

ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
COMMITTEE

25 January 2024

OPEN

PRESENT:

Labour Group

Councillor S Taylor (Chair) and
Councillors A Archer, A Haynes (substituting for Councillor K Storey), I
Hudson, J Jackson, V Redfern, B Stuart and A Tilley.

Conservative Group

Councillors K Haines, J Lowe and P Watson.

Liberal Democrats

Councillor G Andrew

Non-Grouped

Councillor A Wheelton

In Attendance

Councillor D Corbin

EDS/61 **APOLOGIES**

The Committee was informed that apologies had been received from
Councillor K Storey (Labour Group).

EDS/62 **MINUTES**

The Committee noted and approved the Open Minutes of the meetings held
on 06 January 2020, 23 January 2020, 21 September 2023, 09 November
2023 and 04 January 2024 which were signed by the Chair as a true record.

EDS/63 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Committee was informed that no declarations of interest had been
received.

EDS/64 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC UNDER COUNCIL
PROCEDURE RULE NO 10**

The Committee was informed that no questions from Members of the Public
had been received.

EDS/65 **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11**

The Committee was informed that no questions from Members of the Council had been received.

MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE

EDS/66 **WASTE COLLECTION ROUTE OPTIMISATION**

The Head of Operational Services presented the report informing the Committee that an assessment of routes had been completed and the new schedules would provide more consistent collections and savings on mileage. The Head of Operational Services informed the Committee that where a change of collection day had been proposed that the new timings and the process for missed collections would be communicated to all residents through a hand-delivered leaflet.

Members expressed their support for the proposed changes to the schedules and the recommendations.

RESOLVED:

- 1.1 The Committee approved the changes to the collection days in the areas set out in the report.***

EDS/67 **FLEET MANAGEMENT REPLACEMENT STRATEGY**

The Head of Operational Services presented the report highlighting that the focus for identifying replacement vehicles was to reduce CO² emissions over the next two years. The General Fund and the Capital Programme for 2024-25 and 2025-26 would provide the funding of the project and the Chair confirmed that a report would be presented to the Finance and Management Committee with the proposed costs.

The Head of Operational Services provided statistics and comparison data for electric and diesel vehicles and confirmed that a backup plan included a generator and the retention of diesel driven vehicles.

Members discussed the funding of food waste collection and if separate vehicles would be required for this collection. Members raised queries and sought clarity on the skillset needed for staff providing maintenance of electric vehicles, which fuel was most sustainable, the use of dual fuel, how the new vehicles would be funded, if other local authorities had already converted to alternative fuels in collection fleets and requested documentation be provided.

The Head of Operational Services confirmed that a food waste collection plan would require four vehicles of the 7.5 tonnes category to meet Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) regulations and that the disposal points were being discussed with Derbyshire County Council. The Head of Operational Services informed Members that other authorities had used hydrotreated oil to power vehicles and that green hydrogen was most sustainable and the most expensive although a manufactured oil could be provided which would reduce emissions. The Head of Operational Services informed Members that results on the use of dual fuel would be made available when three months of data had been collected. The Head of Operational Services confirmed that the staff maintaining the vehicles would all be provided with the necessary training for the maintenance and servicing of all new vehicles.

The Chair supported the suggestion for further details and requested literature be provided to all Members.

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) explained the financial strategy to the Committee confirming that this would be a decision for Treasury Management.

RESOLVED:

1.1 The Committee approved the principles of the Fleet Management Replacement Strategy which were: vehicle replacement periods, sufficient spare vehicle capacity and a commitment to carbon reduction of the 3.5tonne fleet by 2027.

1.2 The Committee approved the conversion of diesel fuel to Hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) to reduce CO2 emissions subject to approval by Finance and Management Committee.

1.3 The Committee approved the financial commitment for 2024/25 and 2025/26 with the remaining years indicative, subject to approval at Finance and Management Committee as part of the final 2024/25 General Fund budget and Capital Programme.

EDS/68 **LOCAL PLAN ISSUES AND OPTIONS (REGULATIONS 18) CONSULTATIONS**

The Chair confirmed that a Local Plan Working Group had been set up and had made good progress. The Chair noted the types of responses in support and opposition of the consultation.

