



Cambridge City Council  
**Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee**

**Date:** Monday, 28 March 2022

**Time:** 5.00 pm

**Venue:** Council Chamber, The Guildhall, Market Square, Cambridge, CB2 3QJ

**Contact:** [democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk), tel:01223 457000

**Agenda**

- 1 Apologies for Absence
- 2 Declarations of Interest
- 3 Minutes (Pages 3 - 16)
- 4 Public Questions

**Decisions for the Executive Councillor for External Partnerships**

- 5 Update on the Work of Key External Partnerships (Pages 17 - 34)

**Decisions for the Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources**

- 6 General Fund Revenue Carry-Forwards (Pages 35 - 40)
- 7 Sale of 11 Thorpe Way (Pages 41 - 46)

**Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee Members:** Robertson (Chair), H. Davies (Vice-Chair), Bick, Dalzell, Healy and S. Smith

**Alternates:** Payne, Scutt and Gawthrop Wood

**Executive Councillors:** Davey (Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources), Herbert (Executive Councillor for External Partnerships) and A. Smith (Executive Councillor for Communities)

## Information for the public

The public may record (e.g. film, audio, tweet, blog) meetings which are open to the public.

For full information about committee meetings, committee reports, councillors and the democratic process:

- Website: <http://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk>
- Email: [democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk)
- Phone: 01223 457000

### Public health and well-being for meeting arrangements

Whilst the situation with COVID-19 is on-going, the Council will be following the latest Government guidance in organising and holding its meetings.

This Meeting will be live streamed to the Council's YouTube page. Those wishing to address the meeting will also be able to do so virtually via Microsoft Teams. Given the ambition to limit numbers of people attending the meeting in person to reduce the risk of infections, we would encourage members of the public who wish to address the Committee to do so virtually.

Should you have to attend in person, we always ask you to maintain social distancing and maintain your face covering unless you are exempt or when speaking at the meeting. Hand sanitiser will be available on entry to the meeting.

If members of the public wish to address the committee either virtually or in person, you must contact Democratic Services [democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk) by 12 noon two working days before the meeting.

**STRATEGY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** 7 February 2022  
5.00 - 7.30 pm

**Present:** Councillors Robertson (Chair), H. Davies (Vice-Chair), Bick, Dalzell, Healy, S. Smith, Davey (Executive Councillor), Herbert (Executive Councillor) and A. Smith (Executive Councillor)

Also present (virtually)-Councillors Collis, Moore, Thornburrow, Todd-Jones, Bennett, Payne and Porrer.

Officers-Fiona Bryant Director of Enterprise and Sustainable Growth, Caroline Ryba Head of Finance and Gary Clift Committee Manager

<b>FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL</b>
---

**22/42/SR Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies.

**22/43/SR Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations.

**22/44/SR Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 October 2021 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**22/45/SR Public Questions**

There were no public questions.

**22/46/SR Combined Authority Update**

The Executive Councillor for External Partnerships updated the Scrutiny Committee on the issues considered at the last three meetings of the Combined Authority (27 October, 24 November and 26 January). It was noted that the Chief Executive at the CA was looking to re-structure and the Mayor

has put forward a Sustainable Growth Strategy. Members asked questions concerning a bus strategy and the continuing e-scooter trial.

The update was noted.

## **22/47/SR Corporate Security Contract**

### **Matter for decision**

The current Security contracts for static and mobile guarding of City Centre locations, assets and events expires on 31 March 2023.

In order to continue benefitting from the services supplied to a number of different Council departments there is a requirement for a procurement exercise to be undertaken and to allow award for security services to continue to be delivered.

A new tender is proposed, designed as a framework, which allows the flexibility for other Cambridge City Council departments and external partners to join during the term of the contract

### **Decision of the Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources**

To approve the procurement for the corporate security contracts

To delegate authority to the Strategic Director to award compliant corporate security contract

The new Corporate security contracts will have a term of 4 years with option to extend in annual increments for a further 3 years making the total contract term 7 years. Contract value, up to £4,000,000

Subject to: If the tender sum exceeds the estimated contract value by more than 10% then permission to proceed will be sought from the Strategy & Resources Scrutiny Committee.

### **Reason for the decision**

As set out in the officer's report.

### **Any alternative options considered and rejected**

Not applicable

## **Scrutiny considerations**

In response to a question on the types of work and services this procurement covers, the officer confirmed that the Council's corporate equalities requirements and expectations would be part of the procurement exercise (and contract).

The scrutiny committee supported the recommendations.

The Executive Councillor approved the recommendations.

## **Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensation granted)**

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

## **22/48/SR Capital Strategy**

### **Matter for decision**

This report presents the capital strategy of the council together with a summary capital programme for the General Fund (GF) and Housing Revenue Account (HRA). The previous capital strategy was approved by Council on 25 February 2021. The strategy is focused on providing a framework for delivery of capital expenditure plans over a 10-30 year period. These plans cover spending on operational assets to support service delivery and on investments which provide an income for the council alongside meeting the council's objectives in relation to economic development and place-making, regeneration and climate change mitigation. Governance arrangements are also outlined in order to ensure the capital programme continues to deliver value for money.

The council has a substantial capital programme which is mainly guided by and supports the strategic aims of the council as outlined in the *One Cambridge – Fair for All* vision and defined in the *Annual Statement* as published on the council website.

The strategy has been updated to reflect:

- Changes to the CIPFA Prudential Code (throughout, but particularly the definitions set out in paras 3.2 and 3.7 and the prudential indicators referred to in paras 5.14, 5.15 and 6.2)
- The Our Cambridge programme (paras 4.3 and 4.13)
- the ongoing development of a programme to build 1,000 new council homes in the 10 years from 2022 (para 4.12) and the study to improve the energy performance of council homes (para 4.15)

The council's Section 151 officer is required to report explicitly on the affordability and risk associated with the capital strategy.

As highlighted in the strategy the council ensures that capital projects and schemes are accompanied by detailed funding proposals. Where projects are to be funded from borrowing, either internally from cash balances or externally, a prudent Minimum Revenue Provision charge is made. The council has not borrowed externally to fund capital expenditure in the recent past, the current external borrowing representing debt incurred on the transition from the old housing subsidy system to HRA self-financing.

Where the council has expanded its commercial activities by purchasing additional commercial properties or by making loans to subsidiaries and joint ventures to facilitate the provision of intermediate housing or the development of sites for market and affordable housing, it ensures that the risks taken are proportionate to the size and scale of the authority. Legal advice is taken alongside the completion of appropriate due diligence and any loans are secured where appropriate. On projects undertaken by joint ventures the council monitors the expected repayment of loans and expected future surpluses carefully. The council has not borrowed externally to fund the increase in commercial activity.

External debt will be used to fund the redevelopment of the Park Street multi-storey car park and future housing developments within the HRA. The council is aware of the risks associated with borrowing for these purposes and will seek appropriate external advice.

External borrowing may also be used to fund the remainder of the capital programme where capital receipts and cash balances are insufficient. The level of capital spending will be reviewed annually for affordability in the Medium Term Finance Strategy (MTFS), before proposals are brought forward through the budget setting process.

### **Decision of the Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources**

Agreed to recommend to Council the capital strategy as set out in the report and to note the summary capital programme

### **Reason for the decision**

As detailed in the officer report.

### **Any alternative options considered and rejected**

None.

### **Scrutiny considerations**

The scrutiny committee noted that there will be a further review of the capital plan this year.

