

Annex B

Recommendations to Cabinet from Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2023/24

Recommendation	Agree (Y/N)	Comment	Responsible Cabinet Member	Lead Officer
<i>Channel Choice and Telephone Access -26 September 2023</i>				
That the trial set out in the report is approved (the outcome of the trial will be reported back to Overview and Scrutiny before a final decision on the service is made by Cabinet), with consideration of when the report should come forward;	Y	It was agreed that the outcome of the trial would come back to Cabinet as soon as we have reliable data to suggest that it has been successful (or not) and that the follow up report would go to O&S before going back to Cabinet.	Councillor Tony Dale, Cabinet Member for Economy and Transformation	Jon Dearing, Assistant Director for Resident Services
That Cabinet Members receive data regarding call volumes for Cotswold District Council and not just the combined figures with West Oxfordshire, and graphs to show trends;	Y	We agreed that I would relay the telephone data at the Cabinet meeting on 2/10/2023, to show the percentage split between CDC and WODC	Councillor Tony Dale, Cabinet Member for Economy and Transformation	Jon Dearing, Assistant Director for Resident Services
That the report that will be received after the six month trial includes an Equalities Impact Assessment;	In part (N + Y)	We said that a report would come in 6 months at the latest but may be earlier if we can demonstrate, earlier, that it has been successful. The EIA has already been agreed by the Monitoring Officer but a follow up EIA will be presented with the follow up report.	Councillor Tony Dale, Cabinet Member for Economy and Transformation	Jon Dearing, Assistant Director for Resident Services
That Cabinet Members consider concerns raised by committee members regarding consultation with affected staff, and whether savings can be realised without redundancies.	N	I thought we addressed this at the O&S meeting. I confirmed that officers have been consulted throughout and assured that there will be no redundancies.	Councillor Tony Dale, Cabinet Member for Economy and Transformation	Jon Dearing, Assistant Director for Resident Services

<i>Car Parking Strategy – 31 October 2023</i>				
That consideration is given to whether more can be done on the widening of car parking bays within the Car Parking Strategy.	Y	As part of the strategy we will be undertaking a review of our bay sizes, and purpose.	Councillor Tony Dale, Cabinet Member for Economy and Transformation	Susan Hughes, Business Manager for Support and Advice
That consideration is given to the level of need for, and provision of, more disabled parking spaces.	Y	The strategy intends to engage fully with all customers and stakeholders, this will ensure that we are identifying and addressing the needs of customers.	Councillor Tony Dale, Cabinet Member for Economy and Transformation	Susan Hughes, Business Manager for Support and Advice
That the provision of secure bicycle parking (for pedal and electric bicycles) is included within the strategy.	Y	We aim to undertake a review of our car parks, assess usage of current cycle racks and where possible increase this.	Councillor Tony Dale, Cabinet Member for Economy and Transformation	Susan Hughes, Business Manager for Support and Advice
<i>Playing Pitch Strategy – 31 October 2023</i>				
That the provision of 3G pitches is reviewed to ensure that the provision is suitable and safe, in view of safety concerns about certain materials used in 3G pitches.	Y	This is an evolving situation and Officers will take the lead from Sport England, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport and the Football Foundation who they are in regular dialogue with. But to reiterate, it is only the polymetric infill which the EU is looking to ban, not 3G pitches as a whole facility, and the availability of alternative vegetal or organic infills is growing.	Councillor Paul Hodgkinson, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing	Andy Barge, Assistant Director for Communities/ Rachel Biles, Strategic Projects Lead (Leisure)
That consideration is given to whether it would be appropriate to include the provision of bowling greens within the Playing Pitch Strategy	N	Bowling green facilities are classified by Sport England as other outdoor non-pitch sports. Therefore, they would be assessed using a different methodology to that used in the development of the Playing Pitch Strategy. Cabinet could consider completing an assessment of needs and opportunities on other sports	Councillor Paul Hodgkinson, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing	Andy Barge, Assistant Director for Communities/ Rachel Biles, Strategic Projects Lead (Leisure)