The Head of Planning and Strategic Housing presented the report to the Committee highlighting the extensive number of responses to the consultation and the key themes which included the housing market areas.

Members raised concerns regarding the responses from rural and parished areas where internet access could be limited, issues of transport and infrastructure and Derby City Council housing allocation.

The Head of Planning and Strategic Housing informed Members that a series of events was planned throughout the district in preparation for the Local Plan and it was expected that there would be more interest in the later stages of the proposals. The Local Plan would accommodate social housing, the location of which would be decided later as policies were developed.

RESOLVED:

1.1 The Committee noted the responses received to the Local Plan Issues and Options (Regulations 18) consultation as summarised in Appendix 1 of the report.

1.2 The Committee approved further evidence gathering to inform the next stage of plan preparation.

EDS/69 **GYPSY AND TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION ASSESSMENT (2023)**

The Head of Planning and Strategic Housing presented the report to the Committee and confirmed that the redacted parts of the document related to other Local Authorities and highlighted that the new pitch requirements depended on definitions described in the report. The Head of Planning and Strategic Housing informed Members that the new pitches for Gypsy and Traveller accommodation would be developed under part 2 of the Local Plan which would be considered by this Committee.

Members expressed concerns regarding the definitions, the prevention of opportunistic sites and that the assessment had taken a long time to come to Committee.

The Head of Planning and Strategic Housing confirmed that the definitions and sites would be allocated in part 2 of the Local Plan.

RESOLVED:

1.1 The Committee noted the content of the Derby, Derbyshire, Peak District National Park Authority and East Staffordshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment Report (GTAA) (April 2023) shown in Appendix 1 of the report.

1.2 The Committee Authorised the publication of the GTAA on the Council's website once the GTAA had been approved by all councils involved in commissioning it.

EDS/70 **AUTHORITY MONITORING REPORT**

The Head of Planning and Strategic Housing presented the report to the Committee highlighting the five year supply of deliverable housing.

Members raised queries regarding benchmarking of the report against other local authorities and the number of vacant commercial properties in Swadlincote.

Members observed the lack of new infrastructure given the increase in population in the district and Tree Preservation Order statistics.

The Chair noted the number of new and lost Tree Preservation Orders.

The Head of Economic Development informed Members that the number of vacant premises was below the national average and that an ongoing marketing campaign was proposed for Swadlincote town centre.

RESOLVED:

1.1 The Committee noted the content of the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR).

1.2 The Committee authorised the publication of the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) on the Council's website.

EDS/71 **LOCAL PLAN BUDGET**

The Head of Planning and Strategic Housing presented the details of the Local Plan budget for the next financial year to the Committee.

Members queried the cost of the Local Plan to date. The Head of Planning and Strategic Housing would provide further information to the Committee.

RESOLVED:

1.1 The Committee approved the budget of £190,000 for the 2024-25 financial year.

1.2 The Committee referred the financial implications arising from the report to the Finance and Management Committee.

EDS/72 **APPROVAL OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING STATEMENT 2022-23**

The Head of Planning and Strategic Housing presented the report to the Committee.

Councillor Haines was disappointed that the Fisher Close development had not been included in the report.

RESOLVED:

1.1 The Committee approved the publication of the Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) for the 2022-23 financial year.

EDS/73 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The Strategic Director (Service Delivery) presented the report to the Committee and informed the Committee that the Local Plan would be included in the Committee Work Programme for the August meeting.

RESOLVED:

1.1 The Committee considered and approved the updated work programme, attached as Annexe A to the report.

EDS/74 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

RESOLVED:

That, in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it would be likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Act indicated in brackets after each item.

EXEMPT MINUTES

The Exempt Minutes of the Meetings held on 21 September 2023 and 09 November 2023 were received.

EXEMPT QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11

The Committee was informed that no exempt questions from Members of the Council had been received.

TOWN CENTRE MASTERPLAN

The Committee approved the recommendations within the report.

OPERATIONAL SERVICES MANAGEMENT SYSTEM SOFTWARE

The Committee approved the recommendations within the report.

WASTE COLLECTION AND PARK ATTENDANT STAFFING

The Committee approved the recommendations within the report.

The meeting terminated at 20:05hours.

COUNCILLOR S TAYLOR

CHAIR