The scrutiny committee supported the recommendations.

The Executive Councillor approved the recommendations.

### **Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensation granted)**

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

### **22/49/SR Cambridge City Housing Company Update**

### **Matter for decision**

To consider the annual update on the council's intermediate housing company, Cambridge City Housing Company Limited (CCHC) and updated business plan for CCHC for the period 2021/22 – 2030/31.

CCHC performed well over the past year in terms of letting with low void levels, minimal arrears, and low levels of antisocial behaviour. The Annual General Meeting will be held on 16 March 2022.

Since Covid-19, CCHC leased 5 properties from the council to re-let to rough sleepers to help meet their needs, providing accommodation to help keep them safe and provide support. Having operated this model for just over 12 months, it is evident that the shared accommodation model is not suitable for a number of the residents who have been placed in these units. The company is seeking to bring the existing tenancies to an end through the court process and will enter into discussions with the council about the future use of the homes. At the request of the council, one of these leases for a vacant dwelling has been collapsed prematurely to meet a greater housing need.

Financially in 2020/21, CCHC generated a small surplus in direct trading activity of £86,824 (2019/20, £73,882) with a decrease in the value of the investment property by approximately £30,000 or 0.4%, to just under £7.9m.

### **Decision of the Leader/Executive Councillor for Strategy**

Noted the comments of the Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on the draft business plan; and

To inform the Board of Directors of Cambridge City Housing Company of the comments of the Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee/Council for consideration in finalising the business plan

As the company's sole shareholder, confirmed continuing support for the company and recommend refinancing of the company for a further five years at 2.02% p.a., subject to review on the occurrence of any of the conditions set out in paragraph 4.9 of the accompanied report.

### **Reason for the decision**

As detailed in the officer report.

### **Any alternative options considered and rejected**

None.



## **Scrutiny considerations**

The committee noted that the company was currently investigating a further 250 properties but it was dependent on a number of factors. If wishing to proceed a further report would be expected to come to Members in July.

The scrutiny committee supported the recommendations.

The Executive Councillor approved the recommendations.

## **Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensation granted)**

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

## **22/50/SR New Corporate Plan 2022-27**

### **Matter for decision**

The council's Corporate Plan sets out the key priority themes and strategic objectives that the council is working to achieve. The new Corporate Plan contains four priority themes and covers the five years 2022-27.

Detailed objectives and activities are set out in service Operational Plans and team and personal objectives, as well as in council strategies and policies.

### **Decision of the Leader/Executive Councillor for Strategy**

To recommend the Corporate Plan to Council for adoption.

### **Reason for the decision**

As detailed in the officer report.

### **Any alternative options considered and rejected**

None.

## **Scrutiny considerations**

In response to a question, the Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources undertook to discuss with the Head of Corporate Strategy and Cllr Dalzell how KPIs will be developed to cover the Transformation Programme.

The scrutiny committee supported the recommendations 4-0.

The Executive Councillor approved the recommendations.

### **Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensation granted)**

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

## **22/51/SR Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2022/23 to 2024/25**

### **Matter for decision**

The Council is required to receive and approve, as a minimum, three main treasury management reports each year.

The first and most important is the Treasury Management Strategy (this report), which covers:

- capital plans (including prudential indicators);
- a Minimum Revenue Provision policy which explains how unfinanced capital expenditure will be charged to revenue over time;
- the Treasury Management Strategy (how investments and borrowings are to be organised) including treasury indicators; and
- a Treasury Management Investment Strategy (the parameters on how investments are to be managed).

The statutory framework for the prudential system under which local government operates is set out in the Local Government Act 2003 and Capital Financing and Accounting Statutory Instruments. The framework incorporates four statutory codes. These are:

- the Prudential Code (2021 edition) prepared by CIPFA;
- the Treasury Management Code (2021 edition) prepared by CIPFA;
- the Statutory Guidance on Local Government Investments prepared by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) (effective 1 April 2018); and
- the Statutory Guidance on Minimum Revenue Provision prepared by DLUHC (effective 1 April 2019).

The Council's S151 Officer has considered the deliverability, affordability and risk associated with the Council's capital expenditure plans and treasury management activities. The plans are affordable. Where there are risks such as the slippage of capital expenditure, or reductions in investment values or income, these have been reviewed and mitigated at an acceptable level. The Council has access to specialist advice where appropriate.

### **Decision of the Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources**

Recommend to Council to: Approve the report, including the estimated Prudential and Treasury Indicators for 2022/23 to 2025/26 (inclusive) as set out in Appendix C.

Approve the renewal of the £7.5 million loan to Cambridge City Housing Company Ltd (CCHC) for a further term of 5 years from 1 April 2022, at an interest rate of 2.02% per annum.

Introduce an authorised limit for other long-term liabilities of £2 million, in response to technical accounting changes brought about by the adoption of IFRS 16 (see 7.3 of the report).

### **Reason for the decision**

As detailed in the officer report.

### **Any alternative options considered and rejected**

None.

### **Scrutiny considerations**

Regarding the third recommendation in the report, the Head of Finance advised the committee that the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy had delayed the introduction of IFRS 16 but it was still prudent for the Council to increase the limit for long term liabilities now.

In response to a question, the Head of Finance updated the committee that work was being undertaken with the Council's treasury advisors so the Council could more closely monitor the ESG credentials of its investments and this will be included in future reports.

The scrutiny committee supported the recommendations.

The Executive Councillor approved the recommendations.

### **Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensation granted)**

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

## **22/52/SR General Fund Budget Setting Report 2022/23 to 2026/27**

### **Matter for decision**

The Budget Setting Report and the Executive Amendment (the latter published on 1 February) reflected what would be proposed to the Executive and if approved to Council.

### **Decision of the Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources**

To recommend the Executive to:

General Fund Revenue Budgets: [Section 5, page 26 refers]

Agree any recommendations for submission to the Executive in respect of:

- Revenue Pressures and Bids shown in Appendix B(b) and Savings shown in Appendix B(c).
- Non-Cash Limit items as shown in Appendix B(d).
- Bids to be funded from External Funding sources as shown in Appendix B(e).

Capital: [Section 6, page 29 refers]

Capital Plan:

Agree any recommendations for submission to the Executive in respect of the proposals outlined in Appendix C(a) for inclusion in the Capital Plan.

To recommend to the Council:

Formally confirming delegation to the Chief Financial Officer (Head of Finance) of the calculation and determination of the Council Tax taxbase (including submission of the National Non-Domestic Rates Forecast Form, NNDR1, for each financial year) which is set out in Appendix A(a).

The level of Council Tax for 2022/23 as set out in Appendix A (b) (to follow for Council) and Section 4 [page 17 refers].

Other Revenue:

Delegation to the Head of Finance authority to finalise changes relating to any further corporate and/or departmental restructuring and any reallocation of support service and central costs, in accordance with the CIPFA Service Reporting Code of Practice for Local Authorities (SeRCOP).

Capital:

Deletion from the Capital Plan of the Cambridge Junction capital scheme, as set out in Section 6 [page 29 refers].

Subject to any Executive decision above, recommend to Council the revised Capital Plan for the General Fund as set out in Appendix C(c) and the Funding as set out in Section 6, page 29.

General Fund Reserves:

Note the impact of revenue budget approvals and the resulting contribution from reserves to support service delivery [Section 8, page 44 refers].

Approve the allocation of funding on a contingency basis to the collaborative 'Changing Futures' programme project [Section 8, page 44 refers].

