

Date: Thursday 14 March 2024 at 4.30 pm

Venue: Jim Cooke Conference Suite, Stockton Central Library, The Square,
Stockton-on-Tees, TS18 1TU

Cllr Robert Cook (Leader)

Cllr Nigel Cooke
Cllr Lisa Evans
Cllr Clare Gamble
Cllr Mrs Ann McCoy
Cllr Steve Nelson
Cllr Norma Stephenson OBE

AGENDA

- | | | |
|----------|---|-----------------|
| 1 | Evacuation Procedure | (Pages 7 - 8) |
| 2 | Apologies for Absence | |
| 3 | Declarations of Interest | |
| 4 | Minutes | (Pages 9 - 20) |
| 5 | Procurement Plan / Higher Value Contracts & Social Value Update Report | (Pages 21 - 42) |
| 6 | Stockton-on-Tees Agreed Syllabus for Primary Religious Education (RE) | (Pages 43 - 46) |
| 7 | Durham Lane Industrial Estate Redevelopment | (Pages 47 - 50) |
| 8 | Exclusion of the Public | |
| 9 | Durham Lane Appendix A Exempt | (Pages 51 - 52) |

Members of the Public - Rights to Attend Meeting

With the exception of any item identified above as containing exempt or confidential information under the Local Government Act 1972 Section 100A(4), members of the public are entitled to attend this meeting and/or have access to the agenda papers.

Persons wishing to obtain any further information on this meeting, including the opportunities available for any member of the public to speak at the meeting; or for details of access to the meeting for disabled people, please

Contact: Democratic Services Officer, Peter Bell on email peter.bell@stockton.gov.uk

KEY - Declarable interests are:-

- Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI's)
- Other Registerable Interests (ORI's)
- Non Registerable Interests (NRI's)

Members – Declaration of Interest Guidance



Table 1 - Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Subject	Description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain
Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the council) made to the councillor during the previous 12-month period for expenses incurred by him/her in carrying out his/her duties as a councillor, or towards his/her election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	Any contract made between the councillor or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/civil partners (or a firm in which such person is a partner, or an incorporated body of which such person is a director* or a body that such person has a beneficial interest in the securities of*) and the council — (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
Land and property	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the council. 'Land' excludes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not give the councillor or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/ civil partners (alone or jointly with another) a right to occupy or to receive income.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the council for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to the councillor's knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the council; and (b) the tenant is a body that the councillor, or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/ civil partners is a partner of or a director* of or has a beneficial interest in the securities* of.
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities* of a body where— (a) that body (to the councillor's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the council; and (b) either— (i) the total nominal value of the securities* exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the councillor, or his/ her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/civil partners have a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

* 'director' includes a member of the committee of management of an industrial and provident society.

* 'securities' means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

Table 2 – Other Registerable Interest

You must register as an Other Registrable Interest:

- a) any unpaid directorships
- b) any body of which you are a member or are in a position of general control or management and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority
- c) any body
 - (i) exercising functions of a public nature
 - (ii) directed to charitable purposes or
 - (iii) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management

This page is intentionally left blank

Jim Cooke Conference Suite, Stockton Central Library **Evacuation Procedure & Housekeeping**

If the fire or bomb alarm should sound please exit by the nearest emergency exit. The Fire alarm is a continuous ring and the Bomb alarm is the same as the fire alarm however it is an intermittent ring.

If the Fire Alarm rings exit through the nearest available emergency exit and form up in Municipal Buildings Car Park.

The assembly point for everyone if the Bomb alarm is sounded is the car park at the rear of Splash on Church Road.

The emergency exits are located via the doors between the 2 projector screens. The key coded emergency exit door will automatically disengage when the alarm sounds.

The Toilets are located on the Ground floor corridor of Municipal Buildings next to the emergency exit. Both the ladies and gents toilets are located on the right hand side.

Microphones

During the meeting, members of the Committee, and officers in attendance, will have access to a microphone. Please use the microphones, when directed to speak by the Chair, to ensure you are heard by the Committee.

This page is intentionally left blank

CABINET

A meeting of Cabinet was held on Monday 12 February 2024.

Present: Cllr Robert Cook (Leader), Cllr Nigel Cooke (Cabinet Member), Cllr Lisa Evans (Cabinet Member), Cllr Clare Gamble (Cabinet Member), Cllr Mrs Ann McCoy (Cabinet Member), Cllr Steve Nelson (Cabinet Member) and Cllr Norma Stephenson OBE (Cabinet Member).

Officers: Ged Morton (CS), Julie Butcher, Geraldine Brown, Jonathan Nertney, Peter Bell, Marc Cole (R&IG), Clare Harper, Elaine Redding, Marc Stephenson and Reuben Kench (CS,E&C).

Also in attendance: Cllr Pauline Beall, Cllr Marc Besford and Cllr Carol Clark

Apologies: , .

CAB/67/23 Evacuation Procedure

The Evacuation Procedure was noted.

CAB/68/23 Declarations of Interest

The meeting was advised that each Cabinet Member had been granted a dispensation for a 4-year period in respect of all decisions relating to the setting of the Council Tax and precepts and Members Allowances and did not need to individually declare those interests.

CAB/69/23 Medium Term Financial Plan Update and Strategy

Consideration was given to the final report in setting the Council's 2024/25 Budget and Council Tax and outlining the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) position to 2027. The report also included an update on the financial performance for 2023/24.

