Council

Wednesday, 3 March 2021

Additional Information Pack

Agenda Item No.	Supplementary Information	Page Number
6 & 9	Questions Report	3
11(a)	Cabinet Recommendation – Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24 – Phase Two Supplementary Report	9
11(a)	Amendment from Cllr Day to the Cabinet Recommendation – Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24 – Phase Two	10
11(a)	Amendment from Cllr Joseph to the Cabinet Recommendation – Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24 – Phase Two	12
14(2)	Amendment from Cllr Murphy to Motion from Cllr Coles	21
14(3)	Alteration to the Motion from Cllr Fitzgerald	22
14(3)	Amendment from Cllr Murphy to Motion from Cllr Fitzgerald	24
14(4)	Amendment from Cllr Walsh to Motion from Cllr Ali	26

Agenda Item No.	Supplementary Information	Page Number
14(6)	Amendment from Cllr Murphy to Motion from Cllr John Fox	28
14(7)	Alteration to the Motion from Cllr Walsh	30
14(7)	Amendment from Cllr Murphy to Motion from Cllr Walsh	32
14(7)	Amendment from Cllr Hogg to Motion from Cllr Walsh	34
15(a)	Polling Districts, Places and Stations 2021 – Supplementary Report	36

FULL COUNCIL 3 MARCH 2021
QUESTIONS

Questions were received under the following categories:

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	
Questions from members of the public	
1.	**Question from Hazel Perry** **For Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments** I've spoken to many residents in Peterborough who are concerned about the plans to build a football stadium on the Embankment. Concerns are elevated through the fact that planning permission has not been applied for yet there is still a dedicated website promoting the idea - https://embankmentstadium.com/. 'Invest in Peterborough' mention it on their website - https://investinpeterborough.co.uk/investors/peterborough-development-opportunities/. The football stadium has also been mentioned as a possibility by PCC in text released in conjunction with the towns fund posted on social media two weeks ago. However, a football stadium does not feature in the local plan - in fact in the local plan there is a commitment to retain the Embankment as green space. Taking all this into consideration my question is this: what is going on? How far along the road are plans for the football stadium and when and how does the council plan to engage with local residents?
2.	**Question from Barry Holgate** **For Councillor Walsh, Cabinet Member for Communities** As a landlord and selective licence payer my question is about the selective licencing scheme due to finish at the end of October: Can we have a date by which the full financial and performance data of the current scheme will be issued? We should have this by 30th June at the latest so a full consultation can take place prior to any new schemes starting. Special council / landlord meetings should be arranged to discuss matters in detail, because landlords are the people paying for this operation. Two further points: 1. Because of COVID-19 and the non-payment of rent by tenants (substantial in many cases) any new scheme should incorporate a licence phase payment method to help ease the financial strain on landlords which will last a long time. 2. Because there will be no discounts, if the current scheme is renewed, the council is likely to raise an additional £4million+. This should be used to reduce

	the licence fee charged, not go in the council coffers. The licence scheme is supposed to be non-profit making.
3.	**Question from Jayne Horton** **For Councillor Allen, Cabinet Member for Housing, Culture and Recreation** I would like to know why Peterborough City Council would give a tenancy to someone who was evicted by the police from their parents' home due to anti-social behaviour and put them in a Cross Keys block of flats without taking into consideration the vulnerable and elderly tenants already living in the block?
4.	**Question from Phill Brentor** **For Councillor Cereste, Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and the Environment** With St. Peter's Arcade, a long-standing pedestrian walkway linking St. Peter's Road and Bridge Street in Peterborough Town Centre, being such a useful access route for able bodied pedestrians and for those that are disabled, why is Peterborough City Council considering closing it?
5.	**Question from Julie Fernandez** **For Councillor Cereste, Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and the Environment** Many local retail businesses are struggling to survive the COVID-19 crisis. The 'purple pound' is the combined spending power of disabled people and their families and is worth millions of pounds to Peterborough per annum. What is Peterborough City Council doing to ensure the city's centre is as accessible as it can and should be to disabled people and their families?

COUNCIL BUSINESS

Questions on notice to:

a. The Mayor
b. To the Leader or Member of the Cabinet
c. To the Chair of any Committee or Sub-committee

1.	**Question from Councillor Ash** **For Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments, and Councillor Walsh, Cabinet Member for Communities** I am sure many ward councillors will have noticed and had complaints about vehicles parking within the curtilage of properties without the benefit of approved crossing points (VCP). All too often, as a result, dirt is transferred from grass verges onto footpaths which become muddy and cause a slipping hazard for pedestrians. Does the cabinet member agree with me that this causes and has caused a danger to pedestrians using footpaths and needs to be addressed? Have any steps been taken to eradicate this issue and what further action will be taken to ensure that people do not take vehicles across footpaths without a VCP?
2.	**Question from Councillor Sandford** **For Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments** The Sunday Times and the Guardian in the past few days have reported that the John Lewis Partnership, having announced the closure of 8 stores a few months ago, is now actively considering closure of a further 8 of its 42 remaining stores. Given that John Lewis is the anchor store in our Queensgate Shopping Centre in Peterborough, would the leader of the Council agree with me that its closure would be disastrous for the future of Queensgate and also for the overall retail offer in Peterborough and consequently disastrous for the economy of our city centre? Therefore, could the leader or relevant cabinet member make urgent representations to John Lewis to try to ensure that the store in Peterborough does not get scheduled for closure?
3.	**Question from Councillor Rush** **For Councillor Ayres, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education, Skills and the University** Council is aware that Peterborough City Council has joined with Cambridgeshire County Council in a campaign to buy laptops and 4G routers for a significant number of children who do not have the use of a computer or access to broadband at home - meaning that they cannot easily participate in lessons, benefit from the wealth of online resources, get support from their teachers or even interact with their classmates, putting them at risk of falling behind with their studies, affecting their health and wellbeing and future life chances.