		like bowls, tennis, golf and athletics, but it is not deemed a priority at this point in time		
That the new pitches planned at the Steadings development are factored into the Playing Pitch Strategy, if this has not already been done.	Y	To confirm, the s106 agreement specifies that the mandatory outdoor provision for the development includes three tennis courts and two mini football pitches. As yet the football pitches are not listed in the strategy as they are yet to be constructed but once complete, they will be picked up in stage E of the playing pitch strategy which is the monitoring and review of the strategy annually to ensure it is robust and up to date.	Councillor Paul Hodgkinson, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing	Andy Barge, Assistant Director for Communities/ Rachel Biles, Strategic
That consideration is given to whether the use of Community Infrastructure Levy to fund sports facilities can be formalised in the Local Plan.	Y	We would be able to list the infrastructure recommendations for playing pitches and ancillary facilities within the Local Plan. This would give projects that are taken forward from this list, a greater precedence if Town and Parish Council (and other applicants) chose to submit a bid to the CIL strategic infrastructure fund. A proportion of CIL cannot be safeguarded to deliver sports facility infrastructure development, however Town and Parish Councils can use their neighbourhood proportion to assist the delivery of playing pitches and ancillary facilities as part of any application to access the Council's CIL. An alternative route could also be to secure s106 developer contributions for	Councillor Paul Hodgkinson, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing	Andy Barge, Assistant Director for Communities/ Rachel Biles, Strategic Projects Lead (Leisure)

		projects using the evidence base from the Playing Pitch Strategy to support requests.		
That the Council encourages more volunteers to support local sports clubs.	Y	When business cases are developed with key stakeholder such as sports clubs, volunteers and clubs' capacity will be considered. This will be undertaken in partnership with the Active Cotswold Programme, Active Gloucestershire and governing bodies of sport.	Councillor Paul Hodgkinson, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing	Andy Barge, Assistant Director for Communities/ Rachel Biles, Strategic Projects Lead (Leisure)
<i>Publica Review – 16 November 2023</i>				
To recommend to Council that recommendation 1 in the report is amended to read 'Approve the recommendations set out in the Human Engine report (that the majority of services are returned to the Council as per the detail provided on page 12 of the Human Engine report)', subject to the completion of due diligence and the agreement of the detailed transition plan.	N	Full Council considered the recommendation as an amendment to at the meeting on 22 November 2023. Full Council rejected the amendment by 11 votes for, 17 against, 2 abstentions. 3 Members were absent from that Full Council meeting.	Councillor Joe Harris, Leader of the Council	Robert Weaver, Chief Executive Officer
<i>Draft Cotswold Housing Strategy -28 November 2023</i>				
That the Council consults with the Royal Agricultural University to ensure that there is suitable provision of accommodation for students.	Y	New text will be incorporated with the final document to highlight this matter. Text will be prepared by the Forward Planning Manager and agreed with the Leader under delegated authority	Councillor Joe Harris, Leader of the Council	James Brain, Forward Planning Manager/ Charlie Jackson, Assistant Director for Planning and Sustainability
That the Council consults with businesses to ensure local employees have access to housing within the district	Y	Businesses are encouraged to engage with the draft Housing Strategy to share their views and advocate their priorities and opportunities on the matter.	Councillor Joe Harris, Leader of the Council	James Brain, Forward Planning Manager/ Charlie Jackson, Assistant Director for

		Ensuring local employees have good access to housing is a pertinent matter for other council projects and strategies, including the Green Economic Strategy, Local Plan Update, Cirencester Town Centre Masterplan. Businesses are equally encouraged to engage with these plans and strategies when available.		Planning and Sustainability
<i>Cotswold District Local Plan – Partial Update – 8 January 2024</i>				
That the Council establishes a cross-party working group to consider strategic growth at Moreton-in-Marsh.	Y	It has been agreed that Cabinet will ask Council that a Working Group be created to examine strategic growth in Moreton-in-Marsh involving Members and Officers.	Councillor Juliet Layton, Cabinet Member for Planning and Regulatory Services	James Brain, Forward Planning Manager
<i>Public Conveniences Review Group – 30 January 2024</i>				
That the Council seeks to re-tender the cleaning and maintenance contract rather than bring the service in house.	Y	Agree to retender contract prior to expiry on 30/09/24. Also, request costings from Ubico to benchmark against tenders from external suppliers.	Councillor Mike Evemy, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance	David Stanley, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
That the Council seeks to reduce the annual revenue cost of providing public conveniences facilities, given that it would not be realistic to seek full cost recovery through charging, or to provide facilities that are free to use.	Y	The current budget provision of £161k for a non-statutory service is coming under increasing pressure hence the request for this review. It's accepted that neither achieving full cost recovery or making the service completely free are viable options.	Councillor Mike Evemy, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance	David Stanley, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

