

12 Month Recommendation progress update for Select Committee Scrutiny Inquiry

Select Committee Inquiry Title: Is the Council Ready for Growth?

Committee Chairman: David Carroll, Brian Roberts, David Watson, Dev Dhillon.

Date Recommendations accepted by Cabinet: 25th September 2017

Lead BCC Cabinet Member (where response required from BCC Cabinet) and Lead Officer: Martin Tett and Rob Smith/Lisa Michelson.

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<p>As an overarching response to the Inquiry, the Cabinet wished to emphasise the importance of working collaboratively with key partners and stakeholders in relation to all aspects of the growth agenda. This applies to each of the recommendations below, and the Cabinet's response to these.</p>							
<p>1. That Business Units' Commercial Plans for 2018-2022 and other key plans & strategies reflect how services are planning for the impact of future housing and population growth and show links to the Bucks Strategic Infrastructure Plan.</p> <p>Agreed: YES</p>	Y	<p>In reviewing the Business Plans for each Business Unit Cabinet Members and Executive Directors will ensure that the implications of growth are reflected in the all Plans including the Medium Term Financial Plan.</p>	All	All	<p>Feb 2018 and then ongoing</p>	<p>The business unit plans approved by full council in February 2018 all included a high level summary of how growth in population size, specifically within certain demographic groups, is expected to impact on services and the activity being undertaken now by the service to plan for those impacts. Business unit plans are subject to annual review and for 2019/20 will include further information on the long term challenges facing</p>	<p>The annual review of business unit plans is underway alongside the Budget Scrutiny process. In addition to the impacts of growth on services, the 2019-2023 business unit plans will also reference the anticipated impacts of modernising local government.</p>

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						<p>services.</p> <p>The corporate working group has been active in raising awareness of growth and working through the implications of growth with key services, to feed into the review of business unit plans.</p> <p>Growth projections within the next 4 years are incorporated into the MTFP. Work is now being undertaken to model the medium to longer term impacts and risks.</p>	
<p>2. That the Bucks Strategic Infrastructure Plan becomes one of the Council's key strategies for responding to growth and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Makes explicit the links between housing and population growth and potential changes to demand for Council services • Is embedded across 	Y	<p>Completion of action 1 above will support delivery of a cross organisational approach to supporting the Growth Agenda.</p> <p>It is important that this is supported through the Corporate Working Group (identified in</p>	Cllr Bill Chapple	Rob Smith	Feb 2018	<p>The BSIP is gathering momentum with services and the District councils, alongside their Infrastructure Delivery Plans. The BSIP is ensuring that the infrastructure needed to support additional housing and employment growth is identified and addressed</p>	<p>Partners have come together, led by the Bucks Planning Group and progress has been made on populating BSIP. BSIP remains an important foundation document across the partners and will continue to remain so during the transition to a new authority and once the new authority is in place. There is a need</p>

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<p>all Business Units Demonstrates that all Business Units have been involved in its development.</p> <p>AGREED: YES</p>		<p>3. below) and will be regularly reviewed through the councils Business Planning and Medium Term Financial Plan processes.</p>				<p>through the Local Plans and the BTVLEP strategies. The scope of the BSIP is limited to identifying and addressing strategic infrastructure needs rather than service needs (the latter to be addressed through individual service delivery plans). Initial links have been made to the existing MTFP capital programme and this is currently being refreshed.</p>	<p>to continue to develop it and where necessary pull additional resources in to support teams. In addition to the infrastructure requirements, there will be corresponding service impacts as a result of population growth. A key component of modernizing local government will be to take an approach which transforms services (under a new organisation) which are built for future demands. This recommendation is closely related to the update for Recommendation 5 on this table.</p>
<p>3. That the current governance arrangements around the growth agenda are strengthened to ensure a strategic view and maximise the Council's influence around housing development by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Agreeing formal Terms of Reference for the Corporate Working Group. ● Ensuring permanent 	Y	<p>Formal Terms of Reference will be developed for the Corporate Working Group and agreed by Cabinet and CMT identifying membership roles and including any enhancement to the current quarterly Growth</p>	Cllr Bill Chapple	Rob Smith		<p>The terms of reference and membership of the corporate working group is under review following a recent commitment with the Districts (March 2018) to be more collaborative in preparing and responding to growth.</p>	<p>A new Corporate Working Group has been established. This provides a useful platform for raising awareness about growth issues across council teams as well as a centralised set of growth information. Alongside the Modernising Local Government announcement in</p>