Note the resulting level of reserves [Section 8, page 44 refers].  
Section 25 Report.

Note the Chief Finance Officer's Section 25 Report included in Section 10 of the BSR [page 65 refers].

Review of Charges:

Note the schedule of proposed fees and charges for 2022/23 in Appendix F.

**Reason for the decision**

As detailed in the officer report.

### **Any alternative options considered and rejected**

None.

### **Scrutiny considerations**

Committee asked the following:

Why was there no provision for inflation?

How can Members scrutinise Transformation proposals?

The Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources replied that:

A full council review of the effect of inflationary pressure would be undertaken prior to adopting the Medium Term Financial Strategy in October 2022, but at present the approach first taken at MTFS 2021 of not inflation proofing because of both the current inflation rate uncertainty, and additional savings burden, was the recommended approach. Regarding Transformation, a new Director of Transformation has been in post for 6 weeks and there will be a clear programme and further all Member briefings.

The Chair took questions on the BSR portfolio by portfolio. Members of the Executive were present to answer questions from the Committee and spokespersons.

### **Finance and Resources:**

It was confirmed the head leaseholders of Lion Yard did not want the Council to invest in any proposed developments. The Council's Officers meet the head leaseholders every quarter.

The Council's property assets are under review and the Executive has given no direction regarding the future use of the Guildhall.

On Clay Farm s106, if it was required that a dispute resolution was required to arbitrate between the Council and Developer it would take between 3-6 months although it was hoped that would not be required. If an income stream becomes a reality following the dispute resolution, it would be incorporated into the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

### **General Fund Housing:**

Regarding the retrofitting grant, although it could not be used for HRA Council Properties and is for households with income less than £30k, the Council is looking at ways to pick up eligible customers in the areas where the work is being planned on council housing.

### **Planning Policy and Transport:**

Cllrs Bick and Porrer expressed concerns that the financial and usage data in relation to the decision taken on bus subsidy at Planning and Transport Scrutiny Committee on 11 January were only made known in the Executive Amendment.

The Director confirmed that the usage data had been previously submitted to committee but should ideally have been repeated in the most recent report. In regards to the financial data, the Director confirmed that a decision to stop the payment had been deferred owing to both the expectation, initially, that the pandemic impact would be of a shorter duration, and a request from Government, but that subject to the outcome of further queries, a refund on unused subsidy was being sought. Future provision of the service will be associated with the emerging Local Transport Plan.

### **Climate Change, Environment and City Centre**

With reference to the out of hours service it was confirmed that the matter would come back to members of the Environment and Communities Scrutiny Committee in October 2022 with a full years data so that the decision taken last month can be confirmed or if needed, budget provision considered in time for future years.

With reference to public toilet provision, the income loss needed to be reflected and related to Park Street and Arbury Court toilets closing.

The scrutiny committee supported the recommendations 4-2 on the Executive Amendment and 4-0 on the original recommendations.

The Executive Councillor approved the recommendations as amended.

### **Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensation granted)**

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

**22/53/SR Amendment to Budget Setting Report (General Fund) 2022/23 to 2026/27**

The Scrutiny Committee and members of the Executive asked questions on the Liberal Democrat amendment and noted the Green & Independent statement, both of which are reported to Council for consideration.

Liberal Democrat amendment:

B0005-Care Network. It was confirmed that this proposal had been checked with the County Council which also provided funding.

CAP 0006- income from the cameras would go towards the running and maintenance of them and to roll-out further.

CAP 0007-It was not a city wide proposal as it was thought it would be a good trial to support this new community in Trumpington.

The meeting ended at 7.30 pm

**CHAIR**





Item:

## **UPDATE ON THE WORK OF KEY EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS**

**To:**

Councillor Lewis Herbert Executive Councillor for External Partnerships  
Strategy & Resources Scrutiny Committee, 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022

**Report by:**

Graham Saint

Tel: 01223 - 457044

Email: [Graham.Saint@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:Graham.Saint@cambridge.gov.uk)

**Wards affected:**

Abbey, Arbury, Castle, Cherry Hinton, Coleridge, East Chesterton, King's Hedges, Market, Newnham, Petersfield, Queen Edith's, Romsey, Trumpington, West Chesterton

### **Not a Key Decision**

#### **1. Executive Summary**

1.1 This paper provides an update on the work of the following partnerships:

- The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (including the Business Board)
- Greater Cambridge Partnership
- Fast Growing Cities
- Innovation Corridor (London-Stanstead-Cambridge Consortium)
- Cambridge – Milton Keynes – Oxford Arc.

- 1.2 The paper is provided as a part of the Council’s commitment given in its “Principles of Partnership Working”, to set out annual reports summarising the work of the key partnerships it is involved with and highlights the considerable amount of activity that is taking place in tackling some of the “big challenges” that the city is facing. It also shows the ongoing joint working between partners and government to help meet these challenges. This year has included responding to the to the pandemic, which has involved partners findings ways to pull together to both ameliorate and find solutions to its impacts.

## 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Executive Councilor is recommended to:
  - a) Note the achievements and progress of the strategic partnerships that the City Council is engaged with, outlined in this report.

## 3. Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA)

- 3.1 The City Council is a statutory member of the CPCA, which was set up as a part of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Devolution Deal, with its first official meeting taking place in March 2017.

A Board, chaired by the elected Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, ensures that the decisions and actions of the Combined Authority deliver key outcomes for the people of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Cllr. Lewis Herbert sat on the **Combined Authority Board** during the year for Cambridge City Council.

- 3.2 As well as the Combined Authority Board there are six other committees that are part of the CPCA. Our membership of these committees is: **Overview and Scrutiny Committee**, Cllr. Dave Baigent and Cllr. Mike Davey; **Audit and Governance Committee** Cllr. Mike Sargeant; **Employment Committee**, Cllr. Lewis Herbert; **Housing and Communities Committee**, Cllr. Lewis Herbert; **Skills Committee**, Cllr. Lucy Nethsingha, and Cllr. Niamh Sweeney; **Transport and Infrastructure Committee**, Cllr. Kate Thornburrow.

### 3.3 During the last year the CPCA:

- Adopted key values of **compassion, co-operation and community** and identified six key things it can focus on to make sure its projects fulfil their commitments whilst still holding to key values. As a part of this shift the **Growth Ambition Statement** was updated and subjected to a consultation that closed at the end of December. This is an important document because it lays out key priorities and the way they will be taken into account in future CPCA decision-making.
- Permanently **stopped the development of the CAM program** and placed One CAM LTD into dormancy and agreed that the remaining shareholders' funds be returned to its Recycled Growth Fund as partial reimbursement for the Business Board's investment in the project.
- Started to refresh the **Local Transport Plan (LTP)** and to develop the Local Transport and Connectivity (LTCP) programme, outlining key areas to be addressed in a "Soft Launch" engagement, in relation to the overarching vision, aims and objectives as well as key challenges and opportunities. The final Plan is scheduled to be delivered to the Board in Autumn 2022 for approval. The rewrite is to be designed to secure growth and ensure that planned developments across the county take place in a sustainable way. The aim is to incorporate the recommendations from the Independent Commission on Climate and from initial public engagement.
- Supported **local bus service improvement plans (BSIPs)** with bids to the government's national bus strategy to grow passenger numbers and to support better and more joined up public transport provision.
- Started to prepare (with partners, including the city council) an ambitious, comprehensive and public friendly Action Plan setting out how the Combined Authority will take action to **implement the recommendations of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Commission on Climate**.

