

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council Statement of Decisions made at a meeting of the Executive on Wednesday, 18 October 2023

Published:

The following decisions were made by the Executive at its meeting on **Wednesday, 18 October 2023**. These decisions will come into force on **Friday 27 October 2023** after call-in expires. A decision by the Executive may be called-in (in accordance with Part 4 – Scrutiny Procedure Rules of the Council's Constitution) by **Thursday 26 October**. 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. Any declaration of interest made by any member of the Executive is shown below.

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
4	Additional Items of Business			
5	<p>Approval of contract extensions and commencement of procurement - Housing repair and maintenance services</p> <p>(1) Approval be given to extend the following contracts on the terms set out in Appendix 1 relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic Electrical Components; • Electrical repairs and maintenance; • Timber supplies for council-owned 	<p>The Council uses external providers to deliver a wide range of its services and meet its statutory duties to residents and service users. Providers range from global businesses to small and local specialist suppliers.</p> <p>In each case, the Council must procure services in accordance with its own Contract Standing Orders, which set out the Council's own procurement rules to ensure it acts fairly and obtains best value when spending public money. Contracts which have a</p>	<p>Do Nothing. This was non-compliant as existing contracts have either expired or agreed procurement limits are about to be exceeded or are already exceeded. Without suitable arrangements, the Council was unable to fulfil its landlord obligations and maintain its housing assets. This option was not available to provide the services over the medium and long term and does not address continued service provision until further procurement activity was</p>	

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p>housing stock;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pitched and felt roof repairs to council owned properties; • Hand tools, Ladders and Steps, Power Tools, Fixings, Drills and Consumables. <p>(2) Approval be given to –</p> <p>(a) Commence procurement for timber supplies for council owned properties, 3 years (2+1), total contract value up to £1.5m over 3 years;</p> <p>(b) Amend the previous decision of Cabinet (January 2023) relating to the procurement of electrical services (repairs and maintenance) by revising both the approved term and limit from £3.6m over 4 years to £6m over 3 years (2+1) in line with the commentary in Appendix 1A and authority be granted to commence procurement;</p> <p>(c) Amend the previous decision of Cabinet (January 2023) relating to the procurement of building supplies to council owned properties by increasing</p>	<p>contract value in excess of the statutory financial thresholds for works or services/supplies must also be procured in compliance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR2015).</p> <p>The Council had an overriding duty to achieve best value in the procurement of goods, services and works.</p>	<p>undertaken.</p> <p>Re-procurement of the services and works. The Council could choose to undertake a procurement exercise without an extension to the contracts. This would mitigate some risks of non-compliance going forward but was not recommended as it will mean the cessation of services to residents and service users and places the Council at risk of not meeting its statutory duties. Furthermore, cessation of services to enable an immediate procurement exercise would likely result in significant delay until new suppliers/service providers were appointed.</p>	

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p>the previously approved limit of £1.6m to £1.8m and Contract Award to commence from 1st December 2023.</p> <p>(3) Delegated authority be given to the Interim Head of Contract Procurement to make minor amendments and changes to the extensions and / or processes described in this report in order to give effect to the decisions at (1) and (2) above, in consultation with the Interim Director of Housing, Director of Finance and the Director of Law & Governance.</p>			
6	<p>Oracle Fusion ERP System Implementation Support Partner - SOCITM</p> <p>(1) approval be given to extend the SOCITM Implementation Support taking the aggregate spend above the Key Decision Threshold (£1million+) and authority be delegated to award the contract to the Director of Finance, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources up to a cumulative value as set out in the report;</p> <p>(2) The Director of Finance be authorised to undertake all steps and actions necessary to implement the Oracle Fusion Enterprise</p>	<p>The implementation of Oracle Fusion is a key corporate project and will fundamentally change the way the Council's Finance, Procurement, HR and Payroll services operate.</p> <p>SOCITM as the Council's implementation support partner delivers a level of knowledge and expertise in the management and delivery of the programme that was outside the skills and capacity of Council workforce.</p> <p>Failure to extend the existing agreement would result in a delay to the rollout of Oracle Fusion, incremental costs and potential reputational damage</p>	<p>In order to achieve the desired implementation no other alternatives are available.</p>	

