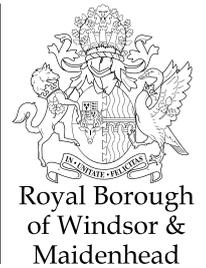


Subject:	Scrutiny Task and Finish Group - Infrastructure
Reason for briefing note:	To set out options for the Task and Finish Group to focus their review on
Responsible officer(s):	Chris Joyce – Infrastructure and CIL Manager
Senior leader sponsor:	Russell O’Keefe – Executive Director
Date:	

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SUMMARY

1. On the 28 June 2018 the Council’s Cabinet agreed the process and principles for prioritising the funding of Infrastructure through the Community Infrastructure Levy. This was intended to ensure that the infrastructure required to support the Borough Local Plan are delivered as set out in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan.
2. The Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Panel at their meeting on the 18th June 2019 discussed setting up a Task and Finish Group focused on Infrastructure. This briefing note sets out options for the focus of a Task and Finish Group Review.

1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 On 1 September 2016, the Council introduced a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). The purpose of this was to largely replace the old system of developer contributions through s106 agreements. The intention of CIL is to provide a simpler and more transparent approach to developer contributions that would enable the delivery of strategic infrastructure.
- 1.2 On 28 June 2018, the Council’s cabinet approved the principles of the process and governance arrangement for determine the use of CIL to determine how CIL funding would be used to support infrastructure delivery.
- 1.3 This recommended that priority should be given to projects identified within the Council’s Infrastructure Delivery Plan, delivery of wider corporate objectives and to unlock funding from other sources. It also made provision to create an Infrastructure Delivery Group, made up of officers and members to make recommendations on the use of CIL funding for infrastructure.
- 1.4 The Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Panel at their meeting on the 18th June 2019 discussed setting up a Task and Finish Group focused on infrastructure. This briefing note sets out options for the focus of a Task and Finish Group Review.

2 KEY IMPLICATIONS

- 2.1 The benefits of having a process that supports good infrastructure investment decisions include:
 - Better alignment of investment with corporate and strategic objectives.
 - Increased value for money and better outcomes for residents.
 - Opportunities for more effective working across the council and a chance to share best practice.
- 2.2 If the process does not support the delivery of the requirements set out in the Borough Local Plan, this could significantly impact the ability to deliver a working transport system, sufficient school place, or the required healthcare and community facilities.

3 DETAILS

- 3.1 The purpose of the task and finish group would be to assess how the process of allocation of CIL funding could support delivery of the Borough Local Plan. In particular:
- To review the approach to prioritising CIL spending.
 - To consider how the council can adopt a more cross-functional approach.
 - To identify how the council can work more effectively with other stakeholders.
- 3.2 The task and finish group could alternatively consider:
- How funding could be delivered to support infrastructure in Maidenhead given the current zero CIL rate.
 - How the Council could work more effectively with Parishes to define and deliver infrastructure priorities.

4 RISKS

- 4.1 The main risk to such a review is that the Task and Finish Group does not have the time and capacity to really develop an understanding of the subject matter and is not able to produce evidence based recommendations that inform policy making and improvement. This risk is mitigated by having a focused review on a topic that is not too wide supported by good advice.

5 NEXT STEPS

- 5.1 The Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Panel to determine which topic they would wish the Task and Finish Group to focus on.

**Task and Finish Group Scoping document- Infrastructure and Community
Infrastructure Levy**

Infrastructure Overview & Scrutiny Panel

July 2019

The process for establishing a task and finish group as follows:

1. The relevant Overview & Scrutiny Panel identifies a potential topic or topics for the relevant Task and Finish group
2. The relevant Scrutiny Panel Chairman and Lead Officers to complete the scoping document.
3. The relevant Overview & Scrutiny Panel will review the scoping document
4. The relevant Overview & Scrutiny Panel agrees overall terms of Reference Task and Finish group

TASK & FINISH GROUP MEMBERSHIP

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT 3 ARE APPOINTED FOR THE DURATION OF THE TASK AND FINISH GROUP. MEMBERS SHOULD BE AWARE THAT MEMBERSHIP SHOULD BE POLITICALLY BALANCED.

Purpose of proposed task and finish group (topics and tasks)

- a) To consider the approaches when prioritising CIL spending
- b) To consider how the Council can adopt a more cross functional approach
- c) To identify how the Council can work more effectively with stake holders
- d) What current arrangements are in place to support infrastructure in Maidenhead with the current zero CIL rate.
- e) To consider working relationships with Parishes to define and deliver on infrastructure priorities

What outcomes and recommendations are the dedicated task and finish group aiming to achieve?

- Better alignment of investment with corporate and strategic objectives
- Increased value for money and better outcomes for residents
- Opportunities for more effective working across the council
- Ways to share best practice

Equalities Impact Assessment- To be carried out once scope has been defined and if deemed necessary.

Recording of meetings- Action notes would be produced as opposed to minutes for each Task and Finish Group meeting.

Proposed Work Plan & Schedule of Meetings

	Meeting Dates	Task/ considered items	Who is to be invited & interviewed (if applicable)
1			
2			
3			
4		Conclusion/ wash up session before returning to O&S for approval and agreement of final recommendations	

Proposed and Confirmed dates to Report to Panel and Cabinet / Council (if required):

- For all recommendations to be considered and agreed by the O&S Panel (new meeting to be scheduled if agreed) in November for consideration and agreement at the Cabinet meeting arrange for 19th December.