- Consulted the Council on priorities for the CPCA medium term budget. The Council suggestions for investment in nature (Logan’s Meadow Local Nature Reserve and the Greater Cambridge Chalk Streams projects); the economy (city portrait to inform inclusive recovery/growth); culture (the Guildhall and Corn Exchange); and climate (Waterbeach Depot EV-charging) have all subsequently been included in the budget for 2022-2025, subject to further approval of detailed business case. This is part of total package of £12m to take forward climate and social programmes.
- Started to **develop an affordable housing strategy** in the first half of 2022 taking in to account views of our constituent councils and working closely with Homes England. The Affordable Housing programme runs to 31 March 2022 with the original ambition under the devolution deal to deliver 2,000 new affordable homes with £100m of Capital funding being provided.
- Looking at **placed based innovation to level-up in the area** and design a series of long-term interventions that will seek to replicate the “Cambridge Phenomenon. Research is seen as fundamental to this and having won funding for, and started construction on, the first three buildings of the university campus in Peterborough, it is felt now is the time to deliver on the CPIER ambition to increase innovation-based business growth in the north of the area.
- Continued to **manage a portfolio of large capital projects** delivering journey improvements and public health benefits across the region to help deliver the commitment to double GVA – these projects are predominantly funded by the Transforming Cities Fund, a £95m fund devolved to the area with the Combined Authority able to direct to where it will create the greatest impact.
- Began a conversation with constituent members about the purpose of the Combined Authority and initiated a review of its governance arrangements. Both these initiatives are designed to improve its reputation and ways of working in order to maximise the potential positive benefits the CPCA can have for residents

and capitalise on new opportunities, including the Levelling-Up White Paper.

3.5 The CPCA has led on, or supported, the delivery of key projects in the Cambridge area during 2021, including:

- Re-instatement of the £750k budget for Cambridge South Station for the current, contractually committed, phase of the project and not for the subsequent DfT funded phase. Network Rail have continued their work in line with the contract held with the CPCA and have subsequently submitted invoices in line with the contract.
- Successfully developed a bid to support the purchase of 30 new battery electric, zero emission double-decker buses to operate on the Park & Ride and Citi2 routes. The overall project is over £16.5 million, being funded from the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority's Transforming Cities Fund, Greater Cambridge Partnership's City Deal, DfT, and an operator partner. The new buses are expected to enter service in during 2022.

3.6 Variations in the area delivery programmes during the year have included:

- The approval of £18.7m for 18 schemes by the The Minister for Regional Growth and Local Government to secure delivery of 1,188 affordable homes in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The grant will be paid before March 2023 and at least £4m is expected in the current financial year.
- Delays in the Green Home Grant Capital Program caused by difficulties in agreeing the delivery model with Managing Agents. The forecast of funds invested through Start Codon has also reduced from £2.2m to £1m this year with a further £1m forecast in 2022-23.
- Underspending in the ongoing A10 Dualling project although this is likely to be carried forward.
- A decision to fund Wisbech Access Strategy to the completion of detailed design

#### **4. CPCA Business Board**

- 4.1. The Business Board was constituted in September 2018 as the LEP for our region, integrated within the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, which is the “accountable-body, responsible to Government for complying with any conditions or requirements attached to any funding.
- 4.2 The Business Board assists in the achievement of the Combined Authority’s Growth Ambition Statement, responds to the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Economic Review (CPIER) and the realisation of the Combined Authority Business Plan 2021/22.
- 4.5 Following publication of the Local Skills Report in April 2021 reviewing progress and identifying strengths and needs in the region it was decided to refresh the Board’s Employment and Skill Strategy. This takes account of the fast-moving pace of skills requirements in the post COVID-19 world and the evolution of the Local Economic Recovery Strategy. Green Skills are identified as a cross cutting theme throughout, making the skills required for Net Zero a priority for investment of future education budgets that are devolved or delegated, such as the Lifetime Skills Guarantee and the Adult Education Budget.
- 4.6 A refresh of the existing sector strategies were completed, with the outstanding Agri-Tech strategy published in November 2021.
- 4.7 An updated Infrastructure Strategy for 2021-2025 was agreed on 3 November, focusing on delivering of next generation broadband connectivity and mobile coverage, using ‘Smart’ technologies to improve the environment, and extending free public access Wifi, while supporting digital inclusion. It builds on the past success of collaborative work with local councils, government and commercial providers, and sets new challenging targets to help ensure that that the area is well positioned to take full advantage of current and emerging technology advances.
- 4.8 During the year achievements of the Business Board included:
  - Maintaining the Growth Works business growth service, awarding growth funding region wide to create new jobs and stimulate capital expenditure. This service has also offered

guidance on COVID-19 resilience and the European Union Exit Transition – including import and export advice, fulfilling the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy criteria for funding, and delivering their various grant funding schemes.

- Transforming the Growth Hub into a new Growth Coaching Service, which has been instrumental in proactively engaging with the highest potential firms to speed their growth, build their capacity for growth, and sustain their period of growth. The new Careers Hub will initially assist young people from 30 schools to support better careers education and there are plans to apply for a second Careers Hub in the 2022/23 academic year, so all 72 schools and colleges in the area can join.
- Launching a campaign to raise awareness of the new, fully funded Level 3 courses available to adult learners (24+) across the region as part of the government's Lifetime Skills Guarantee.
- Running two grant schemes to help businesses respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The COVID-19 Capital Grant Scheme provides grants of up to £150,000 to companies with between 6 and 249 employees and the Micro Capital Grant Scheme provides grants of up to £5,000 to sole traders, and employers with less than 5 employees. In total over £5m has been allocated in the area.
- Continuing to administer the Local Growth Fund, setting out clear priorities linked to evidence of outputs and deliverability.
- Managing two Enterprise Zones across the region – Alconbury Weald Enterprise Campus (2012) and Cambridge Compass Enterprise Zone (2016) which cover six key development sites.

### Governance

- 4.9 The Business Board membership comprises of up to 10 members; two public sector members and up to eight business representatives. The Mayor and the portfolio holder for Economic Growth of the Combined Authority are non-voting members of the Business Board by virtue of their office and make-up the public sector membership. The term of

office for private sector representatives will normally be a maximum of 3 years. The City Council is not represented directly on the Business Board.

4.10 In accordance with government requirements for Mayoral areas there is a Local Agreement between the Business Board and the Combined Authority setting out the responsibilities of the Chair, Board and Accountable Body.

4.11 The Business Board has at least two public meetings a year, including an Annual General Meeting, to ensure the communities it represents can understand and influence the economic plans for the area. Agendas and reports for the Business Board are available on the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority website.

## **5. Greater Cambridge Partnership (“the GCP”)**

5.1 The Greater Cambridge Partnership operates as a Joint Committee and is the local delivery body for the City Deal agreement made in 2014 between five local partners and the Government to help secure sustainable future economic growth and quality of life in the Greater Cambridge area.

5.2 The vision for the GCP is to “work together to grow and share prosperity and improve quality of life for the people of Greater Cambridge, now and in the future” with the aim of creating a world class public transportation system and accelerating the construction of thousands of new homes and jobs in Greater Cambridge.