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	Resource Planning (ERP) system.			
7	<p>Adoption of Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy</p> <p>(1) That the Playing Pitch Strategy 2023 be approved and adopted by the Council.</p> <p>(2) That £5,000 of external funding be drawn down (from Sport England) towards the consultancy costs that have been incurred in producing the strategy.</p> <p>(3) That an implementation group be formed, representing key Council services to ensure the effective implementation of the Council-led actions recommended within the strategy.</p> <p>(4) That the Playing Pitch Strategy delivery group of wider stakeholders and partners continues its work and meets twice yearly in order to explore opportunities for pitch/facility improvements and participation development</p>	<p>Having a formally adopted Playing Pitch Strategy along with a Strategic Needs Assessment would help;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure that the provision of outdoor playing pitches met the local needs of existing and future residents within Sandwell; • provide evidence to the Council when making planning decisions; • assist when seeking investment / grants from external funding agencies; • enable officers and partner agencies to deliver against an action plan of recommended improvements / interventions. <p>As a key partner agency, Sport England had offered match funding of £5,000 towards the costs of employing the specialist consultant, Knight, Kavanagh and Page (KKP) that prepared the PPS in conjunction with the Council and other partner agencies. This would contribute towards the Councils overall budget position.</p> <p>The formation of an implementation group representing key service areas and wider stakeholders within the Council would help to ensure the effective implementation of the actions recommended within the strategy and contribute towards the Corporate Plan.</p>	<p>The alternative option was to not formally adopt the PPS. The impact of this would have been:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandwell would not have a robust / up to date strategy to relate to when making planning decisions; • the Delivery Group would not have a formally adopted action plan to work towards achieving; • opportunities for securing inward investment from NGBs and funders would be limited due to the lack of a formal 'sign off'. • NGBs may be more reluctant to work with the authority on future developments / strategies; • a £5,000 of 'match funding' towards the consultancy cost would be lost. 	

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		Adoption of the PPS and the Action plan would enable NGB's, funders and external agencies to work alongside the Council, sports clubs and schools to implement actions against a robust evidence base.		
8	<p>Highway Infrastructure Investment Funding Plan</p> <p>(1) That the Capital Programme for Borough Economy is reprofiled to provide a capital highway allocation of £3,602,000 for 2023/24 with the remaining balance of £2,981,000 (existing capital highway allocation of £6,583,000 less 2023/24 requirement of £3,602,000) carried forward to 2024/25.</p> <p>(2) That up to £500,000 of preventative maintenance work currently treated as revenue expenditure be capitalised and funded as part of the allocation of £3,602,000 in resolution (1).</p> <p>(3) That up to £500,000 of revenue released in resolution (2) is earmarked for use in 2023/24 for potential revenue pressures and risks associated with energy inflation, supplies and services inflation and increased gritting in the event of a severe winter.</p> <p>(4) That capital resources of £1,901,550</p>	<p>The Highway Infrastructure Asset Management Lifecycle Plan set out the framework for investment in, management of and the operation of highway the highway network to meet legal obligations and high public expectations for safe, reliable and accessible travel within the wider objectives of strategy set out in the West Midlands Local Transport Plan.</p> <p>Asset Management was about managing and maintaining and operating carriageways, footways, street lighting, structures, traffic signals, drainage and street furniture through long term planning and optimal allocation of resources in order to manage risk for a defined service performance.</p> <p>The Council had a statutory duty of care to users and the community to; maintain the highway in a condition fit for purpose, as far as was reasonably practicable. The duty was not absolute but decisions had to be taken on reasonable grounds with due care and regard to relevant considerations set out in best practice guidance such as "Well Managed Highway Infrastructure – A Code of Practice (October 2016). A key aspect of the HIAMP is the</p>	<p>An alternative would be to limit the repair of high-risk infrastructure to a value that matches the £4.741m City Region Sustainable Settlement maintenance block grant. There would consequently be no Council capital provision available to fund the gap in the cost of replacement of high-risk life expired highway infrastructure. The programme of urgent work for 2024/25 would not be completed. This was not recommended because the red risk backlog had been escalating. Also, a severe winter could add £3m to £5m to projections.</p>	