The report outlined the budget for 2024/25 and indicative MTFP for future years. The provisional finance settlement was received on 19 December 2023 and this indicated the funding for 2024/25, with the final allocations to be confirmed in February. In order to prepare a Medium Term Financial Plan, assumptions had been made in respect of future years however this funding was extremely uncertain and subject to future Government spending reviews.

The Report outlined a budget pressure rising to £9m by 2026/27 and the transformation programme which had previously been reported to Cabinet would be key to addressing this gap.

The Powering Our Future Programme, including a planned approach to Transformation (reported to Cabinet in January 2024) would be crucial in delivering savings as well as service improvements to resolve the gap. It ensured that the Council had a clear plan to address the financial challenges faced, at the same time as improving outcomes for communities. Although the Council could no longer afford to meet the needs of the Borough's residents in the way the Council had in the past,

the Council was confident it could work with partners and communities to put in place new and innovative approaches that would not only save money, but also reshape what the Council did, in the best interests of the Borough's residents.

The MTFP report for 2024/25 to 2026/27 was attached to the report.

The report also provided an update on the financial position for 2023/24. As reported previously, inflationary pressures were having a significant impact upon the financial position in 2023/24. The Council continued to see increased costs in maintaining vital services.

The Report outlined the Council Tax proposals and Budget for 2024/25 and the indicative MTFP for the next two years.

It provided an update on the position from that reported to Cabinet and Council in February 2023 and in particular reflected implications arising from the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2024/25.

The Provisional Financial Settlement had provided funding allocations for 2024/25 only. The period from 2025/26 and beyond was very uncertain, with no information announced on this period, therefore the projections for this period needed to be treated with some caution.

The Council had a long history of providing value for money and delivering strong financial management. This had again been reinforced by the External Auditor in the Independent Auditors Annual Report on the 2021/22 accounts which was issued in December 2023. The auditors had issued an unqualified audit opinion on the 2021/22 financial statements and did not identify any significant weaknesses or recommendations in relation to value for money arrangements.

Section 25 of the Local Government Finance Act 2003 required that when a local authority was agreeing its annual budget and setting its Council Tax, the Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) must report to it on the following matters:

- The robustness of the estimates made for the purposes of the Council Tax requirement calculations
- The adequacy of the proposed financial reserves

The Council was required to have due regard to this report when making decisions on the budget.

RECOMMENDED to Council:-

1. That in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003, Members note that the Section 151 Officer confirms that the following recommendations:
 - a) represent a robust budget which has been prepared in line with best practice;
 - b) provide adequate working balances;
 - c) that the controlled reserves and provisions are adequate for their purpose.

General Fund Budget

2. A 2024/25 Council Tax requirement for Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council of £115,873,657 be approved.
3. A 2024/25 Council Tax requirement for Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council inclusive of Parish Precepts £116,878,570 be approved.
4. The 2024/25 budget and indicative 2024/27 MTFP as outlined in paragraphs 25 – 56 of the report, the level of General Fund Balances and the release of reserves to balance the 2023/24 in year financial position as set out in paragraphs 19-24 of the report be approved.

Taxation

SBC

5. The Council Tax for Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council prior to Parish, Fire and Police Precepts be increased by 4.95%, which includes the Government Levy of 2% in respect of Social Care i.e. to £1,942.81 at Band D (£1,295.21 at Band A) be approved.

Fire, Police & Parish

6. The Police & Crime Commissioner is proposing a precept of £18,115,156 which equates to a Council Tax of £303.73 at Band D (£202.49 at Band A) be noted.
7. The Fire Authority is proposing a precept of xx which equates to a Council Tax of £xx at Band D (£xx at Band A) be noted.

8. The Parish precepts as set out in paragraph 80 of the budget report be noted.

Capital

9. The Capital Programme attached at Appendix A & B be approved.

Organisational and HR

10. The Pay Policy Statement including the pay and grading structure at Appendix C and C(1) be approved.

Members Allowances

11. Members allowances be frozen for 2024/25. This will mean that these allowances have been frozen since 2013/14.

Council Tax - Statutory Requirements

12. The statutory requirements for Council Tax as shown in Appendix D be approved
13. The Council must set its Local Council Tax Reduction scheme annually by 11 March of the preceding financial year. Cabinet therefore recommends to Council that the current Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme is retained for the financial year 2024/25 incorporating the updates for the prescribed requirements in regulations and

to reflect updated income figures in the table at Schedule 1. The scheme is available here www.stockton.gov.uk/CTR.

14. That the Director of Finance, Transformation and Performance and Deputy Chief Executive be given delegated authority, in consultation with the Leader, to make further adjustments to the income table and/or disregard additional funds should the government issue revised publications with regards to these matters after 21st February to ensure that Government's intentions for additional support is maintained.

15. That the definition of long-term empty properties be amended to include properties empty and unfurnished for a period of one year or more and that the following additional Council Tax premiums be applied from 1 April 2024 onwards:

- 100% council tax premium for properties empty and substantially unfurnished for a period of between 1 and up to 5 years;
- 200% council tax premium for properties empty and substantially unfurnished for a period of between 5 and up to 10 years; and
- 300% council tax premium for properties empty and substantially unfurnished for a period of 10 years or more.

