <p>f) Subject to the practical completion of each property, the Director of Housing be authorised to manage and let the properties built in accordance with the Council's housing allocation policy.</p> <p>g) That the following action points identified within the financial appraisal of the funding application by Strategic Finance, be implemented to reduce the risk to the Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That Cabinet consider the alternatives and are satisfied that the proposal to construct the new build homes will meet the Council's objectives in the most appropriate manner.</li> <li>• That a process is developed to</li> </ul>			

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p>prioritise the development of sites against pre-determined criteria and alternative options for achieving the Council's housing objectives within each locality.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the site is appropriated from the Council's General Fund to the Housing Revenue Account and the corresponding adjustment to the Capital Financing Requirement made to reflect the appropriation.</li> </ul>			
17	<p><b>Planning, Building Consultancy, Land Charges &amp; Associated Computer Systems Contract Renewal</b></p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <p>That the Director of Regeneration and Growth be authorised to enter into a contract with Idox Software Limited for the provision of a Hosted Managed Service for the provision of a Planning, Building Consultancy and Local Land Charges Database, Document Management System and a Public Access module ICT system, for a 5 year period 6th October 2022 to 5th October</p>	<p>A new contract with Idox Software Limited is preferred on the basis that;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The new 5-year proposal from Idox at £132,283 per annum is very much close to the existing yearly contract value of £129,000.</li> <li>• Any alternative proposal to migrate will incur yet unidentified additional costs and require additional staff resources with potential service disruption.</li> <li>• Continued provision of the</li> </ul>	<p>Go out to full OJEU tender which would involve extending the existing contract to cover the time to tender, award and implement any alternative system. It is anticipated that a procurement exercise in line with OJEU legislation would take around 12 – 18 months from the invitation to tender to the implementation of a new system.</p>	

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	2027 at a cost of £133,000 (ex VAT) per annum.	existing hosted service to ensure service delivery under legislative guidelines for Planning, Building Consultancy and Local Land Charges.		
18	<p><b>Birmingham Commonwealth Games Act 2020</b></p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <p>(1) The Director of Borough Economy be authorised to exercise the statutory provisions of the Birmingham Commonwealth Games Act 2020.</p> <p>(2) That the Director of Law and Governance be authorised to revise the Scheme of Delegation to Officers (executive side) in the Council's Constitution with the inclusion of the following within the Director of Borough Economy: -</p> <p><b>The Birmingham Commonwealth Games Act 2020</b> To act and authorise others to act on his/her behalf under the Council's functions under the provisions of the Commonwealth Games Act 2020.</p>	<p>The Birmingham Games Act 2020 is new legislation and authorisation will be needed to carry out responsibilities as a host authority during the Commonwealth Games period.</p> <p>The local authority can authorise officers to act in order that the Council can be compliant with any provisions of the Act.</p>	None. The Council is required to appoint in accordance with the legislation.	

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
19	<p><b>Council house new build programme - approval of sites and amendment to funding sources</b></p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <p>(1) That Cabinet approve the allocation of sites contained within Appendix 1 for the Council New Build programme for the provision of new Council affordable rent housing accommodation in order to meet the external funding requirements for Homes England grant and Right to Buy 1-4-1 replacement generated from the sale of HRA dwellings under Right to Buy.</p> <p>(2) That Cabinet approve the proposed or amended funding sources and delivery sequence of the remaining development opportunities within the council's new build programme for the schemes funded utilising Homes England grant and Right to Buy 1-4-1 replacement. Future reports will be presented to Cabinet for those individual schemes where the detailed costs are yet to be established.</p> <p>(3) That the Director Regeneration and Growth in consultation with the Director of Housing and Director of Finance be authorised to amend funding sources</p>	<p>The recommendations contained within this report will realign the Council's short term new build programme in order to meet the council's contractual requirements with Homes England and also contribute to ensuring Right to Buy 1-4-1 receipts are utilised within the required time periods. The Council will continue to complete feasibility works on any future new build opportunities as part of a pipeline programme to ensure availability of sites for future Right to Buy 1-4-1 receipts and other funding opportunities. If any sites encounter issues that will prevent delivery within the designated timescale other sites will be substituted, if available. This will be monitored to ensure the most appropriate use of funding for each scheme.</p>	<p>Option A – Dispose of the sites on the open market or to a Registered Provider</p> <p>Option B – Develop the sites utilising other funding sources</p>	