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	<p>be allocated in 2024/25 in addition to the £2,981,000 of Highway Capital Programme funding re-profiled from 2023/24 giving a total budget requirement of £4,882,550 for 2024/25.</p> <p>(5) That after the use of unspent capital from existing allocations the additional capital requirement for 2024/25 of £1,901,550 is funded from Corporate Main Programme resources, with any resulting prudential borrowing finance charges funded within Highways revenue budget and should additional borrowing be required to fund the additional capital budget requested, it is estimated that this would result in additional revenue costs to the council of £167,535 per annum over an 18 year period, with these costs being funded within Highways revenue budgets.</p> <p>(6) That a further report to Cabinet is submitted in Autumn 2024 after the Highway Infrastructure condition is reviewed in Summer 2024, to identify the budget that would be required in 2025/26 in order to address the replacement of red risk Highway Infrastructure.</p>	<p>development of strategic lifecycle plans for each critical infrastructure asset, including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 880km of carriageways, of which 75% are unclassified roads; • 1,440km footways and cycleways; • 35,000 street/lights, illuminated signs, traffic signals; • 450 bridges and structures; • 3500km drainage & culverts including 40,000 gullies & connections; • A wide range of other street furniture. 		
9	Sandwell Children's Trust Annual Review	The Service Delivery Contract between the	At its meeting on 19 October 2016,	

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p>2022/2023</p> <p>(1) formally receive the Sandwell Children’s Trust Annual Review 2022/23;</p> <p>(2) notes the progress made to date by Sandwell Children’s Trust in delivering services as set out in the contract between the Council and the Sandwell Children’s Trust, as set out in the Annual Review 2022/23;</p> <p>(3) notes the feedback from the Department for Education following its recent 6-month review of Sandwell Children’s Trust.</p>	<p>Council and Sandwell Children’s Trust required that an annual review of services was completed and presented to the Council. At the Cabinet meeting on 22 March 2017, it was agreed that the Cabinet, in its executive role, would perform this function on behalf of the Council and agree certain ‘reserved matters’ that are set out in the Contract.</p> <p>Consideration of the Annual Review by the Cabinet formed an important part of the governance of Sandwell Children’s Trust; providing assurance to the Council in its capacity as the body that is responsible and accountable for the discharge of the relevant children’s social care services functions.</p>	<p>Cabinet was advised of the Government’s Statutory Direction (under Section 479A of the Education Act 1996) to set up a new arrangement in the form of a children’s trust to deliver children’s social care services. As a result, Sandwell Children’s Trust started operating on 1 April 2018. Any alternative to the current arrangement must be agreed by the Secretary of State for Education.</p>	
10	<p>Highway Winter Operational Plan 2023 - 2024</p> <p>that approval be given for the Winter Operational Plan 2023 - 2024.</p>	<p>Road users and the wider community place a high value on keeping traffic moving safely in snow and freezing winter weather. Failure to do so can result in adverse economic and social impacts, along with public dissatisfaction and significant reputational damage to the Council.</p> <p>The council had a statutory duty ‘to ensure, so far as reasonably practicable, that safe passage along a highway was not endangered by snow or ice’. The duty was not absolute, but decisions were required be taken on reasonable grounds with due care and regard to relevant considerations set out in best practice guidance.</p>	<p>There was no recommended affordable alternative to mitigate the safety risks addressed by the Winter Operational Plan 2023-24.</p>	