16. That notice be given that a 100% council tax premium is applied to properties substantially furnished with no permanent resident with effect from 1 April 2025.

Capital Strategy

17. The Capital Strategy as set out at Appendix E to the report, including the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Policy, the MRP Strategy and the Capital Programme Management Arrangements be approved.

Treasury Management/Prudential Code

18. The Treasury Management Strategy as set out in Appendix F to the report be approved.

Investment Strategy

19. The Investment Strategy as set out at Appendix G to the report be approved.

Cabinet RESOLVED that:-

20. The Officer Appointments to outside bodies and governing bodies at Appendix C(1) be approved and noted.

CABINET

A meeting of Cabinet was held on Thursday 15 February 2024.

Present: Cllr Robert Cook (Leader), Cllr Nigel Cooke (Cabinet Member), Cllr Lisa Evans (Cabinet Member), Cllr Clare Gamble (Cabinet Member), Cllr Mrs Ann McCoy (Cabinet Member), Cllr Steve Nelson (Cabinet Member) and Cllr Norma Stephenson OBE (Cabinet Member).

Officers: Peter Bell, Julie Butcher, Tara Connor, Rachel Harrison, Eddie Huntington, Reuben Kench, Neil Mitchell, Ged Morton, Jonathan Nertney and Carolyn Nice.

Also in attendance: Cllr Richard Eglington, Cllr Niall Innes and Cllr Tony Riordan

Apologies:

CAB/70/23 Evacuation Procedure

The Evacuation Procedure was noted.

CAB/71/23 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

CAB/72/23 Minutes

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2024.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2024 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

CAB/73/23 Scrutiny Review of Domestic Waste Collections, Kerbside Recycling and Green Waste

Consideration was given to a report that presented the outcomes of the Place Select Committee's review of Domestic Waste Collections, Kerbside Recycling and Green Waste.

The report outlined the outcomes of the Scrutiny Review of Domestic Waste Collections, Kerbside Recycling and Green Waste. In conducting the review, the Select Committee were aware that:

- Levels of recycling in the Borough are amongst the lowest in the country
- The cost of the weekly collection of general waste is increasing rapidly
- Food waste collection is likely to be a requirement in the coming years and a proactive approach could contribute to the Council's carbon reduction targets
- The collection of garden waste/green waste also benefited some communities more than others

Overall, the Council's approach to waste reduction could be improved to reduce the financial and carbon cost. Therefore, this review aimed to consider the potential public reaction but also give appropriate consideration to the importance of the environment, the costs of service delivery, and the direction of national policy over food waste.

The Committee had taken evidence from Council Officers and a representative from the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP). The Committee also visited the J&B Recycling plant, Hartlepool as part of this review.

Following approval by Cabinet, an action plan would be submitted to the Select Committee for their endorsement.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The Council adopt a fortnightly refuse collection service.
2. Scenario 3 (fortnightly refuse collection with a weekly 'multi-stream collection of dry recycling and food waste) in the Place Select Committee report is adopted as the Council's new waste and recycling collection service. Consideration is also given to timescales around national mandated services and local waste disposal arrangements.
3. The green waste collection service be reviewed in line with updated government guidance.
4. A comprehensive communications and community engagement plan on proposed changes be implemented to ensure residents are sufficiently informed prior to the enactment of any changes, and to help embed the changes, to the waste and recycling service.

CAB/74/23 Reference from the Council - Director of Regeneration and Inclusive Growth

Consideration was given to a report that addressed the motion submitted by Councillor Niall Innes at the Council meeting on 22 November 2023, concerning the proposed introduction of a new 'Director of Regeneration and Inclusive Growth' role. In line with Council Procedure Rule 3.42, the motion had been automatically referred to the Cabinet for further consideration.

Councillor Innes's motion challenged the introduction of the 'Director of Regeneration and Inclusive Growth' position, citing a lack of full Council consultation and questioning the allocation of resources.

The motion proposed reallocating the intended salary for this role towards employing civic enforcement officers/street wardens and establishing a 'Community Safety Hub' in Ingleby Barwick.

The motion submitted to the Council Reads:

"The Cabinet and Senior Leadership of this Council have recently sought to introduce a new 'Director of Regeneration and Inclusive Growth' without consulting the full Council.

Despite the exercise undertaken last year in which this council provided 'Golden Goodbyes' and reduced Director positions while increasing salaries, it has now been decided that a further Management position is required at an estimated cost of over £120,000 per year to the Taxpayers of Stockton.

Rather than continue to spend residents' money on yet another Director, this motion urges the Cabinet to think again and to ensure that the money is used for public good and suggest that it be used to employ more enforcement officers/street wardens and create a 'Community Safety Hub' in Ingleby Barwick.

The salary set aside for this single director could be used to recruit as many as three civic enforcement officers / street wardens and space could be set aside in property already owned by this authority to host a community security hub, providing a base from which enforcement officers and the police could operate.

This motion seeks to ensure that resident's money is being used on initiatives that deliver for them, and keep our communities safe, not create more bureaucracy and more waste!"

Cabinet had made a decision to provide funding for a new chief officer post, the 'Director of Regeneration and Inclusive Growth'. This decision was executive in nature and had been made within the Cabinet's remit.

The appointment of a chief officer, was a non-executive decision, it fell under the Council's jurisdiction and had been delegated to an appointments panel. The implementation of the Cabinet's funding decision necessitates a non-executive action by the Council.

