Planning Policy and Open Spaces

URP 4506 Rebasing of Shared Planning Service expenditure budgets

The original baseline budget for the Service was based on the relative workloads and revenue streams in each Council at the time the Shared Service was agreed. Through this year the Shared Service Agreement has been finalised and this provides a more precise approach to cost allocation. The Shared Planning Service budget for 20/21 has been brought in line with this allocations methodology. This assigns relative shares of costs based on the expected workloads attributable to each authority. This results in a number of offsetting increases and decreases across the various areas of the planning service (for example Planning Policy costs have increased for CCC to reflect the 45% share of total expected Service Wide workload in this area attributable to the City, but Development Management costs have decreased in CCC reflecting expected workload of around 38% of the Service wide total) with this bid reflecting the remaining balance once all adjustments taken into account.

B 4625 Improve visibility & accessibility of planning applications

The proposal seeks to provide some consultancy costs towards the development of an "open" data feed. This is because the Council has been approached by local third parties who are developing an app based means of displaying information (see https://www.streetfocus.uk/blog/) and links to planning information across the Country. The funding provision sought is a contingency cost to enable IDOX and 3C support service consultancy costs to be deployed if required to configure the new shared planning service software to allow for automatic data sharing - with appropriate controls. This would build upon the functionality provided by the public access module of the new software and would be facilitate an mobile phone based interaction around new planning applications as well as providing opportunities for other third parties to develop information and app based products utilising planning related information held by the planning service on its register.