5.3 The projects that the GCP is currently investing in to fulfil its aims are grouped under the following headings:

- Housing and Strategic Planning
- Skills
- Smart Places
- Transport, and
- Economy and Environment



5.6 Investments in 2021/22 to progress and deliver the infrastructure required to transform connectivity, included:

- £8.5m to progress the GCP's four major corridor schemes, linking growing communities to the north, south east, east and west of Greater Cambridge. This year, work has progressed significantly on Cambridge South East Transport scheme Phase 1 (CSET1) and consultations were held on Eastern Access and Waterbeach to Cambridge.
- £6.2m on cycling and active travel schemes, including progressing the design of the Greenways routes and delivering Phase 1 of the Chisholm Trail; and
- £10.2m on further schemes to improve public transport and sustainable travel options, including the now completed Histon Road scheme and investing £2m in specific public transport schemes and other measures to encourage sustainable travel through the City Access project.

5.7 Investments in Skills, Smart, Housing and Economy and Environment projects to alleviate barriers to economic growth and shared prosperity in Greater Cambridge exceeded more than £2m in 2021/22. Highlights in the year include,

- The new Skills contract delivered by Form the Future, with Cambridge Regional College, is building on the delivery of new, high quality apprenticeships during the GCP's first five years of investment, providing local businesses with the skills they need to grow.
- Progress to enhance energy grid capacity to sustain local growth and the Smart Cambridge programme is investing over £1m in projects to maximise the benefits of technological and digital innovation across the programme.

5.9 The GCP provides more detail of progress of its workstreams in Quarterly Progress Reports to the Board. The main points shown in the report presented to the Board on 9 December 2021 are shown below. The full quarterly update for each workstream is shown in Appendix 1.

## Housing and Strategic Planning

- 5.10 One key commitment of GCP is to enable the delivery of 1,000 additional affordable homes, exceeding the level needed to meet the Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire Local Plan requirements (33,500 homes between 2011 and 2031). The Greater Cambridge housing trajectory published in April 2021 shows that it is anticipated that there will be a surplus, in terms of delivery over and above that required to meet the housing requirements in the Local Plans, in 2022-2023.
- 5.11 The current forecast is for approximately 742 eligible affordable homes to be delivered between 2022 and 2031 towards the target of 1,000 by 2031. In practice this means that 74% of the target can be delivered on the basis of currently known sites.

## Skills

- 5.12 The Skills contract with Form the Future in 2019 came to a successful conclusion at the end of March 2021. All the KPI targets were exceeded. Given the continued impact of Covid-19 on the labour market, this is seen as a significant achievement. The new contract became operational in April 2021.

## Smart Places

- 5.13 Smart signals infrastructure has now been installed at all four junctions which make up the trial area and data is now being captured and analysed. A review of sensor technologies available in the market has been carried out and will inform the full procurement of the Strategic Sensing Network. This is a project being led by Smart and in collaboration with the County Council and Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA).

## Transport

- 5.14 Significant progress was reported for Transport schemes in the quarter, including the opening of the Histon Road project, construction on CSETS Phase 1 (Linton Greenway at Copley Hill and from Worts Causeway to Addenbrookes) and consultation on both City Access and the Eastern Access project.

- 5.15 Three schemes within the GCP programme were red RAG rated in the report for expenditure. The first is the Chisholm Trail that is over-budget, the second is the West of Cambridge Package that is under-spent and the third is Cambridge South East Transport Phase 1, also with an under-spend.

### Economy and Environment

- 5.16 The Greater Cambridge Sectoral Employment analysis, released in July 2021, found a relatively strong performance of the Greater Cambridge corporate economy, with the impact of the first lockdown being mitigated by the resilience of KI (Knowledge-Intensive) companies, especially Life Science and ICT sectors. Non KI companies, however, showed modest employment growth and would have seen falls in employment without the support of the furlough scheme. The analysis will be updated in March 2022.
- 5.17 A draft Outline Business Case (OBC) for an Energy Grid project has been completed, which includes information on the offers received by UKPN, the delivery routes available for construction and the cost recovery estimates based on the Electricity Connection Charges Regulation (ECCR). It has been agreed this will be taken forward to a full business case.

### Approaches to Engagement

- 5.18 The GCP continues to follow a geographically based engagement programme to ensure it can provide relevant and tailored updates about its broader work, including all relevant schemes for that area, and respond to any specific concerns or issues raised.

### Governance

- 5.19 The Greater Cambridge Partnership is led by a decision-making Executive Board which coordinates the overall strategic vision and drives forward the partnership's programme of work. It is run in accordance with a clear governance structure, agreed by all partners. Cllr. Dave Baigent, is one of five members of the Executive Board.
- 5.20 The Board is advised and scrutinised by a Joint Assembly. The Joint Assembly provides advice to the Executive Board, drawing on the broad

expertise of its 15 members. Cllr. Tim Bick is Chair of the Joint Assembly and Cllrs. Rosy Moore and Simon Smith are members of the Assembly.

- 5.21 Both the Executive Board and the Joint Assembly meet at least four times a year. Papers relating to public meetings are published online and the public have the opportunity to participate in meetings of the Executive Board by posing questions to be discussed in public.

## **6. Fast Growing Cities Group**

- 6.1 Fast Growing Cities is an informal partnership wherein Cambridge City Council works alongside other fast-growing cities to emphasise to Government the particularly strong economic potential they offer to the UK economy, and the challenges that success – and the role of a sub-regional centre - brings. These cities (Oxford, Swindon, Milton Keynes Norwich, and Peterborough) share many of Cambridge's characteristics – strong on knowledge-intensive industries, pro-growth but constrained by infrastructure limitations and housing affordability.
- 6.2 Cambridge and the partner cities work with businesses, universities and neighbouring authorities to ensure that Government understands the case for investment in their economic potential and the case for particular policy interventions/relaxations to facilitate sustainable growth. The Centre for Cities also promotes this group and holds regular City Talks, and recent topics covered include the changes brought about by Covid-19 and how this might impact on the UK's future infrastructure priorities.
- 6.3 Centre for Cities published a paper on 5 March 2021 shining a light on the additional challenges the Fast Growth Cities Group has faced due to the pandemic and exploring how best to unlock their further growth and future success. The report concludes that it is important that policymakers support the Fast Cities Group to reach their potential and to ensure that they continue to function as regional employment hubs and innovation centres, post-pandemic.

6.4 The Fast Growing Cities Group continued to work with the Centre for Cities to understand emerging Government policy on levelling up and devolution during 2021/22; and worked to raise the voice and visibility of urban centres within the Oxford-Cambridge Arc debates.

## **7. Innovation Corridor**

7.1 The Innovation Corridor is a consortium that involves business, leaders of councils and industry experts in championing the “corridor” to win investment, influence policy and support the region’s pioneering start-ups, institutions and businesses in their continued growth and success.

7.2 The UK Innovation Corridor (UKIC), Local Industrial Strategy (LIS) and Growth Prospectus were launched in 2019 to establish a vision for the development of the corridor. The prospectus builds on and updates the data from the 2016 Independent Growth Commission, and discusses skills, housing, employment sites and infrastructure – themes consistent with each of the LEPs along the Corridor (New Anglia, Cambridgeshire & Peterborough CA, Herts, SELEP and London LEAP). The objective is to support a joined-up Local Industrial Strategy (LIS) across the corridor.

7.3 During the year events and specific discussions along the corridor were promoted and collaboration between businesses and local authorities encouraged. Cambridge City based businesses are highlighted within the website as exemplars of innovation and idea generation. Moving forward, the city council will maintain a watching brief and remain engaged with the work of this partnership, but will not be a fee-paying member in 2022/23.