The motion submitted to the Council raised concerns about the new post, urging the Cabinet to reconsider its funding decision. This motion was advisory, the full Council did not have the authority to require the Cabinet to reconsider its decision.

The Cabinet maintained the discretion to either note the motion or reconsider or uphold its decision. While the motion from the Council may be considered, it did not compel the Cabinet to alter its decision.

The rationale for the original decision to introduce the new role was detailed in the Cabinet report titled "Powering our Future - Senior Management Capacity Review" (CAB/16/23).

The arguments for revisiting the decision were set out in the motion.

Councillor Niall Innes was in attendance at the meeting and was given the opportunity to make representation.

Cabinet noted the motion and considered representations. Cabinet agreed that it would not revisit the initial decision.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The motion be noted.

2. The initial decision made by Cabinet will not be revisited.

CAB/75/23 Environmental Sustainability & Carbon Reduction Strategy (ES&CRS) 2022-32 Monitoring Report

Consideration was given to a report on the Environmental Sustainability and Carbon Reduction Strategy (ES&CRS).

Climate change poses a real threat to society and biodiversity. There were already increasing impacts of flooding, high winds, heat waves and species collapse. Efforts to limit climate change by reducing carbon emissions needed to be widespread, urgent and sustained.

The Councils Environmental Sustainability and Carbon Reduction Strategy (ES&CRS), adopted in 2023, set out the direction the Council needed to take and described the actions that would contribute to the achievement of net zero. The report outlined progress since the adoption of the strategy, including reductions in energy consumption and efforts to support biodiversity.

The Council had made significant progress within the resources available, achieving a steady decline in carbon emissions over a longer period. However, substantial additional investment in the coming years, beyond that which was identified, would be required if the Council was to achieve the stated ambition of being a Net Zero authority by 2032

Continued concentration on measures to improve our energy efficiency and reduce emissions from our assets and fleet, are an urgent priority, alongside counterbalancing natural solutions such as tree planting and solar energy generation.

HM Government had entered binding international arrangements for greenhouse gas emissions reduction and set out comprehensive requirements within the Environment Act. The secondary legislation that would define targets for relevant local and regional agencies, had been delayed in a number of key areas. However, the Council would need, at some point, to show substantial further progress on CO₂, waste, water and air quality, and biodiversity, beyond that which is achievable within current budgets.

The Tees Valley Combined Authority (TVCA) Net Zero Strategy incorporated priorities for homes & communities, public organisations, and nature & resources, alongside decarbonisation of industry and transport. The TV Strategy was designed to complement the strategies of the partner Authorities and the Council goals were broadly aligned. The TVCA strategy highlighted opportunities for economic growth associated with clean energy and 'green' technologies, however it also acknowledged the importance of maximising the impact of national funding and Government Policies.

Cabinet were asked to consider making representations to the Government for more resources toward the major investment required to deliver our environmental sustainability objectives.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The positive progress on the Environmental Sustainability targets, as set out in this report and the appendices be noted.

2. Cabinet seek to influence Government to provide substantial additional resources to enable further decarbonisation, environmental protection and community resilience.

3. The identification of additional resources, within future Medium Term Financial Plans, to support the next phase of carbon reduction and environmental sustainability measures be supported.

CAB/76/23 Annual Report of the Independent Safety Advisory Group (ISAG)

Consideration was given to a report on the Annual Report of the Independent Safety Advisory Group (ISAG).

The ISAG brought together a range of professionals to scrutinise and advise upon event safety processes and systems for outdoor events. The ISAG looks at plans for a wide range of events and festivals in Stockton-on-Tees, focusing on events of a significant scale or complexity. All events of scale on Stockton Council land were subject to review by the ISAG, and where requested ISAG would review event safety plans which were hosted on private land.

The ISAG did not take decisions on whether or not an event should go ahead but provided specialist advice and recommendations to landowners, including the Council to enable them to make informed decisions to allow an event or require changes to an event plan. The ISAG provided practical advice and guidance to event organisers and aims to drive up the quality of event plans/safety planning.

The ISAG's independent Chair produced an annual report for information, to highlight significant findings and make recommendations for areas of further work.

CAB/77/23 School Performance 2022 – 2023 For Vulnerable Pupils

Consideration was given to a report on School Performance for Vulnerable Pupils 2022-2023.

The report presented a summary analysis of vulnerable pupil performance in the academic year 2022 – 2023 for all key stages and all providers in the Borough. It was informed by the latest available data, some of which remained unvalidated and compared to national averages where they exist. It included performance outcomes for:

1. Pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium Funding;
2. Performance by gender;
3. Black and Minority Ethnic children;
4. Children and Young People in Our Care ;
5. Children with Special Needs;
6. Attendance and exclusion figures for Stockton.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The standards and achievement across the Borough for vulnerable groups of children be noted.

2. The strong overall performance of Stockton schools at both primary and secondary phases be noted.

3. Work be undertaken to further reduce educational attainment gap.

CAB/78/23 Procedure for Admission of Pupils to Primary and Secondary Schools in September 2025

Consideration was given to a report that outlined the admission arrangements the Local Authority (LA) was proposing, for entry into both primary (Reception) and secondary (Year 7) schools in September 2025. To comply with legislation for admission in September 2025, the report included the co-ordinated timetable, the Published Admission Number (PAN) for all Primary and Secondary Schools for that year and the LA's proposed Admission Policy (Oversubscription Policy) for Community maintained and Voluntary Controlled (VC) schools for entry in September 2025.