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		<p>Winter service operations are carried out to prevent ice forming (precautionary salting), melt ice already formed (post salting) and remove snow accumulations by using ground rock salt.</p>		
11	<p>Sandwell Health and Care Partnership Alliance Agreement</p> <p>(1) the Sandwell Health & Care Partnership Annual Report 2022-23 be received and the aligned governance arrangements be noted;</p> <p>(2) Cabinet approval be given to the Sandwell Health and Care Partnership Alliance Agreement as set out in Appendix 1 and support its implementation across the Local Authority to include Adult Social Care, Children's Social Care and Public Health.</p>	<p>The Sandwell Health and Care Partnership had been developing new integrated ways of working to improve the health and wellbeing outcomes of the population, increase the quality of care provided and provide long term financial sustainability for the system. This agreement was an integral part of the vision to promote integrated services that delivered personalised care and it was anticipated that the agreement would facilitate the objectives of Sandwell Health and Care Partnership as more fully described in the agreement.</p> <p>The Sandwell Health and Care Partnership had been developing a Place Based Partnership through which to plan, manage and deliver integrated care, which would include informing future recommendations for improvements to the contractual environment and further develop and strengthen the role and responsibility of the Sandwell Place over the coming years.</p> <p>Over the period of this agreement, the partners will work together positively and in good faith in accordance with the alliance principles to achieve the alliance objectives. The partners also envisage that this agreement will endeavour</p>	<p>The Sandwell Health and Care Partnership (SHCP) approved the Alliance Agreement (Appendix 1) to be signed and upheld by participating partner organisations. The option of not asking for Cabinet to support this agreement was considered but all partners agreed that each of the individual governance structures should be given the opportunity to support this document to show commitment to partnership working across Place.</p>	

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		<p>to provide flexibility to their relationship as may be required, from time to time, to implement the changes required either nationally or any subsequent changes to the Health or Social Care functions.</p> <p>The agreement was the overarching agreement that set out how the Council would work together in a collaborative and integrated way and the Service Contracts, the Service Operations Manual and Third-Party Service Contracts respectively set out how the Council would provide the Services.</p>		
12	<p>Extension of contract for a non-executive director of Sandwell Children's Trust board</p> <p>that Cabinet, on behalf of the Council as the sole owner of Sandwell Children's Trust:</p> <p>(1) notes the completed sequence of events that are contractually required to extend the contract of a non-executive director of Sandwell Children's Trust board.</p> <p>(2) notes and takes into account in its decision-making, the response from the Secretary of State for Education.</p> <p>(3) agrees the extension of contract to Stephen Rimmer as a nonexecutive director of Sandwell Children's Trust for the period of up to three years from 1 November 2023.</p>	<p>There have been several changes at the Sandwell Children's Trust Board level. Both the Cabinet appointed Officer and Member NED's had been replaced since January 2023 with a further subsequent change in Officer NED following their resignation of from the Council. In addition to this Jane Bleach was appointed in March 2023 to replace Vineeta Manchanda, whose term had come to an end.</p> <p>Due to the number of changes the Sandwell Children's Trust Board wished to extend the term of Stephen Rimmer to maintain a level of continuity and ensure that the Trust continued on it's improvement journey</p>	<p>The alternative option would be to reject the recommendation. However, in line with the Governance Side Agreement with the DfE and the Trust's Articles of Association there would be a vacancy on the board that would still need to be filled. An alternative candidate would need to be identified via a competitive process and the process of consulting with the Secretary of State would need to be undertaken again. This would leave a potential gap in the governance arrangements of the Trust for a period.</p>	

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13	<p>Quarter 1 Performance Monitoring</p> <p>that Cabinet note progress on the further development of the Corporate Performance Management Framework and approve the Q1 monitoring reports.</p>	<p>An effective performance management framework facilitated increased accountability, learning and improvement. It also provided early warning signals and facilitated decision-making.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis, the Council gathered and analysed a wide range of data and information to understand how effectively its plans had been implemented and whether the strategic outcomes contained in the Corporate Plan had been achieved.</p> <p>The information collected was used to enable the authority to better understand the impact of its work on local people, and where necessary, target actions and resources.</p>	<p>There were no alternative options.</p>	
14	<p>Sandwell Aquatic Centre Project Closedown Report and Financial Closure</p> <p>(1) That the Director of Finance be authorised to identify and finance the £0.54m funding contribution previously committed, and then rescinded, by Sandwell Leisure Trust, from the most appropriate funding source for the Sandwell Aquatic Centre.</p> <p>(2) That approval be given to authorise the Director of Regeneration and Growth, in consultation with Director</p>	<p>Sandwell Aquatic Centre was developed as the host venue for all aquatic activity at the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games as well as a new leisure centre for residents, allowing the Council to condense other outdated local provision.</p>	<p>Do nothing- the financial liabilities outlined in the report cannot be avoided without significant risk of legal action being brought against the Council by the contractor given that the Council had already contractually committed to these costs. Legal action would add costs to those outlined within the report and severely damage the Councils reputation in the construction market.</p> <p>The £540,000 may still be recoverable, in full or in part, from</p>	