	Can the cabinet member for education explain when these laptops and routers will be made available for use by the children and how, who is paying for them and how it is determined which pupils will actually get them?
4.	**Question from Councillor Shaz Nawaz** **For Councillor Seaton, Cabinet Member for Finance** I know taxi drivers were pleased to received support from the council. They have put themselves in harm's way during the pandemic to keep our city and its people mobile. Birmingham and Luton provided grants of £1,000 and £500 respectively. What is the reason for Peterborough providing a lower amount?
5.	**Question from Councillor Ali** **For Councillor Cereste, Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and the Environment** I have received several calls from our hard-working local Taxi Drivers who are extremely disappointed and concerned that the promised Electric Charging Points for Taxis have not been installed or made accessible. It is extremely important that we have these Charge Points for use by our Taxis to reduce pollution and the carbon emissions. Can I be advised as to the progress with these Charge Points, and why we have this delay, as our Taxi Drivers gradually endeavour to move towards replacing their current diesel or petrol Taxis to Electric?
6.	**Question from Councillor Shaz Nawaz** **For Councillor Seaton, Cabinet Member for Finance** The recent capitalisation direction from government means we could potentially end up with an additional £24.8m of debt. This is due to severe funding cut from central government since 2010. How much longer can we survive with this type of approach?
7.	**Question from Councillor Ash** **For Councillor Holdich, Leader of the Council and Deputy Mayor of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority** I am sure all will agree that Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council officers have worked well together, noting that Peterborough, barring just a few years, has effectively been a unitary authority serving local people. Given that there have been moves in recent times to effectively abolish district councils and centre control at County Council level, does the leader and his cabinet believe that having fought hard to return to unitary status, and after the amalgamation with Cambridgeshire, that there is a prospect that Peterborough once again be fully under the control of Cambridgeshire. Does he agree with me that the City of Cambridge and Cambridgeshire as a whole have separate needs from our growing City which can only be fully addressed at City level and also enable us to continue close links with neighbouring areas to our West and North?
8.	**Question from Councillor Ali**

	For Councillor Fitzgerald, Cabinet Member for I am pleased that I, along with a number of my loved ones, have had the first COVID-19 jab, as we were invited to have the vaccination. Many of us within our communities are working hard to encourage people to have the vaccination against the backdrop of some conspiracy theories. The promoters of these conspiracy theories are from all the diverse communities. However, I am saddened to note that there is this narrative giving focus to the Muslim community that members of this community are REFUSING the vaccination. I believe this is wrong and unfair and could give rise to Islamophobia and hatred of Muslims. Is there any evidence to suggest that the members of the Muslim community, when invited to have a vaccination, are refusing it and whether this is more prevalent in comparison with other communities?
9.	**WARD SPECIFIC: Question from Councillor John Fox** **For Councillor Cereste, Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and the Environment** Werrington First Councillors are delighted with the continued work that is going on at Cuckoo Hollow bringing the lake up to a high level in both water quality and the environmental impact for wildlife. We have seen the return of otters on the lake along with cormorants, herons, crested grebe and eaglets and several fish species. As the longer serving members of this council will know, we have continually over the years campaigned regarding our concerns about the state that Cuckoo Hollow was deteriorating into. We have previously put motions and questions to council regarding these concerns and its future development and we believe residents are now benefitting from this. Thanks to certain PCC officers, the Environmental Agency, our drainage team, Werrington Neighbourhood Council and not forgetting our invaluable volunteer litter picking group, we have never seen Cuckoo Hollow looking so good. However, we now see the footpaths deteriorating around the lake to such a degree that we have concerns about the safety aspect of those residents who use this area for their daily walks, especially during this pandemic. The paths do not seem to have been swept for some time as there are wet soggy leaves that have been left over from the Autumn Fall. We fully understand that the weather has had a big part to play in this, but we feel there is a need to review the sweeping regime, so it is swept more frequently. Can we therefore ask that an inspection is carried out to look at the state of the footpaths in the area and carry out remedial work if deemed necessary?

Questions on notice to:	
d. The Combined Authority Representatives	
	None.

FULL COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 11(a)
3 MARCH 2021	SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

Report of:	Peter Carpenter, Corporate Director of Resources	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor David Seaton, Cabinet Member for Finance	
Contact Officer(s):	Peter Carpenter, Acting Corporate Director of Resources Kirsty Nutton, Head of Corporate Finance	Tel: 01733 452520 Tel: 01733 384590

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT – MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2021/22- 2023/24

Recommendation

That council notes:

1. The additional risk to be incorporated within the Financial Risk Register as outlined within Appendix H of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2021/22-2023/24 Phase Two report.
2. The correction of Appendix J – Treasury Management Strategy from '2020/21 & 2022/23' to '2020/21 & 2021/22'.

Background

1.1. The Addendum takes account of the feedback received at the Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees, held on 22 February 2021. The Committee agreed to incorporate an additional risk in relation to financial and environmental impact of climate change. The following table outlines this additional risk, which will be incorporated into the final version of the MTFS, when published on the Councils website.

Risk Area	Detail	Action	C-19 Impact
Climate Change to the City	That Climate Change, as has been seen over the winter period 2020/21, has shown increased risk of flooding to the City. The Council needs to do all it can to mitigate this risk to residents, businesses and stakeholders	The Council to liaise with the Local and Regional Drainage Boards to ensure roles and responsibilities are clearly set out to minimise the risk to Peterborough	 In respect to evacuation, that existing Social Distancing requirements at that date would need to be maintained in Evacuation Centres and alerting people to the risk

Agenda Item 11(a)
Amendment to Recommendation

COUNCIL MEETING 3 MARCH 2021

AMENDMENT BY COUNCILLOR DAY TO THE MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEY 2021/22 TO 2023/24 – PHASE TWO

Amendment from Councillor Day to be moved as follows:

Background

We must use and consume less energy. The plans for developing growth in net zero carbon technologies will eventually enable us to achieve that aim. We feel very proud to feel our city will/ could be part of this solution. To achieve climate stability, we need to create solutions that also have commercial market sustainability. Otherwise, it will not achieve the aims of a true Green Recovery. A recovery that could see Peterborough become a leading hub and supply chain for net zero carbon technologies.

We are looking to build on work already started by some of our residents and Social Landlords to maximise the potential of a Grant the CPCA has worth circa £25m to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough over the next 24 months to retrofit homes for them to become more energy efficient including:

- 100% funded up to £10k for eligible owner occupiers
- 66% funded up to £5k for social and private landlords

This includes improved insulation measures (e.g., solid wall insulation), decarbonisation of heat (heat pumps) and increasing renewable energy (PV).