## **8. Cambridge – Milton Keynes – Oxford Arc (“the Arc”)**

8.2 The Arc Leadership Group (ALG) is a non-statutory collaboration between most of the Local Authorities and Local Enterprise Partnerships from across the Oxford to Cambridge Arc region. It has an agreed terms of reference that sets out three levels of collaboration: The Plenary which includes Leaders and Chairs from all member

organisations; the Executive which includes representatives from each of the sub-regional Growth Board areas (Oxfordshire, Central Area and Cambridgeshire & Peterborough); and the Arc Chief Executives Group.

- 8.4 In February 2021, the government published a policy paper that set out how it intends to develop a Spatial Framework to progress the ambition to support sustainable economic growth in the Arc area and this was followed in July 2021 with a consultation document, Creating a Vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc, that sets out a Spatial Framework to guide the future growth of the area to 2050. This was accompanied by a Scoping Report for a Sustainability Appraisal, to embed sustainability in the framework.
- 8.5 The consultation closed on 12 October 2021. The Council provided a joint response with South Cambridgeshire District Council that sought to align the aspirations and commitments for the emerging Greater Cambridge Local Plan with those of the emerging Arc framework.
- 8.6 In 2020 the Arc Leadership Group Environment Working Group agreed to produce a set of Arc-wide Environment Principles, which were endorsed by the Arc Leadership Plenary on 09 March 2021. It is hoped by having developed consensus and support for these principles, including direct engagement with government, that these will be used to support environmental policies within the emerging Arc Spatial Framework. Cambridge City Council endorsed these principles in September 2021.
- 8.7 The Group is supported with time and financial resources from the members as well as a central government senior responsible Director General. During the year the working groups aligned to the Arc reviewed and refreshed their membership and made progress with their work plans. The current work programme has been extended to September 2022 to allow the implications of the Levelling-Up White Paper and its impacts on local collaboration to be assessed. The programme will then either be brought to a conclusion in October or built on and moved forward.

## **9. Implications**

### **(a) Financial Implications**

The strategic partnerships will be responsible for drawing down significant levels of resources to improve infrastructure and support the growth of Cambridge City, including any emergency funding. By working together with public agencies the council may be able to achieve more than working on its own. As set out in the BSR, Cambridge City Council provides resources to the GCP through a contribution of New Homes Bonus.

Last year the council made a contribution of £5,000 to the costs of the Fast Growing Cities Group's activities and events; £13,500 to the Oxford-Cambridge Arc local authorities group and paid £10,000 to support the work of the Innovation Corridor.

### **(b) Staffing Implications**

This will depend on how the development of joint working opportunities is taken forward within each partnership.

### **(c) Equality and Poverty Implications**

The partnerships will identify ways of involving all communities in their work, including those who are more disadvantaged. Emphasis will be on providing affordable housing, training and other measures to move people back into work and addressing inequalities. During the pandemic work has looked to support the local economy and support those most vulnerable.

### **(d) Net Zero Carbon, Climate Change and Environmental Implications**

Business models that promote low carbon use and improve the sustainability of developments will be supported, and the findings of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Climate Change Commission, established by the CPCA, considered.

### **(e) Procurement Implications**

The partnerships are likely to procure or commission services to achieve their aims.

### **(f) Community Safety Implications**

To improve community safety is the purpose of the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership, which will be the subject of a report to Environment and Community Services Scrutiny Committee.

## 10. Consultation and communication considerations

Individual bidding streams and plans will specify stakeholders and communities to be consulted, especially where targeted work is required.

## 11. Background papers

Background papers used in the preparation of this report:

Cambridge City Council's Guide to Partnership Working

<https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/guide-to-partnership-working>

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Landing Page

[Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority \(cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk)

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Committee Pages

[CMIS > Committees > Combined Authority Board](#)

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Member Responsibilities

[Lead Members & Responsibilities | CPCA | The Combined Authority \(cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk\)](#)

GCP Governance

<https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/about-city-deal/governance/>

GCP Quarterly Progress Report Agenda Item 10 of GCP Joint Assembly 17

February 2022

[Document.ashx \(cmis.uk.com\)](#)

City Access response to Covid-19 pandemic

<https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/city-access/city-access-response-to-covid-19-pandemic>

Fast Growth Cities: Centre for Cities

<https://www.centreforcities.org/publication/fast-growth-cities-opportunities-and-challenges-for-cambridge-oxford-milton-keynes-swindon-norwich/>

Fast Growth Cities – 2021 and beyond

[fast-growth-cities-2021-and-beyond.pdf \(centreforcities.org\)](#)

The UK's Innovation Corridor

<https://innovationcorridor.uk/discover/#inside-stories>

The Oxford-Cambridge Arc: government ambition and joint declaration between government and local partners

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-oxford-cambridge-arc-government-ambition-and-joint-declaration-between-government-and-local-partners>

The Oxford-Cambridge Arc Economic Prospectus

[https://www.semlep.com/modules/downloads/download.php?file\\_name=2133](https://www.semlep.com/modules/downloads/download.php?file_name=2133)

About the Innovation Corridor All Party Parliamentary Group

[UK Innovation Corridor – APPG](#)

About the UK Innovation Corridor



[UK Innovation Corridor – About](#)

Planning for sustainable growth in the Oxford-Cambridge Arc: an introduction to the spatial framework (February 2021) - Planning for sustainable growth in the Oxford-Cambridge Arc: an introduction to the spatial framework-GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))

**12. Appendices**

n/a

**13. Inspection of papers**

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact GRAHAM SAINT, CORPORATE STRATEGY OFFICER, tel: 01223 - 457044, email: [graham.saint@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:graham.saint@cambridge.gov.uk).

This page is intentionally left blank



Item

## **2021/22 GENERAL FUND PROVISIONAL REVENUE CARRY FORWARDS**

**To:**

Councillor Mike Davey, Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources Portfolio

Strategy & Resources Scrutiny Committee 28 March 2022

**Report by:**

Caroline Ryba, Head of Finance

Tel: 01223 - 457248

Email: [caroline.ryba@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:caroline.ryba@cambridge.gov.uk)

**Wards affected:**

Abbey, Arbury, Castle, Cherry Hinton, Coleridge, East Chesterton, King's Hedges, Market, Newnham, Petersfield, Queen Edith's, Romsey, Trumpington, West Chesterton

### **Key Decision**

#### **1. Executive Summary**

- 1.1 This report presents details of any anticipated variances from budgets, where resources are requested to be carried forward into the 2022/23 financial year in order to undertake or complete activities anticipated to have taken place in 2021/22.

## **2. Recommendations**

The Executive Councillor, is recommended, following scrutiny and debate at Strategy & Resources Scrutiny Committee, :

- a) To agree the provisional carry forward requests, totalling £579,010 as detailed in Appendix A, are recommended to Council to approve, subject to the final outturn position.

## **3. Background**

### **Revenue Outturn**

- 3.1 Approval in principle is sought to carry forward unspent budget from 2021/22 into the next financial year, 2022/23. Provisional carry forward requests are being presented to the March 2022 Strategy & Resources Committee for approval at Council 26 May 2022, to ensure that officers have the appropriate authority to continue uninterrupted to deliver services and projects that have been delayed for any reason.
- 3.2 Final carry forward requests will be presented to the Strategy & Resources committee 11 July 2022, where the sums involved may differ from the estimates provided in March 2022, which have been provided for approval in principle.
- 3.3 Appendix A sets out the provisional list of items, for the General Fund, for which approval is sought to carry forward unspent budget from 2021/22 to the next financial year, 2022/23.