An attached to the report provided further detail of the proposed Co-ordinated Admission arrangements timetable – 2025/26.

An attachment to the report provided the proposed PANs for September 2025 in Community, VA, Academies and Free Schools and highlighted those schools to be considered for expansion and remodelling.

An attachment to the report provided further detail on the proposed LA's Admission Policy for September 2025 for Community and Voluntary Controlled schools only, that would give priority to applications for admission to a school if that school is oversubscribed.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The proposed Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme for Primary, Secondary, Voluntary Aided (VA) schools, Academies and Free School (points 5-6 and Appendix 1 of the report) be approved.
2. The proposed PANs for Primary and Secondary schools for September 2025 (points 7-10 and Appendix 2 of the report) be approved.
3. The proposed Admission Policy for September 2025 (point 11-14 and Appendix 3 of the report) be approved.

CAB/79/23 Stockton-on-Tees SACRE Constitution

Consideration was given to a report that detailed changes to the constitution of the Stockton-on-Tees SACRE.

The current constitution did not reflect the local community and the proposed removals had historically remained vacant. The introduction of 'Other World Views' allows for all religions (other than those named within Group A) and for the ever-changing local landscape.

SACRE approved the proposed changes at their meeting held on Thursday 16 November 2023.

RESOLVED that:-

To change the SACRE constitution as below:

1. To introduce the category of 'Other World Views' under Group A (2 positions).
2. To remove 'Society of Friends' and Islamic Society' from Group A.

This page is intentionally left blank

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

14 March 2024

REPORT OF CORPORATE MANAGEMENT TEAM

CABINET / KEY DECISION

Leader of the Council - Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Bob Cook

PROCUREMENT PLAN / HIGHER VALUE CONTRACTS AND SOCIAL VALUE UPDATE

SUMMARY

This report seeks approval from Cabinet for the award of planned higher value contracts where the value exceeds the limit on officer delegated authority and which are either funded within the approved MTFP/ Capital Programme or are subject to a bid for external funding.

The report also includes an update on progress against the Social Value Policy approved by Cabinet last year.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS/DECISIONS

To enable Cabinet to exercise its strategic oversight of higher value planned procurement projects, in accordance with the constitution.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Cabinet

1. approves the contracts listed in Annex 1;
2. gives authority to the relevant Director or Assistant Director to make the specific contract award decision and any subsequent contract variation, annual inflationary uplifts (where allowed in the contract terms and conditions) and extension decision in accordance with the delegations listed in Annex 1;
3. notes progress on social value.

DETAIL

1. The constitution defines a range of decisions that require a specific Cabinet approval, the financial threshold for which is set at a level of £500k or more. Annex 1 lists contracts that exceeds the financial threshold and have not otherwise been delegated to officers.
2. Cabinet approved a new Social Value Policy in March 2023 and Annex 2 provides an update of the financial proxy value of social value delivered during 2023. Annex 3 provides some examples of social value achieved during 2023/24.
3. Cabinet should note the inevitable variation in social value delivered which is caused by some large-scale construction contracts such as the demolition of the Castlegate and the

Victoria Development and can be affected by the contracting cycle, where there is often a front loading of social value at the start of a contract. This variation is normal and does not indicate poor performance.

4. The approach to Social Value has developed further during 2023/24 and includes:
 - a. Updating the financial proxy values in the Themes, Outcomes and Measures (TOMs) model. See Annex 4.
 - b. Developed a new approach to increase Social Value through ICT contracts. This will be implemented from April 2024.
 - c. Included some additional 'environmental' TOMs measures linked to the Environmental Sustainability and Carbon Reduction Strategy to encourage uptake in this area.
 - d. Further development of the TOMs measures relating to donating to the VCSE sector which now means suppliers, providers and contractors can donate time, equipment or money to the sector through the Catalyst website. These are linked to the 'asks' from individual Catalyst member organisations.
 - e. Introduced a Social Value calculator for use in direct awards under a framework agreement.
 - f. Working regionally to improve the delivery of social value through our NEPO contracts.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5. The report includes higher value contracts expected to be awarded in the 2024/25 financial year. The expenditure committed as a result of these tenders/ quotes is planned and remains within the Council's approved budget/MTFP or is subject to a bid for external funding which will ensure that at the point of contract award funds are available within the MTFP.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6. Notwithstanding Cabinet approval it remains the responsibility of officers to ensure that the correct processes within Contract Procedure Rules have been followed and that where applicable the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 as amended by The Public Procurement (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020 are complied with.
7. Where the value of goods, services or works exceeds the threshold at which the procurement process must comply with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 either a tender exercise or the use of a suitable framework agreement will comply with the Regulations.

RISK ASSESSMENT

8. There are several risks relating to procurement. Firstly, the Council spends a considerable amount of public money on goods, services and works. Having effective Contract Procedure Rules and ensuring compliance with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 can help mitigate the risk of accusations of corruption and help demonstrate value for money and transparency. Secondly, effective tender/ quote processes and contract management also reduce the risk of poor supplier selection and subsequent performance which can impact service delivery.