The CPCA are currently building a business plan around how a Greater South East supply chain might be established and sustained using the “customer nudge” and “market-making” potential of these grants. We will consult with them in developing the idea of a Peterborough centric supply base for the northern half of this market.

With all properties requiring energy meters by 2025, these improvements will also facilitate consumers to sell back into the grid, offsetting carbon outputs for the city and allowing it to move towards its 2030 Carbon Neutral aim.

Energy Efficiency Officer

Employ an 'Energy Efficiency Officer' with a strong background in marketing and project management on a fixed term contract on a salary of £45 - 50K per year to fully leverage as much of this CPCA funding as possible for Peterborough.

Phase One:

To employ an Energy Efficiency Officer on a fixed term contract to sell the idea of applying for funding for retrofitting/ energy efficiency upgrades to eligible owner occupiers, social landlords and private landlords from the CPCAs £25m funding scheme for such upgrades.

Phase Two:

Then for the post to develop into a second phase, utilising the work from phase one to link with the CPCA Growth Hub, University Net Zero Innovation Centre, Energy Hub and Business Growth Service to develop links to firms and build a sustainable Peterborough centred, supply chain. To embed the Energy Efficiency Officer into a growth hub that is connected with all local businesses. Peterborough based companies can then start selling to wider parts of the Greater South East market creating a supply chain that will eventually sell across the whole of the UK. To support the development of this supply chain there are also plans for the Towns Fund and further government funding to establish a Green Skills Centre in Peterborough to provide the new skills and people to build a strong Peterborough Centric Supply Chain.

Financial Impact

The Council has an uncommitted S106 debtor, part of which can be allocated to this project

Agenda Item 11(a)
Amendment to Recommendation

COUNCIL MEETING 3 MARCH 2021

AMENDMENT BY COUNCILLOR JOSEPH TO THE MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEY 2021/22 TO 2023/24 – PHASE TWO

Amendment from Councillor Joseph to be moved as follows:

There are 10 budget proposals below.

Items 1 –5 are cost neutral

Items 6- 7 require £120k of capital funding (£24k a year revenue Impact) and £130k of revenue funding for which off-setting savings are required (**£154k revenue impact in total**) which are offset by **Item 8**. It should be noted that with Cllr Holdich's commitment at Budget Scrutiny and then Cabinet to fund Climate programmes by £100k reduces the level of funding required in 2021/22 to £54k.

Items 9-10 are schemes to be considered in the medium term (not 2021/22) and so have no costs associated as they need to have business cases developed and inclusion in ongoing strategies.

Proposals

1. Budget for 1,000 Council houses via an HRA within 5 years

Background

Housing's view is that a target of 1,000 is something we can aim for but we could set "an ambition" of up to 2,000 or 3,000. It will take quite a few years to build 3,000 home and it is important to put in place programme in line with the ambition.

This would be subject to

(a) subject to a signed off 30yr HRA plan complying to legislation to ensure the HRA is sustainable including a minimum provision for debt and unforeseen circumstances

(b) all new build and acquisitions must be viable, meaning the rental income generated from them must cover all costs associated with the acquisition and/or development and ongoing management and maintenance

(c) as part of the HRA Business plan we would need to take a view on how the Council would source the properties over the 5-year per. This is set out in more detail below:

Housing's view is that we set a target of acquiring c.50 properties a year subject to market availability. This would give us 250 properties in five years. Note: the conveyance process is taking longer due to COVID-19 and we may not hit an acquisition rate of 50 per year whilst the impact of COVID-19 continues to have an impact.

This means the other 750 would have to be delivered through other means (i.e. new build or buying off plan). If we go down the route of new build we would not have anything for the first two years as we go through the process of land acquisition - design - planning - tender - contract mobilisation - build. This means we will have three years of delivery in the first five years, at a rate of around 100 per year (that's 300 new build in five years). This is dependent on land availability in Peterborough and our ability to acquire the land at the right price for affordable housing.

This would still leave us about 450 short of a 1000 target meaning we would have to deliver 90 per year through buying off plan from developers. The difficulty with this is that we won't be able to acquire the s106 units as we won't be in a position to outbid other RPs meaning we will have to buy properties from the developer's market for sale portfolio. This means the price we pay won't be as attractive and many developers will not want to do this as it will negatively affect the value of their other market sale properties. We will build council houses, where possible within our HRA business plan constraints, in line with our commitment to the climate emergency and to reducing our carbon footprint.

Financial Impact

Setting up an HRA is a separate entity to the General Fund but it will have a positive impact on the GF as it will need to "acquire" services from the GF, including other housing services. It is governed by its own legislative requirements.

2. Use of Bonds for Transformation and Debt financing

Background

The Treasury Management Strategy in sections 7.4 and 8.2 allow the Council to consider the use of other funding routes. This includes the possible use of bonds (for Corporate and Local investors) for schemes to meet the Councils 2030 carbon reduction target.

The Council, along with its Treasury Advisors link keep alternatives under review. However, the recent 1% reduction in Interest Rates have made Corporate Bonds (e.g. LB Sutton) less attractive although this could/would change with interest rate and PWLB movements.

Following the reduction in borrowing rates of the PWLB by 1% in December, the Ministry of Housing and Local Government (MHCLG) have put a complete prohibition on council borrowing from Public Work Loans Board (PWLB) to invest in commercial property for yield only. Given that the Council relies on the PWLB to fund its existing Capital Programme this means that the previous Investment Acquisition strategy is no longer applicable. **It is important to note that if the Council uses alternative debt financing for invest for yield schemes then it will not be able to use the PWLB in the future which will impact the councils ability to finance its capital programme.**

Financial Impact

This proposals requests Officers looks into the use of bonds and to use them where it is deemed beneficial for the Council to do so.

3. Planting more Trees to enhance the Environment

Background

The Cross Party Climate Change Working Group are currently considering options to significantly increase tree planting across the city following a Full Council Motion. The working group is intending to set up a workshop involving external expert witnesses to explore options and costings for increasing tree planting

One option that could be considered is local sponsorship from businesses to enable such a scheme to remain revenue neutral, which would involve setting up a "Tree reserve" to finance tree planting and maintenance. Initially sponsorship approaches would be made to the top 50 businesses in town or businesses in locations close to where tress are planned to be planted.

