

This Report will be made public on 20 November 2018

Report Number **A/18/15**

**To:** Council  
**Date:** 28 November 2018  
**Status:** Non - executive Decision  
**Responsible officer:** Andy Jarrett, Chief Strategic Development Officer  
**Cabinet Member:** Councillor David Monk, Leader of the Council,  
Councillor Malcolm Dearden, Finance  
Councillor Dick Pascoe, Property Management and Environmental Health.

**SUBJECT: OTTERPOOL PARK GARDEN TOWN – ADDITIONAL BORROWING**

**SUMMARY:** This report considers the recommendation of the cabinet that borrowing for ten million pounds be approved in order that the council can secure further parcels of land within the site of the proposed Otterpool Park Garden Town and to enable to get the scheme to the point where development can start.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Council is asked to consider the recommendations in order to consider whether to authorise additional borrowing to enable acquisitions to proceed and to progress the scheme to the point where development can start.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. To receive and note report A/18/15
2. To consider the recommendation of cabinet that the council borrows an additional £10 million to enable the council to purchase land for the Otterpool Garden Town project and to progress the scheme to the point where development can commence.

## **1. BACKGROUND**

1.1 On 14 November 2018 cabinet considered report C/18/44 attached at appendix 1.

1.2 Cabinet resolved:-

1. *To receive and note report C/18/44*
2. *To recommend to full council that it borrows an additional £10 million to enable the council to purchase land for the Otterpool Garden Town project and to progress the scheme to the point where development can commence.*
3. *Subject to the council approving the additional borrowing recommended above to authorise the Corporate Director - Place and Commercial in consultation with the Leader of the Council, the Cabinet member for Finance and the Cabinet Member for Property Management & Environmental Health to acquire property in the Otterpool Park Garden Town area.*

1.2.1 Council now needs to consider the recommendation of cabinet to borrow the additional ten million pounds. This is outside the agreed budget for the current financial year and so the proposal must be considered by council.

## **2. REASONS FOR THE CABINET'S RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 Report C.18/44 sets out the reasons why the cabinet recommended additional borrowing, in brief the money will be used to fund the purchase of further areas of land for the development of Otterpool Park Garden Town and to get the scheme to the point where development can commence.

2.2 The financial implications, including the risks are also set out in the report. There have been no changes since the consideration by the cabinet of the report.

2.3 Council is therefore requested to consider the recommendation.

## **3. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES**

3.1 The risks are set out in detail in report C/18/44

## **4. LEGAL/FINANCIAL AND OTHER CONTROLS/POLICY MATTERS**

### **4.1 Legal Officer's Comments (NE)**

There are no legal implications arising directly from this report but legal will continue to seek external legal advice on any complex issues as and when the need arises.

### **4.2 Finance Officer's Comments (LW)**

The financial implications arising from the proposed additional capital investment of £10m are addressed in the report (C/18/44) to Cabinet from 14 November 2018, included at appendix 1.

#### **4.3 Diversities and Equalities Implications**

No diversities and equalities implications.

### **5. CONTACT OFFICERS AND BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Councillors with any questions arising out of this report should contact the following officer prior to the meeting

Andy Jarrett, Chief Strategic Development Officer.

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### **APPENDIX**

Appendix 1 – report C/18/44 – Cabinet 14 November 2018

The following background documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report:

None