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<p>membership of the Group from key service areas in each Business Unit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making sure membership roles are clearly articulated. • Agreeing and documenting a formal reporting mechanism on outcomes from the meetings to Corporate Management Team (CMT) and Cabinet. • Ensuring all Cabinet Members have the same level of knowledge around planned growth and can help drive planning in Business Units. • Annual report to Council on growth and progress made on action plans. <p>AGREED: YES</p>		<p>Update process that is needed to ensure the implications of growth are fully considered across the council. Actions linked to growth should be embedded in the Business Plans and monitoring of progress against those actions can be undertaken through the normal Business Plan progress review process.</p>				<p>These recommendations are accepted and an annual report to Council on growth and progress made will be reported on later this year.</p>	<p>November, the Growth Agenda discussions have also been taking place as part of the Buckinghamshire Growth Board (for BCC matters) and the Bucks Planning Group which works across the partner councils. The work of the Corporate Working group will be taken forward alongside discussions about potential service redesign and transformation in the newly launched 'Shadow Authority'. This discussion includes all the Local Authorities (and their services) which are to be part of the newly established council.</p>
<p>4. That the Council develops a single repository for relevant growth data and analysis to enable sharing of data between Business Units.</p> <p>AGREED: YES</p>	Y	<p>The Council's Business Intelligence & Insight function is currently leading the development of an integrated data platform which will host data from across the organisation, including growth</p>	Cllr Martin Tett	Sarah Ashmead / Rob Smith		<p>In progress; the Council is preparing an interactive map (await IT support in order to launch on the intranet) and has a shared folder for the corporate working group.</p>	<p>A growth & infrastructure interactive map is now live and is accessible via a short URL link. Map Portal (IT led project) will be launched in the new year which will allow the map to be published on the intranet.</p>

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		data, and provide the longer term solution. In the short term, all data analysis related to growth will be stored in a shared folder accessible by all Business Units.					
<p>5. The Bucks Strategic Infrastructure Plan should be promoted as a key strand of the Council's prospectus for growth to Government to demonstrate the Council's ambition and lever additional funding.</p> <p>AGREE: YES</p>	Y	<p>The Bucks Strategic Infrastructure Plan is being integrated with the emerging Growth Strategy which will provide the overall prospectus for growth in Buckinghamshire. The next phase of the Plan will be developed over the remaining months this year and will give more clarity to the range of infrastructure needed to support the growth agenda.</p>	Cllr Martin Tett	Rob Smith		<p>The BSIP clearly sets out the scale of investment needed to support growth; work is underway to identify priorities and address financial mechanisms (with support from the HIF bids)</p>	<p>The development and promotion of BSIP remains a priority as a key foundation document to demonstrate the ambitions for Growth in the county and to lever additional funding with Government.</p> <p>Related to the update above for Recommendation number 2, the recommendation is to explore resources which could be used to progress the work.</p>
<p>6. That the Council develops a longer term Capital and investment programme to enable a more robust</p>	Y	<p>Delivery of the overall strategy involves multiple organisations and</p>	Cllr John Chilver	Richard Ambrose		<p>The Capital Investment Strategy is being progressed and the intention is</p>	<p>The Capital Investment Strategy has been developed and submitted to Cabinet (Dec 18) for</p>

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<p>strategic approach to addressing the impacts of the growth agenda.</p> <p>AGREED: YES</p>		<p>the council will work closely with BTVLEP to develop a robust strategic approach. The council's contribution to this will be developed in conjunction with the Asset Strategy Board.</p>				<p>for the final version to be approved by full council alongside the MTFP.</p>	<p>approval in advance of being approved by full Council alongside the Budget and MTFP in Feb 2019.</p>
<p>7. That clawback mechanisms should always be used to review new developments as they progress and that, where these have increased in value, the Council should re-assess developer contributions.</p> <p>AGREED: YES</p>	Y	<p>The Corporate Working Group will review the council's current policy position and recommend appropriate adjustments such that should the council not achieve all its asks related to a specific development it would look to renegotiate if the viability of the development improves after the initial agreement is reached..</p>	Cllr Bill Chapple/ Cllr John Chilver	Rob Smith/ Richard Ambrose		<p>BCC is still in negotiation on a number of schemes for clawback including A355 however recent successful HIF bids have enabled forward funding.</p>	<p>The Council is still in negotiation on a number of schemes however clawback mechanisms are included on s106 agreements where viability improves. HIF bids are not yet fully agreed.</p>