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p>available from the balance of 1-4-1 replacement receipts or Homes England to ensure the most appropriate use of funding for the schemes to ensure expenditure of Homes England funded within the contracted timescales and ensure the use the time limited receipts generated from the sale of properties.</p> <p>(4) That the Director Regeneration and Growth in consultation with the Director of Housing and Director of Finance be authorised to substitute alternative sites to achieve the required housing/funding outcomes should the schemes contained within Appendix 1 prove not to be viable in terms of value for money or deliverable within the prescribed funding timescales.</p> <p>(5) That the Director Regeneration and Growth in consultation with the Director of Housing and Director of Finance be authorised to continue to develop a future Council house build pipeline and ascertain feasibility of available sites to ensure availability of sites for future Right to Buy 1-4-1 receipts and other funding opportunities.</p>			
20	<b>Green Spaces Strategy - Implementation and Business Plan</b>	The Green Spaces Strategy Implementation and Business Plan sets	To not approve the Green Spaces Strategy Implementation	

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p><b>2022/23 - 2025/26</b></p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <p>(1) To approve the Green Spaces Strategy Implementation and Business Plan 2022-25 as set out in Appendix A.</p> <p>(2) That approval be given to the planned programme of works for 2022/23 as set out in Appendix A.</p> <p>(3) That approval be given to pilot income generation initiatives in green spaces, as specified within the Green Spaces Strategy.</p> <p>(4) That approval be given to the Governance Arrangements, as set out within the Green Spaces Strategy.</p> <p>(5) That approval be given to the proposed new ways of working with Friends Groups, and the Cabinet Member for Leisure and Tourism be authorised to approve the final agreement with Friends Groups following consultation.</p> <p>(6) That the Director of Borough Economy be authorised to develop additional programme of works for green spaces in-year (2022/23), if funding</p>	<p>out a clear programme of activity and direction for the service for the next 3 years. Specifically, the completion of the following objectives (detailed outputs within the Green Spaces Strategy.</p>	<p>and Business Plan 2022-25, which would, however, be detrimental in terms of lack of improvement programme for green spaces in Sandwell for the next 3 years.</p>	

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p>becomes available for additional works, in consultation with the Cabinet Member.</p> <p>(7) That the Director of Borough Economy authorise – through the Service Manager – emergency works for green spaces, as required for health and safety reasons.</p>			
22	<p><b>Provision of new council homes on 3 sites to be delivered via LHC Framework Alliance Contract</b></p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <p>To approve the development of 3 sites across Sandwell with new affordable rent council housing, subject to planning permission being obtained.</p>	<p>The Council is able to develop future sites, subject to planning permission, as part of the new strategic approach to provide more and better housing in the borough.</p>	<p>Several alternative options were considered by officers, but the recommendation was considered most appropriate.</p>	
23	<p><b>Approval of bids from Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council to Round 2 of Levelling Up Fund</b></p> <p>To consider proposals to establish an Assurance Panel for the purposes of assuring Levelling Up Fund bid proposals.</p>		<p>Several alternative options were considered by officers however the recommendation was considered the appropriate option.</p>	
24	<p><b>Management Options Appraisal -</b></p>	<p>The recommendation supports an</p>	<p>A number of options were</p>	

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p><b>Leisure</b></p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <p>That approval be given to: That the Director of Borough Economy be authorised to undertake detailed preparation in liaison with the Director of Finance and the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Tourism to progress <b>Option 2: 'Local Authority Trading Company (LATC)</b> for the future operation of this portfolio of the Council's leisure facilities.</p>	<p>appropriate sports and leisure facility management solution able to support and to address the holistic leisure needs of Sandwell residents.</p>	<p>considered by Cabinet, however the approved recommendation was considered most appropriate.</p>	