Grant aid and support is available from a number of organisations for woodland style planting of small “whips” ; for example the Forest for Peterborough project in the current year has funding available for planting of 6000 woodland trees, which means this work could be done, largely by volunteers, at very little cost to the Council. There is much less funding available for ongoing maintenance in the early years of newly planted woodland or for planting and maintenance of standard trees (eg in streets or housing areas), so it may be beneficial to focus commercial sponsorship on these two aspects.

It is acknowledged that following a tree planting on Council land that there will be ongoing maintenance and insurance costs. This will vary depending on the location of planting as flooding a field with whips and largely leaving them is not too expensive. Plant a row of trees in an urban park, then this is far more expensive (per tree).

As part of its discussion on Tree Strategy, the Climate Change Working Group will agree an ongoing maintenance figure per tree for different scenarios. This will feed into discussions on sponsorship and grant funding requirements to ensure ongoing maintenance requirements are covered.

Financial Impact

Should be cost neutral

4. Investment for digital transformation in our Businesses

Background

Set up an Investment Fund for Local Business of £1m to invest in technology in order to more fully leverage the digital economy (Job creation):

1. Loans will be capital in nature, with an administration Fee of £150
2. Timespans will be limited to 3 years in length (5 by agreed exception) with a maximum loan level to be
    a) Up to £5k for turnover up to £100k
    b) Up to £10k for turnover over £100k
3. Interest will be a State Aid rate plus 1.5-2.0%. No Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) payment is required as loan is short term and full repayment at the end of this period but do need to make attractive to business;

4. Loans will be linked to security in to mitigate the risk of default and protect taxpayers.
5. Fulfils the requirement of a loan set out in the TMS but will need to update the TMS for this use;
6. Return is 1.5% to 2.0% - therefore for every £1m, £15k to £20k.

Previous arguments/discussions at Council around this have been linked to

- Default of loanees - therefore point d) very important. Can also now link this to how businesses have thrived in C-19 due to Digital
- Cost of administration – We have now charged an Admin fee of £150, plus State Aid plus £1.5% for a £5,000 loan would bring in an additional £175 for administration

This proposal looks to help businesses use technology to regenerate their business model and remain sustainable. Still need to look at links to City Fibre and its rollout.

Financial Impact

Should now be cost neutral but risk is on default of the loans

5. Additional enhancement of open spaces to providing more for the community post-pandemic

Background

Aragon Direct Services (ADS) maintain all our parks and open spaces for the residents of Peterborough this includes 4 Green Flag Standard parks and numerous recreational spaces across the City, weekly ADS inspects our 162 play areas and 9 skate parks including a mixture of play equipment and outdoor gyms.

They maintain all sports pitches which include both Football, Rugby, Cricket, Tennis, Croquet, and Bowls, and maintain and operate 2 interactive water play sites.

Each year Aragon cut and maintain over 5,000,000 m2 of grass and over 7,000 m2 of shrubs, they plant seasonal bedding and have increased the amount of bee-friendly plants including wildflowers around the City.

They carry out 8 cuts per year on recreation areas, and in the Green, Flag parks its around 12 cuts per year. Aragon also manage 8 biodiversity areas across the city where there are reduced management regimes but currently there is little investment in measures to enhance the appearance or biodiversity value of these areas.

The UK and the World is currently facing three emergencies: a climate emergency, a biodiversity emergency, and a public health emergency. There is a large amount of evidence which shows that appropriately managed greenspace can contribute to alleviation of all three emergencies, whilst at the same time providing areas that people can enjoy and have contact with nature.

A tender for £500k is just about to be awarded for upgrade to some of the councils 162 playgrounds. There is a capital budget already of £185k per year for upgrading playgrounds. In addition Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have recently been awarded £700k funding under the Parks Accelerator Programme for the improvement of parks and open spaces.

The Council should work with public and private sector partners to use existing funding and secure additional capital investment in improving our parks and open spaces. In some areas this will involve reduced and alternative management to provide, for example, more wildflower meadows, but in other areas it could include investment to provide swales and water features to improve drainage or additional seating or recreational or sporting facilities or refreshment areas.

Financial Impact

Significant expenditure already planned here over the next year in existing programme and officers would be asked to explore options for further capital investment, grant aid support or sponsorship. Options for increased income should also be explored: e.g. from new facilities that are installed in parks. Increased management of some areas for biodiversity may reduce management costs and options for use of volunteers for some of the management of these areas should be explored to further reduce costs.

6. Cycling and General fitness initiatives for the Public

Background

Noted that the Combined Authority are now the Transport Authority and this therefore is now a function that is governed by them, so would need to liaise with them to develop further delivery element, in line with the LTP, in addition to the activity currently supported.

As part of Peterborough Limited taking over Vivacity Leisure we have significantly increased the amount of on-line content for fitness and wellbeing. This was to support member and Peterborough residents while leisure facilities were closed or running at reduced capacity. It was an active decision not to put it behind a pay wall for members only, as we felt that as part of Team Peterborough we need to support all in the city at this challenging time. These "Vivacity at Home" classes are promoted and access via social media and link through to our website and YouTube channel. Promotion has also been done via local media.

Vivacity at Home provides customers and residents with a wide range of activities they can participate in from home, via live-streamed and on demand home exercise classes. There is a specially designed programme of classes from our instructors including HIIT, Yoga, Pilates, Ab Blast, Chair Based Pilates, Les Mills Cardio-Vascular Circuits and Bums and Tums. The classes are free for all to take part in and you don't need to be a Vivacity member to access them. They are a great resource and enables us to keep in touch with customers and residents whilst providing them with an opportunity to keep active during lockdown. This offer has been warmly received and drawn positive customer feedback. These pages have also been shared by other organisations providing extensive reach to residents and others visiting the website.

In a post COVID world this offer will continue to be provided to Members due to its popularity and ability to reach people who prefer to exercise from home.