WARDS AFFECTED AND CONSULTATION WITH WARD/COUNCILLORS

None specifically.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Report to Cabinet March 2023 – Social Value Policy.

Name of Contact Officer: Martin Skipsey

Post Title: Assistant Director Procurement and Governance

Telephone No. 01642 5356364

Email Address: martin.skipsey@stockton.gov.uk

Contract Title: Access Ramps and Steps	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council will carry out a tender process to appoint a suitable provider to provide pre-fabricated Steel access ramps, steps and handrails. These will be installed at eligible residents premises around the Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council area in line with HIA and DFG requirements. 2. The new contract will commence from 01.08.24. 3. The current annual spend is circa £300k. 	
Key Decision: No	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Reuben Kench, Director of Community Services, Environment & Culture	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: Framework Agreement for SBC Minor Works	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stockton on Tees Borough Council will carry out a tender process to appoint a framework of suppliers with whom the Council can purchase services and works for facilities management/ HVE etc 2. The new framework will be in place from 01/04/2025 and will be awarded in the financial year. 3. This framework will be split into up to 20 lots covering building services, Highways and Civil Engineering and DFG. 4. Current annual spend is variable and dependent upon individual project requirements. Spend in 22/23 was £1.045m 	
Key Decision: Yes	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Reuben Kench, Director of Community Services, Environment and Culture	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: NEPO224 Acquisition of Heavy Goods and Specialist Vehicles	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NEPO will carry out a tender process to appoint a framework of suppliers with whom the Council can purchase its heavy goods and specialist vehicles requirements. 2. The new framework will be in place from 04/01/2025 and will be awarded in the financial year. 3. Current annual spend is variable and dependent upon individual project requirements. 	
Key Decision: Yes	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Reuben Kench, Director of Community Services, Environment and Culture	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: NEPO211 Civil Engineering & Infrastructure Works	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NEPO will carry out a tender process to appoint a framework of suppliers with whom the Council can purchase civil engineering & infrastructure works requirements. 2. The new framework will be in place from 01/04/2025 and will be awarded in the financial year. 3. Current annual spend is variable and dependent upon individual project requirements. 	
Key Decision: Yes	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Reuben Kench, Director of Community Services, Environment and Culture and Director Regeneration & Inclusive Growth.	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: NEPO222 Aggregates, Concrete & Mortar	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NEPO will carry out a tender process to appoint a framework of suppliers with whom the Council can purchase aggregates, concrete & mortar requirements. 2. The new framework will be in place from 01/06/2025 and will be awarded in the financial year. 3. Current annual spend is variable and dependent upon individual project requirements however spend in 22/23 was approximately £1.1 million. 	
Key Decision: Yes	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Reuben Kench, Director of Community Services, Environment and Culture	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: Food Waste Recycling Vehicles	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council will call-off from a suitable framework agreement for the supply of a number of food waste recycling vehicles at 12 or 14 tonnes to align with the government plans to introduce food waste recycling in 2026. 2. The number of vehicles has yet to be agreed as it will affect the current fleet of recycling vehicles and the recycling strategy of the Council going forward reducing current recycling vehicles in the fleet. 3. The new contract will be in place 2024 although the contract will be awarded approximately 18 months in advance to allow for manufacture of the vehicles. 4. Each vehicle costs in the region of £179 – £190k to purchase or £36k – £56k per year to hire depending on specification. 	
Key Decision: Yes	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Reuben Kench, Director of Community Services, Environment and Culture	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: Hire of Refuse Collection Vehicles	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council will call-off from a suitable framework agreement for the supply of a number of refuse collection vehicles 2. The number of vehicles has yet to be agreed as it will affect the current fleet of refuse vehicles and the recycling strategy of the Council going forward linked to the frequency of collection. 3. The new vehicles will be required in 2025 although the contract will be awarded approximately 18 months in advance to allow for manufacture of the vehicles. 4. Each vehicle costs in the region of £50k - £65k per year to hire depending on specification. 5. Circa 12 vehicles are required. 	
Key Decision: Yes	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Reuben Kench, Director of Community Services, Environment and Culture	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: Purchase of Waste Receptacles	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The council will call off from a suitable framework agreement to allow the purchase of various items required with the introduction of the requirement for Local Authorities to collect food waste from April 2026. 2. Spend is anticipated to be in the region of £1.1m 3. The items are required for 1st April 2026 however as the demand for these items will be replicated across the whole country a long lead time may be necessary to meet supplier manufacturing timescales. 	
Key Decision: Yes	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Reuben Kench, Director of Community Services, Environment and Culture	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: Finance ERP System	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The council will call off from a suitable framework agreement to allow the Council to purchase a finance ERP system, due to the de-support of the existing hosted system at the end of 2024. The contract will be on behalf of Stockton Borough Council, Darlington Borough Council and Tees Valley Combined Authority. 2. The contract will commence on 01/01/2025 with a 5-year term. 3. The current annual spend is £227,776 (Stockton costs £136,666, Darlington costs £91,110) 	
Key Decision: No	Funding within MTFP:
Delegated Officer: Garry Cummings, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Finance, Transformation & Performance	

Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.