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	<p>of Finance, to fund an identified shortfall of £0.151m in business rate liability from project underspend and the Capital Project Support Reserve for the Sandwell Aquatic Centre.</p>		<p>SLT upon formal extension of their contract. There was informal expectation that a SLT may be more favourable at the point in which this had been formalised. Open book accounting arrangements with SLT have been agreed and any surpluses would be returned to the Council each year which may provide some mitigation towards the shortfall.</p> <p>Failure to obtain from SLT, subsidy would be required. This would either come from Prudential Borrowing or uncommitted capital receipts, subject to availability. The current Capital Programme could also be reviewed to identify any schemes which could be de-prioritised to free up resources or any projects which are forecasting an underspend.</p>	
15	<p>Sandwell Local Plan - Approval to Consult on the Draft Plan</p> <p>(1) That approval be given to the Draft Sandwell Local Plan (Appendix A), Sustainability Appraisal Reports and consultation material for consultation commencing on 6 November 2023 for 6 weeks.</p> <p>(2) That Cabinet authorises the Director - Regeneration & Growth, in</p>	<p>It was a statutory requirement of every Local Planning Authority to have an up-to-date Local Plan. Following the demise of the Black Country Plan in 2022, Sandwell had been producing its own plan – the Sandwell Local Plan. The Government had previously expressed a desire to see full Local Plan coverage across England by December 2023, or as soon as was practical after that date. However, the Government was currently consulting on a proposed new system for producing local plans and had</p>	<p>The preparation of a Local Plan was a statutory requirement under the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. The process for preparing a Local Plan was set out in additional legislation and guidance. As a result, there were no alternative solutions to the preparation of a new local plan for Sandwell, which was a matter of increasing urgency. Options relating to the form and content of the Local</p>	

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	<p>consultation with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration & WMCA, be authorised to make minor and other necessary amendments, if required, to the Draft Sandwell Local Plan and its associated documents prior to the start of public consultation to enable effective consultation to be undertaken.</p> <p>(3) That a further report be presented to Cabinet summarising key issues raised during the consultation be submitted to a future meeting to inform preparation of the Publication of the Sandwell Local Plan under Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.</p>	<p>indicated that the last date for submitting a revised local plan under the current system would be 30 June 2025. Officers had been working to a timetable that would enable the Sandwell Local Plan to be submitted prior to that date. The timetable for the production of the Local Plan was set out in the Sandwell Local Development Scheme which was available to view in the Planning Policy pages of the Sandwell website. The Draft Sandwell Local Plan was the next stage in the preparation of the Local Plan.</p>	<p>Plan had been set out in the report to Cabinet on 16 November 2022.</p>	
16	<p>Update and decisions on the Asset Management Strategy - Income and Savings 2023-2026</p> <p>(1) That approval be given that the Director of Borough Economy be authorised to declare the Tipton Library, Owen House, 17 Unity Walk, Tipton DY4 8QL surplus to Council requirements;</p> <p>(2) That the Director of Borough Economy, subject to approval of recommendation 1.1 be authorised to relocate the library provision to the</p>	<p>Recommendations support the delivery of the MTFs and ensuring the Council had a balanced budget moving forward alongside an efficiently operating estate to deliver Council services.</p> <p>The Council was committed to maintaining an effective and efficient property portfolio which supported the delivery of services to residents, provides value for money, reduces Council environmental impact and maximises opportunities to generate value.</p> <p>Progress had been made for 2023/24 with the savings target of £1.6 million expected to</p>	<p>The Council general fund Asset base was initially placed in one of three options, that was to retain the asset in its current use, to re classify the asset as an investment property, such as Jack Judge House or to dispose of the Asset. This was done within the context of achieving a more efficient Asset base and/or increasing income for the Council.</p> <p>It was possible that a large building, such as Sandwell Council House can serve a dual purpose, that is remaining in Council use but also</p>	