Utilising technology a future investment into E-Gym technology of Approx. **£120K would allow supply state of the art, digitally connected fitness solutions including advanced electric strength equipment**. E-Gym aims to 'make the gym work for everyone' allowing easy access to high quality, bespoke, results driven fitness training, which encourages new demographics and target groups to partake in physical activity, provides valuable feedback to create good

exercise habits and improves communication with staff members to improve long term adherence. This would enable us to target finesse to those who may in the past not think the Gym is for them, including groups who may have been more affected by COVID-19. Customers would gain bespoke and personalised 28 minute total body workout as well as a 'Fitness Hub' enabling streamlined, touchless onboarding.

Financial Impact

Requirement £120k - payback in fees but would be an up-front cost – capital in nature.

7. Investment in Green Technology – to look to advance achievement of the Climate Emergency Motion and achieving Carbon Neutrality by 2030

Background

The Council has a Carbon Management Action Plan for its own activities which reports emissions for the 2018/19 year. The Cross Party Climate Change Working Group have guided officers in the development of a second version of this plan, detailing emissions for 2019/20 which is due to be presented at Council in March. In terms of delivering carbon reduction projects, the present Council policy is that projects will be worked up to approval and then approval will be sought for a scheme to become part of the Capital Programme or a revenue item.

The link to the present Carbon Action Plan is attached with present proposed schemes: https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/asset-library/Climate-Management-Action-Plan.pdf

As is has been highlighted in 2020/21 Monitoring reports, there is a capacity issue at the Council in delivering the magnitude of the existing Capital Programme – with a level of £80m being delivered as an average amount over the past 4 years. Some Councils have undertaken an overall area wide Carbon Assessment or 'decarbonisation pathway'– which the Council has not yet done. If this could be funded as a priority, it would support the overall process and an officer estimate is that this would cost between £30,000 and £50,000.

Additional Officer capacity (over and above what is available now) would then be required, to draw up plans to convert the Carbon assessment and plans into a live set of projects which would then move the Council forward more quickly. This would focus both on internal projects to reduce the Council's own impact alongside city scale projects both of which could potentially attract some external grant funding.

Financial Impact

1) Funding of £30-£50k to complete a Carbon Assessment for the City

2) Funding of £100k for the next 2 years to fund additional resource to accelerate projects through the feasibility and Design phases for approval to be added to Capital or other funding programmes.

8. Improvement of Recycling by 5%-6%

Background

The budget options proposed by the Labour and Liberal Democrat parties require, following the amendment from the leader of £100k of funding for Energy Projects in 2021/22 a further £54k of funding.

Both the Labour and Liberal Democrat parties are committed to increasing recycling rates in Peterborough. We both realise that it is difficult to deliver but believe that given the proposals tabled it would be remiss of us not to have this as the item that closes the funding gap.

Presently, using 2019/20 data uplifted for 2020/21 prices the table below shows the split of our waste and the fact that for every tonne we can move from the EFW to Recycling, then this would save £73.72 a tonne (based on a blended rate). The largest efficiencies are through increasing the recycling of food and Garden waste

Waste	Tonnes	% of a Tonne of Recycling	Kgs	Saving over ERF	£ Per Average Tonne
Garden (Brown Bin & HRC)	7,570.76	26%	264.5159983	71.36	£ 18.88
DMR Recycled (Green Bins)	17,047.96	60%	595.6414096	72.09	£ 42.94
Food (Small Grey Bin)	4,002.46	14%	139.8425921	85.15	£ 11.91
Total Recycled	**28,621.18**	**100%**	**1000**		**£ 73.72**
Energy from Waste Plant (EFW)	44,766.46				
Total Waste	**73,387.64**				

To get to 65% recycling - we would need to increase performance as per the following table. Every 1% improvement in recycling efficiency leads to a budget savings of £53,923

Performance	Tonnes		
39%	28,621.18		
63%	46,080.00	731.43	Equal 1% Recycling improvement
		Tonnes	
	Tonnes	**Price**	**Value**
Therefore 1% Improvement	731.43	£ 73.72	£ **53,923.29**
4% Improvement	2,925.71		£ **215,693.16**
5% Improvement	3,657.14		£ **269,616.45**
6% Improvement	4,388.57		£ **323,539.74**
7% Improvement	5,120.00		£ **377,463.03**
8% Improvement	5,851.43		£ **431,386.32**
9% Improvement	6,582.86		£ **485,309.61**
10% Improvement	7,314.29		£ **539,232.90**
15% Improvement	10,971.43		£ **808,849.34**

We do understand that increases in recycling collection rates have been discussed in the past and we have not moved forward with them. We are both committed to fully supporting the campaign to ensure this moves forward. Using work undertaken in 2019 as a basis and comparisons to Councils that have increased recycling rates there would be the requirement to:

1) Employ up to 6 Recycling officers at an estimated cost of £30k per officer to champion and gain traction.

2) Set aside up to £40k for marketing and associated campaigns to move the initiative forward.

3) That the above work to a well-publicised, coordinated strategy.

4) That Members would support the approach of non-collection if bins are not correctly filled, and not automatically ring Aragon to get them collected (as an example).

5) Ask officers to carry out a review of the charge for brown bin collections, so as to ensure that this does not create a perverse incentive which diverts garden waste from away from composting and into the residual waste stream.

6) Ask officers to examine options for greater kerbside separation of recyclable materials, although it may be sensible to wait until the Government produces its promised policy statement on the future of municipal waste collection before implementing any proposals.

Total additional costs are circa £220k

This would mean that to break even (and close the proposal funding gap) at least a 5% improvement in a full year (but more likely as this is a partial year a 6% improvement) would balance the budget.

Obviously, the overall target would move towards the full 65% national target, and given the infrastructure is in place every additional % improvement would save the Council £53k and the environment immeasurably.

Financial Impact

A 5%-6% improvement in recycling will save the Council between £273 and £323k in a full year. The costs to market and drive the scheme forward are estimated to be £220k. The net difference being £53 to £103k. Given an estimated three quarter year implementation this would recoup £40k to £76k.

9. Wellness Centre – to focus on mental health and improving lives

Background

This would need to be added as part of a new programme and be cost neutral. It would need to link into Public Health, Cultural and Leisure Strategies.