Contract Title: Mobile Voice & Data Services Contract

1. The council will call off from a suitable framework agreement to allow the Council to purchase mobile voice, SMS and data services, these services underpin mobile communication for staff, mobile working using phones, tablets and laptops, flexible working with laptops and connectivity to remote technology devices such as smart equipment.
The call off contract will be on behalf of Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council, Darlington Borough Council and Tees Valley Combined Authority.
2. The new contract will commence 01/04/2025 with a 3-year term.
3. The current annual spend is circa £600k.
4. Projected annual spend is circa £660k (10% uplift). Per authority, approximately DBC £215k, SBC £434k, TVCA 11k.

Key Decision: Yes

Funding within MTFP: Yes

Delegated Officer: Garry Cummings, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Finance, Transformation & Performance

Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.

Contract Title: WAN (Wide Area Network) Services Contract

1. The council will call off from a suitable framework agreement to allow the Council to purchase replacement Wide Area Network (WAN) services in the form of physical data circuits and associated carrier services. The WAN currently provides ICT connectivity to staff and in some cases members of the public to 81 locations across Stockton and Darlington.
2. The call off contract will be on behalf of Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council, Darlington Borough Council.
3. The new contract will commence 01/04/2024 with a 5-year term.
4. The current contract spend (3yrs) is circa £1.22m. £407k. p.a. (SBC – £288k DBC - £119K)
5. Estimated contract spend (5yrs) is circa £1.25m. £250k p.a. (SBC - £177 - DBC £73k)
6. It should be noted that whilst the new contract represents a potential saving over the existing contract there are additional services and hardware yet to be factored into the replacement project.

Key Decision: No

Funding within MTFP: Yes

Delegated Officer: Garry Cummings, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Finance, Transformation & Performance

Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.

Contract Title: Revenues & Benefits Integrated System Contract

1. The council will call off from a suitable framework agreement to allow the Council to re-procure the Revenues & Benefits Integrated System. As part of the procurement this system will also be migrated to cloud storage.
2. The new contract will commence 20.01.2025 with a 5-year term.
3. Projected annual spend is circa £220k.

Key Decision: No

Funding within MTFP: Yes

Delegated Officer: Garry Cummings, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Finance, Transformation & Performance

Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.

Contract Title: Healthwatch Stockton

1. The Council will carry out a tender process to appoint a suitable provider to deliver the Healthwatch Stockton Statutory Service.
2. The contract will commence on 1.10.2024 with a 5-year term.
3. The current annual spend is £130k

Key Decision: No

Funding within MTFP: Yes

Delegated Officer: Carolyn Nice, Director of Adults, Health and Wellbeing

Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.

Contract Title: Liquidlogic Children's System Contract

1. The council will call off from a suitable framework agreement to allow the Council to re-procure the Liquidlogic Children's System licences and maintenance.
2. The new contract will commence 01/04/2025 with a 5-year term.
3. Projected annual spend is circa £110,000.00

Key Decision: No

Funding within MTFP: Yes

Delegated Officer: Garry Cummings, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Finance, Transformation & Performance

Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.

Contract Title: Care at Home

1. The Council will carry out a tender process to appoint suitable providers to a Framework Agreement to allow the Council to purchase Care at Home (domiciliary care) for people living in their own homes.
2. The new contract will commence from 07/10/2024.
3. The current annual spend is circa £15m.

Key Decision: Yes

Funding within MTFP: Yes

Delegated Officer: Carolyn Nice, Director of Adults, Health and Wellbeing

Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.

Contract Title: Housing with Care (Extra Care)	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council will carry out a tender process to appoint suitable providers to a Framework Agreement to allow the Council to purchase Housing with Care (extra care) for people living in extra care facilities. 2. The new contract will commence from 07/10/2024. 3. The current annual spend is circa £2.2m. 	
Key Decision: Yes	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Carolyn Nice, Director of Adults, Health and Wellbeing	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: Specialist Stop Smoking Service	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council will carry out a tender process to appoint suitable providers to deliver a Specialist Stop Smoking Service 2. The new contract will commence from 01/04/2025. 3. The current annual spend is circa £358k. 	
Key Decision: No	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Carolyn Nice, Director of Adults, Health and Wellbeing	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: Residential Care Accommodation for people with a Learning Disability and/or Autism	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council will carry out a tender process to appoint suitable providers to a Framework Agreement to allow the Council to purchase Residential Care. 2. The new contract will commence from 01/04/2025. 3. The current annual spend is circa £5.2m. 	
Key Decision: Yes	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Carolyn Nice, Director of Adults, Health and Wellbeing	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: Pathway Development Centres for KS3 and KS4 School Pupils	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council will carry out a tender process to appoint suitable providers to a Framework Agreement for provision of Pathway Development Centres. 2. The new contract will commence from 01/09/2024. 3. The current annual spend is circa £450k. 	
Key Decision: No	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer Director of Children's Services	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: Children's Home and Community Based Personal Care and Home Support Services	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council will carry out a tender process to appoint a suitable provider to allow the Council to purchase personal care and home support services for children with disabilities. 2. The new contract will commence from 01/04/2025. 3. The current annual spend is circa £275k. 	
Key Decision: No	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Director of Children's Services	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: TVDBC - Supply, install and maintain stair and through floor lifts in residents' premises	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Darlington Council on behalf of the Tees Valley authorities will carry out a tender process to appoint a supplier who can supply, install and maintain stair lifts in residents' premises. 2. The contract will commence on 01/05/2024 with a term of 5 years, plus 5 x 12 month extension options. 3. The current annual spend is circa £669k 	
Key Decision: Yes	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Reuben Kench, Director of Community Services, Environment and Culture.	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: Call off Contract from the NEPO311 for Water Retail Services	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NEPO will carry out a tender process to appoint a supplier with whom the Council can purchase water for council buildings and schools. 2. The new framework will start on 01/04/2025. 3. The current annual spend is circa £480k. 	
Key Decision: No	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Reuben Kench, Director of Community Services, Environment and Culture.	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: NEPO301 Electricity Supply and Demand Framework Agreement	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NEPO will carry out a tender process to appoint a sole supplier who can supply electricity for council buildings and schools. 2. The new framework will start on 01/04/2025. 3. The current annual spend is circa £3,8m. 	
Key Decision: Yes	Funding within MTFP: Yes

