

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY SPEND ALLOCATION

5. COMMENTS OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

- 5.2 The Panel discussed the Community Infrastructure Levy Spend Allocation Report at its meeting on 5th April 2023.
- 5.3 Councillor Harvey enquired about the approval for the police application which supports three counties, when the application for Huntingdon Pavilion had been refused. The Panel heard that the purpose of CIL is to support infrastructure and make improvements to the local area and policing is considered to be part of 'community'. It was felt that the application by the police met the criteria whereas the pavilion application did not for the reasons mentioned in the report. Following a request from Councillor Gleadow as to whether the lack of funding from Sports England had played a part, the Panel heard that the business case of the application was considered alongside expert advice from the Council's leisure team. It was noted that CIL funding is limited and the need to be assured that the project can be fully delivered is vital.
- 5.4 Following an enquiry by Councillor Pickering, the Panel heard that CIL funding is subject to an ongoing national government consultation until June. The current process has been paused to allow for a full review of CIL governance to ensure it enables growth and provides value for money. While this work is ongoing it will also have regard to emerging guidance associated with the proposed Infrastructure Levy.
- 5.5 Councillor Cawley observed that the report showed a sensible approach to applications by officers with clear reasoning for their decisions.
- 5.6 Whereupon the Panel resolved that their comments be passed to Cabinet for consideration with making a decision upon the recommendations contained within the report. It is noted that Councillors Blackwell and Harvey abstained from this resolution.