It would need to be cost neutral for the Council and have a comprehensive business case drawn up for it. As an example, if say it would cost £10-15m to build, just to cover the capital costs alone it would need to recover £454k per year (£250k of MRP and £204k of interest).

This is before other costs. The business case would need to set out how this could be achieved.

Mental Health is a major concern. COVID-19 has had a major negative impact no people's emotional wellbeing. A wellbeing centre will offer services that will help people better cope, and recover, from mental health.

The centre will a range of services to support the community. There will be a range of therapy and treatment offers to help people recover efficiently and effectively.

Financial Impact

This must be included as a first stage in an existing strategy for Culture/Leisure/Health before being approved at business case level for future development. Nil impact at the moment

10. A budget for City of Culture Bid

A budget of at least £150k would be required (it would be significantly more than this if successful) to undertake the initial bid and consultation. **Presently this would be additional spend for the Council and offsetting savings would need to be found**.

Financial Impact

This proposal is parked - would need Council approval to be worked into a business case. Nil impact at the moment.

Agenda Item 14(2)

Amendment to Motion

COUNCIL MEETING 3 MARCH 2021

AMENDMENT BY COUNCILLOR MURPHY TO MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR COLES

Amendment from Councillor Murphy to be moved as follows:

2. **Motion from Councillor Coles**

"~~I have been receiving many~~ Council notes that complaints have been received from ~~my~~ residents about terrible parking congestion in some local streets. ~~Further investigation has shown that a lot of the extra~~ A number of vehicles belong to residents of Homes of Multiple Occupation (HMOs) who understandably want to park in their street. ~~I am aware that congestion from HMOs is affecting other wards across the city.~~

An HMO of 6 or fewer people who are living together as a family unit is a permitted development and does not need planning permission. In these cases, there is no planning control and the impact of an HMO upon parking provision cannot be taken into account.

This problem is getting worse in Peterborough, particularly where there are narrow Victorian streets, or in newer developments where a past Labour Government planning policy ~~deliberately~~ may have reduced parking spaces for environmental reasons.

There is a provision within the legislation to remove rights for permitted development through an Article 4 Direction, which can be used to prevent further HMOs being developed without the need for planning permission. ~~They would then have to be assessed in the same way as a planning application for larger HMO schemes.~~

~~This~~ Council ~~therefore~~ asks the Cabinet Member, in consultation with the relevant scrutiny committees and the Planning and Environmental Protection Committee, to consider:

1. **identifying specific locations across the city where the concentration of HMOs is having a significant and disruptive impact on the local residential community.**
2. **developing an Article 4 direction to apply to all future HMO developments in these specified areas so that the council can require a full planning application to be made which will require owners to apply a limited parking ratio to their properties."**

Agenda Item 14(3)

Alteration to Motion

COUNCIL MEETING 3 MARCH 2021

ALTERATION TO MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR FITZGERALD

Alteration to be moved as follows:

Motion from Councillor Fitzgerald

"Council acknowledges:

That Motions are an integral part of the democratic process and a means to precipitate debate on a range of issues, as well as delivering positive outcomes for the benefit of the city's residents.

Council however furthermore acknowledges:

That Motions, when adopted, can have a significant resource implication hitherto not factored into the system and major implications:

- for Council policy, procedures, including budget-setting
- for the Council's strategic/contractual partners
- for the city of Peterborough as a whole

Council therefore resolves:

- **That any draft motion which would have one or more of the above consequences is referred to the Director of the relevant service and Democratic Services at least three weeks in advance of the Council meeting, to allow for the process as set out below.**
- **That should the Director consider that the motion has major implications as described above the draft motion and a briefing note by the relevant director on the issue is released into the public domain at least two weeks in advance of the relevant Full Council meeting, setting out the reasons why the motion would fit within the Council's Strategic Plan, policies, and budget or why it does not.**

Council ~~also~~ resolves:

- **That all Members be required to consider alternative methods to tabling a motion prior to submitting a draft motion, which would achieve the same, outcomes., such as:**
    - **referring the matter to a Scrutiny Committee for preliminary consideration**
    - **requesting the issue is brought to a Cabinet meeting, Committee meeting, informal briefing or All-Party Policy meeting.**

- **On submission of a draft motion justification should be provided via a motion submission template as to why the above options were felt to be inappropriate.**

Council also resolves to delegate authority to the Monitoring Officer to make such amendments to the Constitution and related documents necessary to enact these changes."

Agenda Item 14(3)

Amendment to Motion

COUNCIL MEETING 3 MARCH 2021

AMENDMENT BY COUNCILLOR MURPHY TO MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR FITZGERALD

Amendment from Councillor Murphy to be moved as follows:

Motion from Councillor Fitzgerald

"Council acknowledges:

That Motions are an integral part of the democratic process and a means to precipitate debate on a range of issues, as well as delivering positive outcomes for the benefit of the city's residents.

Council however furthermore acknowledges:

That Motions, when adopted, can have a significant resource implication hitherto not factored into the system and major implications:

- for Council policy, procedures, including budget-setting
- for the Council's strategic/contractual partners
- for the city of Peterborough as a whole

Council therefore resolves to refer consideration of the following proposals to the Constitution and Ethics Committee:

- **That any draft motion which would have one or more of the above consequences is referred to the Director of the relevant service and Democratic Services at least three weeks in advance of the Council meeting, to allow for the process as set out below.**
- **That should the Director consider that the motion has major implications as described above the draft motion and a briefing note by the relevant director on the issue is released into the public domain at least two weeks in advance of the relevant Full Council meeting, setting out the reasons why the motion would fit within the Council's Strategic Plan, policies, and budget or why it does not.**

Council also resolves that the Constitution and Ethics Committee consider and report back to Council on:

- ~~**That all Members be required**~~ **A mechanism to encourage all Members to consider alternative methods to tabling a motion prior to submitting a draft motion, which would achieve the same, similar, or better outcomes.~~, such as:~~**
  - ~~**referring the matter to a Scrutiny Committee for preliminary consideration**~~

~~• requesting the issue is brought to a Cabinet meeting, Committee meeting, informal briefing or All-Party Policy meeting.~~