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	<p>former Tipton Carnegie Library, Victoria Road, Tipton, DY4 8SR;</p> <p>(3) That the Interim Director of Housing be authorised to relocate services from the Tipton Local centre at High Street, Princes End, Tipton, DY4 9JB to Glebefields Library and Family Hub Centre or other location as deemed appropriate;</p> <p>(4) That the Interim Director of Housing, subject to the approval of recommendation 1.3, prepare a business case for the reuse of the former Tipton Local Centre within the Housing Revenue Account Stock. Should this not be viable the former Tipton Local Centre building will be disposed of subject to the appropriate authority being obtained;</p> <p>(5) That the Director of Borough Economy, subject to the identification of the necessary funding be authorised to declare the Smethwick Library and archive, High Street, Smethwick, B66 1AA surplus to the requirements of the Council;</p> <p>(6) That the Director of Borough Economy, subject to approval of recommendation 1.5 be authorised to relocate the services provided from Smethwick High Street Library to Smethwick Council House;</p>	<p>be achieved by year end. It was however, noted that the variance in 2024/25 and 2025/26 was far more challenging as a result of a number of savings being achieved in 2023/24 being non-recurring. There was a current savings target variance of £1.86 million for 2024/25 and £2.05 million for 2025/26 and emphasises the importance of effective and significant decisions being made around the Council's corporate property estate to ensure delivery of the savings targets moving forward.</p>	<p>generating more income. This was now the case at the Sandwell Council with the subletting of space to the NHS on the first and third floor of the building.</p> <p>Option appraisals had been completed on the main Council buildings with the process providing an analysis of alternative options.</p> <p>In general, however if the Council did not achieve either significant savings and/or increased income from the Council Assets, the alternative was that those savings or increased income would have to come from front facing Council services.</p>	

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	<p>(7) Subject to the approval of recommendation 1.5 that the Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer be authorised to dispose of the freehold interest of the Smethwick Library, High Street. Smethwick B66 1AA on terms and conditions to be agreed by the Director of Regeneration and Growth;</p> <p>(8) That the Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer be authorised to enter or execute under seal where necessary any legal documentation in connection with the disposal of land referred to in recommendation 1.5 and 1.7 of this report;</p> <p>(9) That the Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer be authorised to enter or execute under seal where necessary any legal documentation in connection to the granting of a lease of 747 m2 (or thereabouts) to the Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust of the first floor of Sandwell Council House on terms and conditions to be agreed by the Director of Regeneration and Growth;</p> <p>(10) That approval be given to offer all community centres not currently subject to a live Community Asset</p>			

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	<p>Transfer or FRI lease on a Community Asset Transfer basis where a suitable expression of interest and business case has been received subject to terms and conditions to be agreed by the Director of Regeneration and Growth;</p> <p>(11) That subject to 1.14 not producing any viable expressions of interest, approval is given to the Director of Regeneration and Growth to declare the assets surplus to Council requirements and to undertake an open market disposal of the same subject to terms and conditions to be agreed by the Director of Regeneration and Growth;</p> <p>(12) That the Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer be authorised to enter or execute under seal where necessary any legal documentation in connection with the disposal of land referred to in recommendation 1.14 and 1.15 of this report.</p>			
18	<p>Haden Hill Leisure Centre Rebuild Options - Levelling Up Fund</p> <p>(1) Cabinet approve Option 1 - the part rebuild and part refurbishment – (rebuild wet facilities, refurbish the dry) of Haden Hill Leisure Centre;</p>	<p>The opportunity to utilise the allocated funding to renew Haden Hill Leisure Centre would resolve the long-term future of the well used but ageing asset. Once renewed Sandwell would be in the position of not having a public swimming pool in its portfolio that was more than 10 years old.</p>	<p>Option 2: Part rebuild and part refurbishment – rebuild dry facilities, refurbish the wet This option would result in a new centre built with just the existing swimming pools retained and refurbished. The layout of the centre</p>	

