

Public
Key Decision - Yes

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter: Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS)

Meeting/Date: Cabinet – 9th December 2021

Executive Portfolio: Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning

Report by: Strategic Growth Manager

Wards affected: All

Executive Summary:

Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC) has been a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) charging authority since May 2012.

Under the CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended), a CIL contribution receiving authority such as HDC is required to publish an annual Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) by no later than 31st December including:

- A statement on the infrastructure projects or types of infrastructure which the Council intends will be, or may be, wholly or partly funded by CIL
- A report about CIL on matters specified in the regulations
- A report about planning obligations specified in the regulations

The IFS in this report covers the period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021 and provides detail on how the Council is delivering the Corporate Plan and Local Plan with particular regard to infrastructure to enable growth.

Members are requested to provide any comments on the infrastructure delivery in the reporting year and note the statement on future projects that may be supported by CIL.

Recommendation(s):

The Cabinet is

RECOMMENDED

- a) To approve the statement on the infrastructure projects or types of infrastructure which the Council intends will be, or may be, wholly or partly funded by CIL stated at para 2.5 in the Infrastructure Funding Report;

- b) Delegate authority to the Strategic Growth Manager in consultation with the Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning, to make any final amendments to the IFS, if necessary, prior to publication; and
- c) To note the infrastructure delivery and provide comments on the report.

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek agreement on the Infrastructure Funding Statement 2020/2021 and the update on the infrastructure delivery during this time. It also asks for agreement to the statement required in relation to projects that will or may be, wholly or partly, funded by Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

2. WHY IS THIS REPORT NECESSARY/BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Huntingdonshire District Council has been a CIL Charging Authority since May 2012. The system provides a framework to fund new infrastructure to unlock land for growth, enabling the delivery of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan 2036.

- 2.2 The Community Infrastructure Levy (Amendment) (England) (No.2) Regulations 2019 introduced the requirement to publish an annual Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS). The IFS must include

- The Infrastructure List – a statement of the infrastructure projects or types of infrastructure which the charging authority will be, or may be, wholly or partly funded by CIL (other than CIL to which regulation 59E or 59F applies);
- A CIL report setting out required details on income and expenditure in relation to the previous financial year; and
- A S106 report in relation to planning obligations (S106 agreement obligations), for the previous financial year.

- 2.3 This annual IFS covers the financial year 1st April 2020 – 31st March 2021. The regulations require the final document to be published on the Council's website by 31st December 2021.

- 2.4 The IFS provides an opportunity to outline not only what funding has been received to support the delivery of infrastructure. It also enables the Council to provide information on infrastructure being delivered directly by developers, in accordance with S106 legal agreements. Where appropriate, infrastructure will be provided directly, in accordance with agreed specifications, to reduce the burden of cost on all and risk to the Council.

3. OPTIONS CONSIDERED/ANALYSIS

- 3.1 The annual Infrastructure Funding Statement 2020/2021 is shown at Appendix A. It is split into sections to cover the regulatory requirements as outlined above.

- 3.2 The statement includes reports outlining information relating to CIL and S106 planning obligations that have been approved, had monies received, funding allocated to infrastructure projects and funding spent during the financial year April 2020 – March 2021.

- 3.3 The infrastructure list at para 2.5 in the IFS, notes projects which CIL receipts could be used to fund, in line with current governance arrangements.

4. COMMENTS OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY

- 4.1 The comments of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel will be circulated ahead of the meeting.

5. WHAT ACTIONS WILL BE TAKEN/TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

- 5.1 Following approval by Cabinet, the Infrastructure Funding Statement 2020/21 will be published on the Council's website by 31st December 2021 in line with the requirements under Regulation 121A of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended).

6. LINK TO THE CORPORATE PLAN, STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND/OR CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

- 6.1 The IFS helps to show how several of the Council's priorities for 2018 - 2022 have and are being delivered, but specifically:

- Support development of infrastructure to enable growth; and
- Improve the supply of new and affordable housing, jobs, and community facilities to meet current and future need.

- 6.2 It will also supports the strategic priority to:

- Create, protect and enhance our safe clean built and green environment.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Regulation 121A requires that no later than 31st December in each calendar year, an annual infrastructure funding statement must be published. This report addresses this requirement.

- 7.2 Section 216 (2) of the Planning Act 2008 as amended by Regulation 63 of the Community Infrastructure Regulations 2010 (as amended) stated that infrastructure 'includes [and is therefore not limited to]:

- (a) roads and other transport facilities,
- (b) flood defences,
- (c) schools and other educational facilities,
- (d) medical facilities,
- (e) sporting and recreational facilities,
- (f) open spaces.

- 7.3 The levy may not be used to fund affordable housing.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 Staff resource is required to fulfil this regulatory requirement. This is funded, in part, by the administration costs permitted from the CIL receipts.

9. HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The use of CIL receipts and S106 planning obligations to deliver infrastructure to support growth within the District will, in many instances, have a positive impact on health and wellbeing.

10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

- 10.1 The approval of the Infrastructure Funding Statement, subject to final amendments under delegated authority, enables the Council as a CIL Charging Authority to meet its statutory duty to publish an annual IFS by the 31st December.
- 10.2 The statement provides clear and transparent reporting of the CIL and S106 receipts and allocations and the infrastructure being delivered to support the needs of growth.

11. LIST OF APPENDICES INCLUDED

Appendix 1 – Huntingdonshire Infrastructure Funding Statement 2020/21

12. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Section 216 of Planning Act 2008

Huntingdonshire Infrastructure Delivery Plan

<http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/2694/infrastructure-deliveryplan.pdf>

Huntingdonshire Infrastructure Delivery Plan – Infrastructure Schedule

<http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/2693/infrastructure-schedule.pdf>

Huntingdonshire Infrastructure Delivery Plan Addendum

<http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/2861/infrastructure-deliveryplan-addendum.pdf>

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