## **4. Implications**

### **(a) Financial Implications**

- 4.1 The financial implications of approving the provisional carry forwards of £579,010 budget from the current year into 2022/23, will result in a increased budgeted contribution to General Fund reserves for the

current financial year, from £3,454,290 to £4,033,300, with a corresponding decrease in the contribution to reserves in 2022/23.

- 4.2 A decision not to approve a carry forward request will impact on officers' ability to deliver the service or scheme in question and this could have staffing, equal opportunities, environmental and / or community safety implications.

### **(b) Staffing Implications**

Any direct staffing implications arising from the delay in delivery of workstreams, or the carry forward of resource, will be considered and addressed by officers as part of each individual carry forward approval.

### **(c) Equality and Poverty Implications**

There are no direct equality and poverty implications associated with this report.

### **(d) Net Zero Carbon, Climate Change and Environmental Implications**

There are no direct environmental implications associated with this report.

### **(e) Procurement Implications**

Any procurement implications arising from the delay in delivery of workstreams will be considered and addressed by officers as part of each individual carry forward approval.

### **(f) Community Safety**

There are no direct community safety implications associated with this report.

## **5. Consultation and Communication considerations**

There are no direct consultation and communication implications associated with this report.

## **6. Background papers**

Background papers used in the preparation of this report:

Background information is held in the Council's financial management system.

## **7. Appendices**

- Appendix A – Provisional General Fund Carry Forward Requests

## **8. Inspection of papers**

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact:

Karen Whyatt, Senior Accountant (Services)

Telephone: 01223 – 458145 or email: [karen.whyatt@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:karen.whyatt@cambridge.gov.uk).

Cost Centre	Portfolio	Provisional forecast variance position of cost centre (underspend)/overspend at January month end. Prior to carry forward	Cost Centre Description	Carry Forward Budget £	Cost Centre Contact	Comments
1425	Climate Change, Environment and City Centre	(54,815)	Tascomi - Env Health Software	53,870	Yvonne O'Donnell	Revenue costs to implement Tascomi (new EH data base) - Major delays by supplier IDOX and unforeseen costs have been uncovered as the project progressed. The project was due to be completed March 2021, however there are still a number of issues to be resolved which may incur further costs going into 2022/23 involving additional consultancy days
1057	Communities	(108,193)	Community Development Voluntary Support	20,000	Jackie Hanson	The original one year bid of Seed Funding to support Covid recovery grass root projects has not been utilised as this was not appropriate due to continuing restrictions during the past year. We anticipate being able to allocate funds as was originally intended as we recover from the pandemic in 22/23
1064	Communities	(32,724)	Neighbourhood Community Development	17,870	Vicky Haywood	The Food redistribution hub and kitchen is a key priority project; the project has been delayed in starting due to the pandemic and high workload of emergency food aid programme as well as difficulties securing a permanent suitable site. The full revenue budget allocated for the project is still required with the remainder for 21/22 required to be carried forward into 22/23. The revenue funding will pay for the installation of services at new site (North East Cambridge meanwhile site, off Cowley Road), the project manager for the food distribution hub and kitchen, the lease agreement on temporary unit for 2022/23, the programme development with food hubs and the development of the business plan which will ensure the long term financial stability of the project beyond the life of CCC funding.
1251	Communities	(45,282)	Culture and Community	18,000	Frances Alderton	Holocaust Memorial Day £6k carry forward request - Most of the work in schools has already been delivered. The main civic event itself will not be delivered until June because the council, contractor and schools Covid risk assessed the event and decided it was not safe to run the event in January. The event attracts an audience of 1000+ in the Corn Exchange, with children from different schools and elders from the community. We're waiting for the Contractor to invoice for work already completed. £13000 will be paid for work completed this month. The £6000 carry over will cover the costs of the event in June. Celebration of women -£12k carry forward request - Initially the bid was £20,000 over 2 years. Due to adjustments in the Interim MTFs and a carry forward last year the full budget was transferred to 20-21. Spend this year is estimated to be only in the region of £8k as a result of further delays occurring due to the pandemic. Carry forward of the remaining budget is requested to enable this project to be completed.
2005	Finance and Resources	(585,663)	Finance General	62,000	Jody Etherington	A budget of £70k was approved in the October 2021 MTFs for the Cambridge City Housing Company expansion. The work has commenced but is not likely to be completed by March 2022. It is requested that the balance of the budget is carried forward to 2022/23.
1758	Finance and Resources	(20,438)	Other Commercial Properties	20,000	Phil Doggett	Mill Lane Boathouse is one of 10 development schemes identified and approved at Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee in February 2021. This request is to carry over the prior approved feasibility funding, for architectural services, cost consultancy, planning services and valuation advice. The Boathouse and river frontage is included in the footprint of the wider planned Mill Lane redevelopment proposed by the University and forms part of the Mill Lane Supplementary Planning Document. There have been recent delays by the University bringing this forward. The Council's land holding includes a significant part of the river frontage in this location and as such, is considered to be an important element to any re-development proposals by the University. The proposal is to explore redevelopment of the site to create a new boathouse with associated office for punt operations, possibly a café and/or small residential scheme, either single or two storey. This is an opportunity to undertake a redevelopment to generate new revenue streams and improve the public realm.
1768	Finance and Resources	(105,409)	Other Industrial Properties	105,000	Christopher Davey	Unit 5 Nuffield Close – Dilapidation Repairs. The unit is currently vacant and requires dilapidation repairs of £105,000 to be carried out before the property can be re-let and become income generating again. N.B. The City Council received dilapidations income of £105,000 from the former tenant of the above unit at the end of the tenancy. Advice from the Council's Procurement Team has been taken. A Request for Quotation for the project was published on 24 January 2022 and has a closing date of 18 February 2022. It is likely that the contract for the work will not commence until the end of the 2021/22 financial year and therefore budget of £105,000 is requested to be carried forward to the 2022/23 financial year in order that the work can be carried out/completed. If the carry forward request is denied, this will have an adverse impact on income of circa £55,000 per annum and empty property rates of circa £15,000 per annum will be incurred as well until works are completed.
8006	Finance and Resources	(113,378)	Accountancy and Support Services	54,000	Caroline Ryba	The carry forward is to cover support for committed project work in relation to the review of budget setting processes and FMS improvements plus training planned for the current year but delayed until 22-23.

