



NORWICH City Council

Committee name: Council

Committee date: 12/03/2024

Report title: Adjustment to the 2024-2025 budget and capital programme.

Portfolio: Councillor Kendrick, Cabinet member for resources

Report from: Interim chief finance officer (S151)

Wards: Multiple wards

OPEN PUBLIC ITEM

Purpose

To consider approving adjustment to the 2024-2025 budget and capital programme.

Recommendation:

Subject to cabinet approval on 6 March 2024, it is recommended to approve an increase to the general fund capital programme of £0.585m in 2024/25, to provide the necessary funding for design, and feasibility work relating to the development pipeline.

Policy framework

The council has five corporate priorities, which are:

- People live independently and well in a diverse and safe city.
- Norwich is a sustainable and healthy city.
- Norwich has the infrastructure and housing it needs to be a successful city.
- The city has an inclusive economy in which residents have equal opportunity to flourish.
- Norwich City Council is in good shape to serve the city.

This report meets the 'Norwich has the infrastructure and housing it needs to be a successful city' corporate priority

This report addresses the following priority or action in the Corporate Plan

- Provide and encourage others to provide new homes, open spaces and infrastructure for residents
- Secure and manage funds from a range of sources to invest in the city

This report helps to meet the housing strategy, adopted policy of the Council

Background

1. At its meeting of 6 March 2024, cabinet will consider a report, entitled Development site pipeline. The recommendations to cabinet are:
 - 1) Note the progress on the development site pipeline work;
 - 2) Delegate the disposal of the assets listed within the exempt appendix to the executive director of development and city services, in consultation with the Section 151 officer and cabinet member for resources; andTo recommend to council:
 - 3) The adjustment to the 2024/25 general fund capital programme, to fund further design, feasibility and infrastructure works to the sites detailed in the exempt appendix to the cabinet report.
2. The detail of the work, these funds will allow, is included within the report and the associated exempt appendix, but will include further surveys, design and infrastructure works in order to aid business case development or to enhance asset value.
3. The works, once undertaken, will allow further decisions to be taken on the associated sites, which may include development by the council or disposal.

Consultation

4. Officers have consulted with cabinet members and scrutiny committee on the proposals to carry out further design, feasibility and infrastructure works to the proposed sites as detailed in the cabinet paper of 6 March 2024.

Implications

Financial and resources

5. Any decision to reduce or increase resources or alternatively increase income must be made within the context of the council's stated priorities, as set out in its Corporate Plan 2022-26 and budget.
6. The financial implications of approving the recommendations are an increase to the general fund capital programme of £0.585m in 2024/25.
7. It is proposed that the additional capital expenditure is funded initially from borrowing but may be recovered through future capital receipts.

Legal

8. Full details of the legal implications are included in the report to cabinet (Cabinet, 6 March 2024) "Development site pipeline' and the associated exempt appendix.

Statutory considerations

Consideration	Details of any implications and proposed measures to address:
Equality and diversity	No implications
Health, social and economic impact	<p>The feasibility work will allow further decisions to be taken regarding disposal or development of assets including new employment and housing sites.</p> <p>The provision of homes and employment opportunities will provide construction opportunities for local contractors, supported by local suppliers, and will generate additional local spending for the benefit of the wider economy.</p> <p>Providing more housing and employment sites is important in supporting sustainable economic growth and prosperity</p>
Crime and disorder	No implications
Children and adults safeguarding	No implications
Environmental impact	Any new homes or employment uses will be designed to achieve high sustainability standards to ensure they are future proof against further changes to building regulations.

Risk management

9. Full details of all risk management implications are included in the report to cabinet (Cabinet, 6 March 2024) "Development site pipeline' and the associated exempt appendix.

Other options considered

10. Full details of all options considered are included in the report to cabinet (Cabinet, 6 March 2024) "Development site pipeline' and the associated exempt appendix.

Reasons for the decision/recommendation

11. To provide the financial budget for further design and feasibility work to allow business case development for development pipeline sites.

Background papers: None

Appendices: None

Contact officer:

Name: Andrew Turnbull

Telephone number: 01603 989607

Email address: andrewturnbull@norwich.gov.uk



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