- **A method for ~~On submission of a draft motion~~ justification to ~~should~~ be provided on the submission of a draft motion via a motion submission template as to why ~~the above~~ other options were felt to be inappropriate."**

Agenda Item 14(4)

Amendment to Motion

COUNCIL MEETING 3 MARCH 2021

AMENDMENT BY COUNCILLOR WALSH TO MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR ALI

Amendment from Councillor Walsh to be moved as follows:

"Council notes that:

- local government has a vital role to play in preventing hate and extremism of all forms in society
- Peterborough has a long-standing tradition of integrated and cohesive communities, built on a foundation of tolerance and acceptance
- there is a noticeable increase in recent social media activity locally that is racist in tone and content, and that is disproportionately directed towards Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities. This content is often in response to news and information stories about our communities or neighbourhoods. This is entirely at odds with Peterborough's genuine spirit of acceptance and our strong and long track record of sustained community cohesion
- responsibilities for aspects of the Prevent duties, previously led by the Police, have transferred to councils as it is accepted that prevention and community engagement is a vital tool in eradicating hate in all its forms
- some sections of our community feel that the Prevent strategy disproportionately targets them.

Council therefore resolves to:

1. **request the ~~statutory authorities that serve on the Peterborough Community Safety Partnership (known as the Safer Peterborough Partnership)~~ Hate Crime partnership and the statutory Prevent partnership formally agree to work together, as a system, to be especially vigilant to, and form a collective response to, commentary on social media and in other channels relating to hatred and extremism.**
2. **request that the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee, in its formal capacity as the statutory Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee, receives a regular report setting out the detail of the ways in which (i) the ~~Safer Peterborough Partnership~~ statutory partnerships outlined are ~~is~~ responding to hatred and extremism, and (ii) this council is leading its responsibilities in regard to the Prevent duties, as well as hate incidents and targeted community cohesion activity more generally**
3. **write to the Government, through our MP's, ~~demanding~~ requesting a review of the Prevent strategy to ensure it has the confidence of all our communities locally and nationally and addresses the rise of Domestic Right Wing Extremism.**
4. **Agree that as Members we should commit ourselves to ensuring none of us use**

language that may give rise to hate and prejudice towards a section of our diverse community."

Agenda Item 14(6)

Amendment to Motion

COUNCIL MEETING 3 MARCH 2021

AMENDMENT BY COUNCILLOR MURPHY TO MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR JOHN FOX

Amendment from Councillor Murphy to be moved as follows

Motion from Councillor John Fox

"As members will be aware, and with thanks to the then Leader of the Council (Cllr Cereste), several disabled parking bays were, some years ago, installed on St Peter's Road, to the rear of the Town Hall. The bays facilitate access for Blue Badge Holders to the city centre, with its banks, shops and Peterborough Cathedral. The 'purple pound' (the estimated spending power of disabled people and their friends and family) could be worth as much as £950,000,000 per annum to Peterborough. This is just one reason why access to the city for disabled residents is vital, and access to disabled parking bays in the city centre for Blue Badge Holders is crucial.

When parking bays were installed along St Peter's Road, which is connected to the City Centre by St Peter's Arcade where the disabled toilet facilities are currently located, it was agreed that only half of them would be disabled parking bays. It was also agreed that the council would monitor the impact of the bays on disabled people's access to the city as well as the impact, positive or negative, on other road users.

Since their installation, the disabled parking bays have proved very popular and there is little doubt they play a key role in making Peterborough city centre more accessible to disabled people.

Owing to the amount they are used, the disabled parking bays had been in dire need of re-painting. However, due to recent works on the rear of the Town Hall, the bays were relocated further down St. Peter's Road to give works vehicles better access to the Town Hall.

The Government ('Inclusive Mobility', Department for Transport, 2005) recommends that 6% of on-road parking should be dedicated to Blue Badge Holders (unless otherwise covered by local planning regulations).

The Council resolves to refer to the Cabinet Member (Cllr Hiller) a request to consider the following:

- **the re-establishment of the parking bays in their original location once the work on the Town Hall is complete**
- **leaving the newly-created disabled parking bays in situ to provide even greater access to our city for Blue Badge Holders**

- **Promoting the existence of the disabled parking bays to Peterborough's approximately 50,000 disabled people."**

Agenda Item 14(7)

Alteration to Motion

COUNCIL MEETING 3 MARCH 2021

ALTERATION MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR WALSH

Alteration to be moved as follows:

7. **Motion from Councillor Walsh**

"Council recognises:

- The importance of the opportunity for members of the public and Councillors to put Questions to Cabinet Members at Full Council meetings.
- That Questions & Answers become a permanent public record.

Council however also recognises:

- That time allocated to answering Questions during a Full Council meeting has been limited to 30 minutes in order for other business to be considered and debated, thus a number of Questions and Answers are not "heard" during the meeting.
- That officer resource available to assist with answers to Questions is finite, particularly during the Covid-19 pandemic.

a) Council resolves In relation to questions from Members (to the Mayor, Cabinet Member or Chair):

- **To use the pre-existing "lottery" selection process to determine up to 15 Questions to be submitted to the Full Council meeting.**
- **The Questions and Answers Report containing these 15 questions and their responses is published on the Council's website at least 24 hours before each Full Council Meeting.**
- **The answers to these questions are taken as read; only supplementary questions are to be asked and answered at Full Council meetings, with a time limit of 15 minutes.**
- **Questions that are not selected to be submitted to the meeting will be answered and published on the Council's website within 14 days following the relevant meeting.**

b) Council resolves In relation to questions from Members to Combined Authority Representatives a process identical to the above, with the following exceptions:

- **Up to five questions shall be drawn using the "lottery" process to be submitted to the Full Council meeting.**

- **A time limit of five minutes for supplementary questions to be asked and answered.**

c) Council ~~further~~ resolves In relation to questions from the public a process identical to the above, with the following exceptions:

- **Up to five questions shall be drawn using the "lottery" process to be submitted to the Full Council meeting.**
- **A time limit of 10 minutes for supplementary questions to be asked and answered.**

Council also resolves to delegate authority to the Monitoring Officer to make such amendments to the Constitution and related documents necessary to enact these changes."

