

6 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 Mark Kemp/Rachel Wileman.

Recommendation	BCC Cabinet / Partner Agency Response including proposed action	Responsible Cabinet Member (for BCC)	Responsible Officer	Action by date	6 month Recommendation Progress Update
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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>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>	<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>	<p>All</p>	<p>All</p>	<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 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>
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<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 all Business Units Demonstrates that all Business Units have been involved in its development. <p>AGREED: YES</p>	<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 3. below) and will be regularly reviewed through the councils Business Planning and Medium Term Financial Plan processes.</p>	<p>Cllr Bill Chapple</p>	<p>Mark Kemp</p>	<p>Feb 2018</p>	<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 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>
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<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 membership of the Group from key service areas in each Business Unit. • 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>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 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>Cllr Bill Chapple</p>	<p>Mark Kemp</p>	<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. These recommendations are accepted and an annual report to Council on growth and progress made will be reported on later this year.</p>
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<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>	<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 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>	<p>Cllr Martin Tett</p>	<p>Sarah Ashmead/ Mark Kemp</p>	<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>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>	<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>	<p>Cllr Martin Tett</p>	<p>Neil Gibson</p>	<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>6. That the Council develops a longer term Capital and investment programme to enable a more robust strategic approach to addressing the impacts of the growth agenda.</p> <p>AGREED: YES</p>	<p>Delivery of the overall strategy involves multiple organisations and 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>Cllr John Chilver</p>	<p>Richard Ambrose</p>	<p>The Capital Investment Strategy is being progressed and the intention is for the final version to be approved by full council alongside the MTFP.</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>	<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>	<p>Cllr Bill Chapple/ Cllr John Chilver</p>	<p>Mark Kemp/ Richard Ambrose</p>	<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>