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	<p>(2) That subject to (1) above, the Director of Borough Economy be authorised to progress the preferred option for the Haden Hill Leisure Centre rebuild;</p> <p>(3) That subject to the above, the Director of Regeneration and Growth be authorised to procure and appoint a main contractor via the most suitable procurement route for the chosen option;</p> <p>(4) That the Director of Regeneration and Growth, in consultation with the Assistant Director of Legal and Assurance, be authorised to sign legal agreements and contracts associated with the delivery of the replacement of Haden Hill Leisure Centre;</p> <p>(5) That the Director of Regeneration and Growth provide a further report to Cabinet for approval of final project costs and procurement contract award;</p> <p>(6) That the Director of Finance be authorised to submit funding bids to Sport England or other appropriate organisations to support the delivery of the replacement of Haden Hill Leisure Centre.</p>	<p>The recent Sport England Facilities Planning Model assessment of swimming pool provision in Sandwell confirmed that with the continuation of provision at Haden Hill Leisure Centre, the Borough would have sufficient swimming pool supply to meet population demand inclusive of projected housing growth.</p>	<p>would be substantially improved, with less corridor space and an easier customer flow.</p> <p>Option 3: New build to a reduced scope This option sought to deliver a new-build project within the available funding. The priority (based on supporting resident physical activity) would be to rebuild the swimming provision, which would also allow the development of a large (100 station) fitness gym plus studio provision on the first floor.</p>	

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19	<p>Future Provision of Leisure Services</p> <p>(1) That Cabinet notes the extension of a revised Management and Funding Agreement with Sandwell Leisure Trust as the settlement of the provision of leisure services to 31 March 2027;</p> <p>(2) That the Director of Borough Economy, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Leisure and Tourism, be authorised to have responsibility for the ongoing management of the contract with Sandwell Leisure Trust.</p>	<p>The 2021 Grant Thornton Governance Review raised concerns regarding the management of the contract with Sandwell Leisure Trust (SLT). The subsequent review of future provision of leisure services had sought to address these concerns.</p> <p>This period would be used to consider the long-term settlement of the provision of leisure services.</p>	<p>There were no alternatives presented.</p>	
20	<p>Tipton Town Centre Regeneration Scheme Rescope and Funding Package</p> <p>(1) That the Director of Regeneration and Growth be authorised to design, procure, and develop three sites in Tipton town centre (as indicated in Appendix 1) for affordable one and two bed Council housing units, subject to obtaining planning approval;</p> <p>(2) That the Director of Regeneration and Growth in consultation with the Interim Director of Finance be</p>	<p>Tipton Regeneration Fund was set to deliver a minimum 65, and potentially up to 78, new homes on three key sites in Tipton town centre. These would provide low-energy and sustainable apartments at affordable rents and would underpin Sandwell’s commitment to build new social housing to meet the needs of its citizens. The three sites are within the town centre, which offers a range of shops and key public services close by. The redevelopment of vacant sites and the replacement of obsolete accommodation would help foster optimism in the local community and hopefully boost confidence</p>	<p>Do nothing, Refurbish the existing buildings or Revert to the original scheme as submitted in August 2022,</p>	

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p>authorised to sign under seal the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that has been agreed by both parties. (Appendix 5);</p> <p>(3) That the Interim Director of Finance be authorised to allocate adequate additional resources from the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) to deliver the scheme in line with the funding package outlined in section 2.16., subject to the completion of a satisfactory financial appraisal to be undertaken by Financial Planning;</p> <p>(4) That approval be given to authorise the steps necessary for the delivery of the proposed projects, including:</p> <p>a. The Director of Regeneration and Growth in consultation with the Interim Director of Finance and Interim Director of Housing be authorised to prepare tender documentation and subsequently procure, in accordance with any statutory regulations and the Council's Procurement and Financial Regulations, any professional services required to develop proposals set out in 2.14 and Appendix 2 up to RIBA Stage 4.</p> <p>b. Subject to 1.4.1 the Director of Regeneration and Growth in</p>	<p>and stimulate further investment.</p>		

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
	<p>consultation with the Interim Director of Finance and the Interim Director of Housing be authorised to prepare tender documentation and subsequently procure, in accordance with any statutory regulations and the Council's Procurement and Financial Regulations, a development/construction/demolition contractor to deliver the proposals set out in 1.1 and Appendix 2.</p> <p>c. The Director of Regeneration and Growth be authorised to progress any consents or applications required for Demolition, Planning, Building Regulations or Highways appertaining to the delivery of the schemes set out in 1.1 and any other agreements with the procured contractor(s) as may be deemed necessary to facilitate development of the sites set out in Appendix 1.</p>			