<p>That the Council commits to retaining at least one district council provided public conveniences facility in each town and village within the district that currently has one.</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>We wish to continue providing this service in locations across the District, but recognise that closing some facilities will reduce costs whilst maintaining a public service.</p>	<p>Councillor Mike Evey, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance</p>	<p>David Stanley, Deputy Chief Executive Officer</p>
<p>That the Council opens discussions with the relevant Town Councils about the transfer of responsibility for four sites in towns that have more than one district council provided facility, or where town councils are not willing, the Council seeks to close the facilities and repurpose the buildings to generate a commercial opportunity, as set out in Exempt Annex B. This approach is expected to result in a maximum annual revenue saving of £39,061.</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>See comment above.</p>	<p>Councillor Mike Evey, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance</p>	<p>David Stanley, Deputy Chief Executive Officer</p>
<p>That the Council allocates £47,200 in the capital programme to introduce charging at the four retained sites that are currently free to use, utilising the existing capital budget (of c. £34,000) for purchasing and installing card readers. This investment will ensure that the Council can charge for usage, with card payment as an option, at all district council run facilities and will have a payback period of c. 1 year.</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>It's agreed that the balance of the capital allocation for card readers should be used to facilitate charging at the currently non-charged sites. The proposed capital budget for 24/25 allows for this. We will seek to re-use card readers and charging mechanisms from any closed facilities. Any identified additional capital requirements will come forward as a report to Cabinet following agreement on any closures.</p>	<p>Councillor Mike Evey, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance</p>	<p>David Stanley, Deputy Chief Executive Officer</p>
<p>That the Council allocates capital funding of £27,650 in priority works to remedy condition (the replacement of paddle gates) at the two sites in Bourton on the Water, in order to protect future income, as set</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>It's acknowledged that this investment is required. Funding for this to be identified and subject to a separate Cabinet report alongside the works identified in recommendation 5.</p>	<p>Councillor Mike Evey, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance</p>	<p>David Stanley, Deputy Chief Executive Officer</p>

out in Annex B of the Review Group's report				
That the Council seeks to maintain the condition of its public convenience facilities through the Council's Asset Management Strategy.	Y		Councillor Mike Evey, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance	David Stanley, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
That usage charges are set at 70p at all retained district council public conveniences facilities. Based on current usage levels this could reduce the cost of the service by a maximum of £62,425 per annum.	N	Given the increase in the charge to 40p in April 2023 and the implementation of card readers at all charging sites in November 2023, it is very difficult to forecast revenue based on these two factors and therefore understand the impact of any price change proposal. It's proposed to review the charge once we have clarity over the future cost of the service and when we have at least six months of usage and revenue data for currently charged sites.	Councillor Mike Evey, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance	David Stanley, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
That the Council uses signage at public convenience facilities to explain to users that public conveniences are not a statutory service and the usage charge does not cover the full cost to the Council of running the service.	Y		Councillor Mike Evey, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance	David Stanley, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
That the Council continues to provide one disabled access unit at each retained site which can be accessed free of charge with a RADAR key (Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation).	Y		Councillor Mike Evey, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance	David Stanley, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
That the Council encourages key partners such as town and parish councils and local businesses to make their toilets available for	Y		Councillor Mike Evey, Deputy	David Stanley, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

public use and to register their toilets on popular public toilet apps.			Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance	
<i>River and Sewage – 27 February 2024</i>				
That the Council writes to Severn Trent requesting an interactive flooding map.	Y	Feedback from the Industry has indicated that maps will be made available in the spring.	Councillor Lisa Spivey, Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Safety	Phil Martin, Assistant Director for Business Services
That the Council forms a Rivers and Sewage Working Group, considering the composition and scope through its terms of reference.	N	The current series of meetings that I am holding with the water companies serving the district are informal meetings held at my request as Cabinet Member with responsibility for sewage and flooding. These discussions are not formal meetings and I would not want them to be. I will be meeting with other individuals and groups in the wider context of sewage and flooding and, again, these meetings will be informal and for information sharing. This is part of the preparation work I am doing ahead of the sewage summit I plan to hold in May which will be a public event and which will be reported back to full council. At this point I do not see any benefit in forming a working group, and in fact, I believe this would hinder progress. I did consider setting up such a group when I began this work, but based on the model deployed by colleagues in West Oxfordshire and on hearing from them directly, I opted for the current	Councillor Lisa Spivey, Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Safety	Phil Martin, Assistant Director for Business Services

		approach, which although at its infancy, is proving positive. Thus, at this stage, I do not feel that it would be beneficial to constitute an official working group.		
<i>Ecological Emergency Update – 7 May 2024</i>				
That Cabinet considers the necessity to increase resourcing for ecology, given our goal (green to the core), declared climate and ecological crisis and increased legal monitoring obligations.	Deferred from 9 May Cabinet meeting	We are actively exploring resourcing levels across Planning & Sustainability and specifically Ecology, in order to meet workload demands and council priorities. We have a clear idea of the resources needed and are working through more detailed costings currently.	Cabinet Member for Planning and Regulatory Services/ Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance	Deputy Chief Executive/ Director of Governance (Monitoring Officer)/ Assistant Director for Planning and Sustainability