Cost Centre	Portfolio	Provisional forecast variance position of cost centre (underspend)/overspend at January month end. Prior to carry forward	Cost Centre Description	Carry Forward Budget £	Cost Centre Contact	Comments
1506	Housing General Fund	(84,722)	Housing Development Agency	73,000	Claire Flowers	This was a specific fund approved in September 2021 to fund work to set up a new Registered Provider to enable a wider range of housing offers that could be eligible for funding. Work on this has started however been delayed with procurement. The work is still required and the commissions are being made. A request that this amount is carried forward into 2022/23 is made to enable this critical piece of work.
1050	Open Spaces, Sustainable Food and Community Wellbeing	(84,479)	Community Safety	50,720	Keryn Jalli	Funding for this two year post of Community Youth Liaison Officer (supporting partnership work on child criminal exploitation and violent crime) was approved in Feb 2020. Due to Covid 19 and various issues around County Lines we have had to delay this project and have only recently recruited to the post. We are requesting that any remaining budget is carried forward so that we can honour the contract and carry out this essential work. Post holder currently in post and will be delivering on objectives that support in achieving the Community Safety Partnership Plan 2022-23.
1865	Open Spaces, Sustainable Food and Community Wellbeing	(15,855)	Lettings & Events on Open Spaces	15,850	Anthony French	During 2021 the first phase of a project to introduce power onto Parker's Piece was completed by introduction of the station required on the corner of the park. The second phase of this work is to install the cabling from the box into the Centre of the park to enable event providers a point of use and to reduce requirement for use of generators which are not environmentally friendly. This will not be completed by 31st March and a carry forward of budget is requested
1876	Open Spaces, Sustainable Food and Community Wellbeing	(32,000)	Arboriculture	32,000	Matthew Magrath	The 22k covers committed tree works for which an instruction has been issued and budget put aside but which will not be completed prior to the year end. A carry forward of £22k budget will enable this to be completed £5k The feasibility study specification to Victoria Avenue is in is currently in draft. Work capacity issues have prevented us in finalising the specification and going out to tender. A carry forward of budget is requested £5k carry forward requested in relation to the costs of pruning the second tree at Alexandra gardens if that is required
1877	Open Spaces, Sustainable Food and Community Wellbeing	(30,873)	Project Delivery (Cost Recovered)and( salaried)	12,000	John Richards	Structural bank monitoring has been undertaken to understand the amount of movement taking place over time. Until the monitoring is complete the feasibility work cannot be undertaken. A carry forward of the budget put aside for the Feasibility Funding of £10k for Hobsons Brook is therefore being requested. Feasibility funding of £2k was awarded to work up concept designs for green roof bus shelters which never materialised. An opportunity has arisen to explore carrying this work on further during the next financial year at new bus stop locations.
1883	Open Spaces, Sustainable Food and Community Wellbeing	(35,100)	Flood Risk Management	20,000	Rachel Veysey	Feasibility Funding - Bishops Mill Sluice - Difficulty in sourcing necessary expertise during COVID period. It is a very specialist area of mechanical and electrical engineering and recent RFQs have not led to anyone with the correct background coming forward. A carry forward of budget is requested to progress this in 22-23
1350	Strategy and External Partnerships	(15,940)	Civic Affairs and Twinning	8,700	Gary Cliff	Civic reception unable to take place in November 2021 due to Covid restrictions. Re-scheduled to April 2022.
1454	Strategy and External Partnerships	(80,000)	Cambridge Northern Fringe East (CNFE)	16,000	Fiona Bryant	The refined programme to enable the AAP to be better aligned to the DCO and Local plan processes and resource capacity has meant a delay to the progress on the Core site development to 2022/3. The funding carried over is for project management
<b>579,010</b>				<b>Total Carry forwards</b>		





## Sale of 11A Thorpe Way

**To:**

Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources  
Strategy & Resources Scrutiny Committee 28/03/2022

**Report by:**

Dave Prinsep, Head of Property Services  
Tel: 01223 457318

**Wards affected:**

Abbey

Not a Key Decision

### 1. Executive Summary

1.1 11A Thorpe Way is one of a terrace of twelve houses leased by the Council on long ground leases at a low rent.

1.2 The leaseholder of 11A has approached the Council and asked to buy the freehold of his property.

1.3 Terms have been negotiated, subject to approval, to sell the freehold to the leaseholder. This will bring in a capital receipt of £5,800 plus legal and surveyors fees of £1,700

### 2. Recommendations

The Executive Councillor is recommended to:

2.1 Approve the freehold transfer of 11A Thorpe Way to the current leaseholder.

### **3. Background**

*Page: 2*

3.1 The above property was part of a scheme which included the Ditton Land shops and was built under a long lease by Urban Properties Ltd. Urban Properties Ltd subsequently went into administration and the Treasury Solicitor disclaimed their lease under a notice dated 7 October 2003.

3.2 Following the disclaiming of the lease the twelve householders became direct tenants of the Council on long leases and their ground rent is invoiced annually.

3.3 Previous sales of the freehold interest in three of the properties have been made previously and terms have been provisionally agreed (subject to approval) for the sale of the Council's freehold interest in 11 Thorpe Way for a consideration of £5,800 plus costs of £1,700 plus disbursements.

3.4 The disposal is recommended on the following grounds:

- a) The Council has already sold the freehold of three of the row of properties (Nos 1, 7a and 11a Thorpe Way in March 2006, August 2013 and December 2018 respectively.)
- b) The Council's freehold interest does not include any buildings.
- c) The income generated annually from these properties (9 in total) is very low with an annual ground rent of £115 per annum and the next review not due until 2035.
- d) The investment value of the land is likely to fall in coming years with legislation being proposed to cap residential ground rents and allow unlimited lease extensions at nil cost to the tenant.
- e) The area of land associated with the proposed sale is small at approximately 140 sq m.
- f) A capital receipt can be generated now, which is essentially a capitalization of the low ground rent.
- g) The leasehold tenant of 11 Thorpe Way will soon have a statutory right to purchase the freehold under the Leasehold Reform Act 1967.

3.5 This decision requires Executive Councillor approval due to the size of the plot. Officers have delegated powers to make decisions on land with an area of less than 100sq m and other disposals in Thorpe Way have been

authorised in this way, however 11 Thorpe Way is one of the larger plots with an area of approximately 140 sq m. Usually a plot of this size would have a higher freehold value but because the land is subject to a long leasehold interest the value of the freehold is relatively low.

## **4. Implications**

### **a) Financial Implications**

The Council will receive a capital receipt of £5,800 and legal and surveyors' fees of £1,500.

### **b) Staffing Implications**

None

### **c) Equality and Poverty Implications**

There are no direct equal opportunities implications as a result of this report and an EqIA has not been completed in respect of this proposal.

### **d) Net Zero Carbon, Climate Change and Environmental Implications**

There are no net zero carbon, climate change or environmental implications associated with this report.

### **e) Procurement Implications**

There are no procurement implications associated with this report.

### **f) Community Safety Implications**

There are no community safety implications associated with this report.

## **5. Consultation and communication considerations**

The proposed disposal will merge the freehold and leasehold interests in 11 Thorpe Way and therefore involves only the Council as freeholder and the leaseholder. No consultation is therefore required.

## **6. Background papers**

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

## **7. Appendices**

Appendix A – Plan

## **8. Inspection of papers**

If you have a query on the report please contact:

Clare Mitchell, Principal Property Surveyor

Tel: 01223 457419 [clare.mitchell@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:clare.mitchell@cambridge.gov.uk)

# Appendix A Plans

## Thorpe Way Ground leases



### 11 Thorpe Way



This page is intentionally left blank



## Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee 28 March 2022 Decisions

### **Item 5. Update on the Work of Key External Partnerships**

The Committee unanimously resolved to approve the recommendation.

The Executive Councillor for External Partnerships approved the following:

- i. Note the achievements and progress of the strategic partnerships that the City Council is engaged with, outlined in this report.

### **Item 6: General Fund Revenue Carry-Forwards**

The Committee resolved to approve the recommendation by 4 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources approved the following:

- i. To agree the provisional carry forward requests, totalling £579,010 as detailed in Appendix A, are recommended to Council to approve, subject to the final outturn position.

### **Item 7: Sale of 11A Thorpe Way**

The Committee unanimously resolved to approve the recommendation

The Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources approved the following:

- i. Approve the freehold transfer of 11A Thorpe Way to the current leaseholder.

For more information please contact Democratic Services:

- Tel 01223 457013
- [democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk)

This page is intentionally left blank