Agenda Item 14(7)

Amendment to Motion

COUNCIL MEETING 3 MARCH 2021

AMENDMENT BY COUNCILLOR MURPHY TO MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR WALSH

Amendment from Councillor Murphy to be moved as follows:

7. **Motion from Councillor Walsh**

"Council recognises:

- The importance of the opportunity for members of the public and Councillors to put Questions to Cabinet Members at Full Council meetings.
- That Questions & Answers become a permanent public record.

Council however also recognises:

- That time allocated to answering Questions during a Full Council meeting has been limited to 30 minutes in order for other business to be considered and debated, thus a number of Questions and Answers are not "heard" during the meeting.
- That officer resource available to assist with answers to Questions is finite, particularly during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Council resolves to request that the Constitution and Ethics Committee considers, at the earliest opportunity, changes to the questions on notice process at meetings of Full Council in order to improve the flow of the meeting and allow greater time for the consideration of motions. Possible changes considered by the Committee to include, but not be limited to, the following:

a) ~~Council resolves~~ In relation to questions from Members (to the Mayor, Cabinet Member or Chair):

- **To use the pre-existing "lottery" selection process to determine up to 15 Questions to be submitted to the Full Council meeting.**
- **The Questions and Answers Report containing these 15 questions and their responses is published on the Council's website at least 24 hours before each Full Council Meeting.**
- **The answers to these questions are taken as read; only supplementary questions are to be asked and answered at Full Council meetings, with a time limit of 15 minutes.**
- **Questions that are not selected to be submitted to the meeting will be answered and published on the Council's website within 14 days following the relevant meeting.**

b) ~~Council resolves~~ In relation to questions from Members to Combined Authority Representatives a process identical to the above, with the following exceptions:

- **Up to five questions shall be drawn using the "lottery" process to be submitted to the Full Council meeting.**
- **A time limit of five minutes for supplementary questions to be asked and answered.**

c) ~~Council further resolves~~ In relation to questions from the public a process identical to the above, with the following exceptions:

- **Up to five questions shall be drawn using the "lottery" process to be submitted to the Full Council meeting.**
- **A time limit of 10 minutes for supplementary questions to be asked and answered."**

Agenda Item 14(7)

Amendment to Motion

COUNCIL MEETING 3 MARCH 2021

AMENDMENT BY COUNCILLOR HOGG TO MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR WALSH

Amendment from Councillor Hogg to be moved as follows:

"Council recognises:

- The importance of the opportunity for members of the public and Councillors to put Questions to Cabinet Members at Full Council meetings.
- That Questions & Answers become a permanent public record.

Council however also recognises:

- That time allocated to answering Questions during a Full Council meeting has been limited to 30 minutes in order for other business to be considered and debated, thus a number of Questions and Answers are not "heard" during the meeting.
- That officer resource available to assist with answers to Questions is finite, particularly during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Council resolves to refer this matter to the Constitution and Ethics Committee to look at the following changes:

a) ~~Council resolves~~ In relation to questions from Members (to the Mayor, Cabinet Member or Chair):

- **To use the pre-existing "lottery" selection process to determine up to 15 Questions to be submitted to the Full Council meeting.**
- **The Questions and Answers Report containing these 15 questions and their responses is published on the Council's website at least 24 hours before each Full Council Meeting.**
- **The answers to these questions are taken as read; only supplementary questions are to be asked and answered at Full Council meetings, with a time limit of ~~15~~20 minutes.**
- **Questions that are not selected to be submitted to the meeting will be answered and published on the Council's website within 14 days following the relevant meeting.**

b) ~~Council resolves~~ In relation to questions from Members to Combined Authority Representatives a process identical to the above, with the following exceptions:

- **Up to five questions shall be drawn using the "lottery" process to be submitted to the Full Council meeting.**
- **A time limit of ~~five~~10 minutes for supplementary questions to be asked and answered.**

c) ~~Council further resolves~~ In relation to questions from the public a process identical to the above, with the following exceptions:

- **Up to ~~five~~15 questions shall be drawn using the "lottery" process to be submitted to the Full Council meeting.**
- **A time limit of ~~10~~20 minutes for supplementary questions to be asked and answered."**

COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 15(a)
3 MARCH 2021	SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

Report of:	Gillian Beasley, Chief Executive and (Local) Returning Officer Fiona McMillan – Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	N/A	
Contact Officer(s):	Mark Emson - Electoral Manager	Tel. 01733 452282

POLLING DISTRICTS, PLACES AND STATIONS 2021 – SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: Chief Executive and (Local) Returning Officer	**Deadline date: 11 March 2021**

It is recommended that Council approves the following changes to polling districts, places and stations for elections taking place in 2021 as follows:

1. Stafford Hall, Hampton Court, Westwood, to be assigned as the dedicated polling station for the RAV2 (Ravensthorpe Ward) Polling District replacing Highlees Primary School, Ashton Road, Westwood who have advised that they cannot accommodate a polling station on their premises in 2021.

1. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

1.1 For Council to consider the revised polling districts, polling places and polling stations following the lack of availability of usual buildings for the 2021 elections.

2. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

2.1 If a building becomes unavailable before an election, the polling place can be changed by the local authority in accordance with their decision-making arrangements (Full Council). This an additional report for agenda item Polling Districts, places and stations 2021 due to a last minute change in availability.

3. CONSULTATION

3.1 The ward Councillors for Ravensthorpe have been consulted on the proposed changes to polling places for the 2021 elections.

4. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

4.1 The proposed changes to polling places will result in a reduction in hire charges for the council for the 2021 elections.

Legal Implications

4.2 As part of a review the Council must seek to ensure (a) that all electors in a constituency in the city have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances and (b) that so far as is reasonable and practicable every polling place and polling station is accessible to electors who are disabled.

Equalities Implications

4.3 The Electoral Commission, while not having a direct responsibility for the review, can intervene where it considers that the reasonable requirements of electors or the needs of disabled electors have not been taken in account.

Carbon Impact Assessment

4.5 Whilst this change will not have a direct impact on the Council's Carbon emissions the overall impact is positive as less buildings will be used to deliver this function.

5. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

5.1 None.

6. APPENDICES

6.1 None.

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