Delegated Officer: Reuben Kench, Director of Community Services, Environment and Culture.
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.

Contract Title: NEPO521 Early Payments Solution	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In collaboration with Darlington Borough Council through Xentrall Shared Services the Council's will call off from the above framework to implement an early payment solution. 2. Start date is expected to be no earlier than Q4. 3. Actual contract spend is unknown until preliminary analysis has been undertaken by the supplier, however the potential return to both the Council and the supplier should increase each year as more suppliers sign up to the scheme. 	
Key Decision: No	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Garry Cummings, Director of Finance Transformation & Performance	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: Specialist Family & Carer Support Service for those affected by someone else's Drug and/or Alcohol Misuse	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council will carry out a tender process to award a suitable provider to deliver the 'Specialist Family & Carer Support Service for those affected by someone else's Drug and/or Alcohol Misuse' service across the Borough. 2. The new contract will commence from 01/04/25. 3. The current annual spend is circa £139k. 	
Key Decision: No	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Carolyn Nice, Director of Adults, Health and Wellbeing	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: Tees Integrated Sexual Health Service	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council will carry out a tender process to award a suitable provider to deliver the Integrated Sexual Health Service on behalf of a Teeswide collaboration, led by Stockton. 2. The new contract commencement date will be from 01/08/2025, allowing for a minimum six month mobilisation period and hence will be awarded in 24/25. 3. The new annual budget envelope still to be confirmed but based on current contract is c.£1,120,206 (Stockton's element of the overall Tees wide budget) 	
Key Decision: Yes	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Carolyn Nice, Director of Adults, Health and Wellbeing	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: Framework Agreement for Home to School Transport via PCV	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council will carry out a tender process to award a framework of suitable providers to deliver transportation of children to school. 2. The new contracts will commence from 01/09/2024. 3. The annual budget is TBC but based on current budget would be circa ££770,792. 	
Key Decision: Yes	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Reuben Kench, Director of Community Services, Environment and Culture	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: NEPO203 – Rock Salt	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NEPO will carry out a tender process to appoint a number of suitable suppliers onto a framework agreement to allow the Council to purchase all its Rock Salt Requirements. 2. The new framework will be in place from 1.7.2024 and is to be awarded in April 2024. Contract term is 01/07/2024 – 30/06/2028 with 1 x 24 month optional extension 3. Current annual spend is variable however circa £170k based on the average spend over the last three years. 	
Key Decision: No	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Reuben Kench, Director of Community Services, Environment and Culture	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: NEPO419 Protective Clothing and Health & Safety Products	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NEPO will carry out a tender process to appoint a number of suitable suppliers onto a framework agreement to allow the Council to purchase all its Workwear and PPE requirements. 2. The new framework will be in place from 01/07/2024 and is to be awarded in April 2024. Contract term is 01/7/2024 – 30/06/2026 with 2 x 24 month extensions. 3. Current annual spend is variable however circa £105k based on spend over the last 3 years. 	
Key Decision: No	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Reuben Kench, Director of Community Services, Environment and Culture	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: NEPO513 Legal Services	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NEPO will carry out a tender process to appoint a number of suitable suppliers onto a framework agreement to allow the Council to purchase legal requirements. 2. The new framework will be in place from 01/06/2024 and is to be awarded in May 2024. Contract term is 01/06/2024 – 30/05/2028 with 1 x 24 month extension. This is a 6 year Framework. 3. Current annual spend is variable however circa £106k based on spend over the last 3 years. 	
Key Decision: No	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Ged Morton – Director Corporate Services	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: NEPO508 Temporary Agency Staff	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NEPO will carry out a tender process to appoint a vendor neutral supplier onto a framework agreement to allow the Council to purchase temporary agency workers. 2. The new framework will be in place from 01/05/2025. This will potentially be a 5 year contract. 3. Current annual spend is variable however spend in 22/23 was £2.048 million. 	
Key Decision: Yes	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Ged Morton – Director Corporate Services	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: Footway & Carriageway Pothole Repairs	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council will carry out a quotation process to appoint a suitable provider to provide Footway and Carriageway repairs. 2. This will commence on 15/04/ 2024 for an initial term of 1 year with 1 x 12 month optional extension. It is anticipated that once the new Minor Work Framework is operational in 2025 any further works will be tendered through this route. 3. Estimated spend is £400k per annum however as this is repair driven can fluctuate and is variable spend per year: 	
Key Decision: No	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Reuben Kench, Director of Community Services, Environment and Culture	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

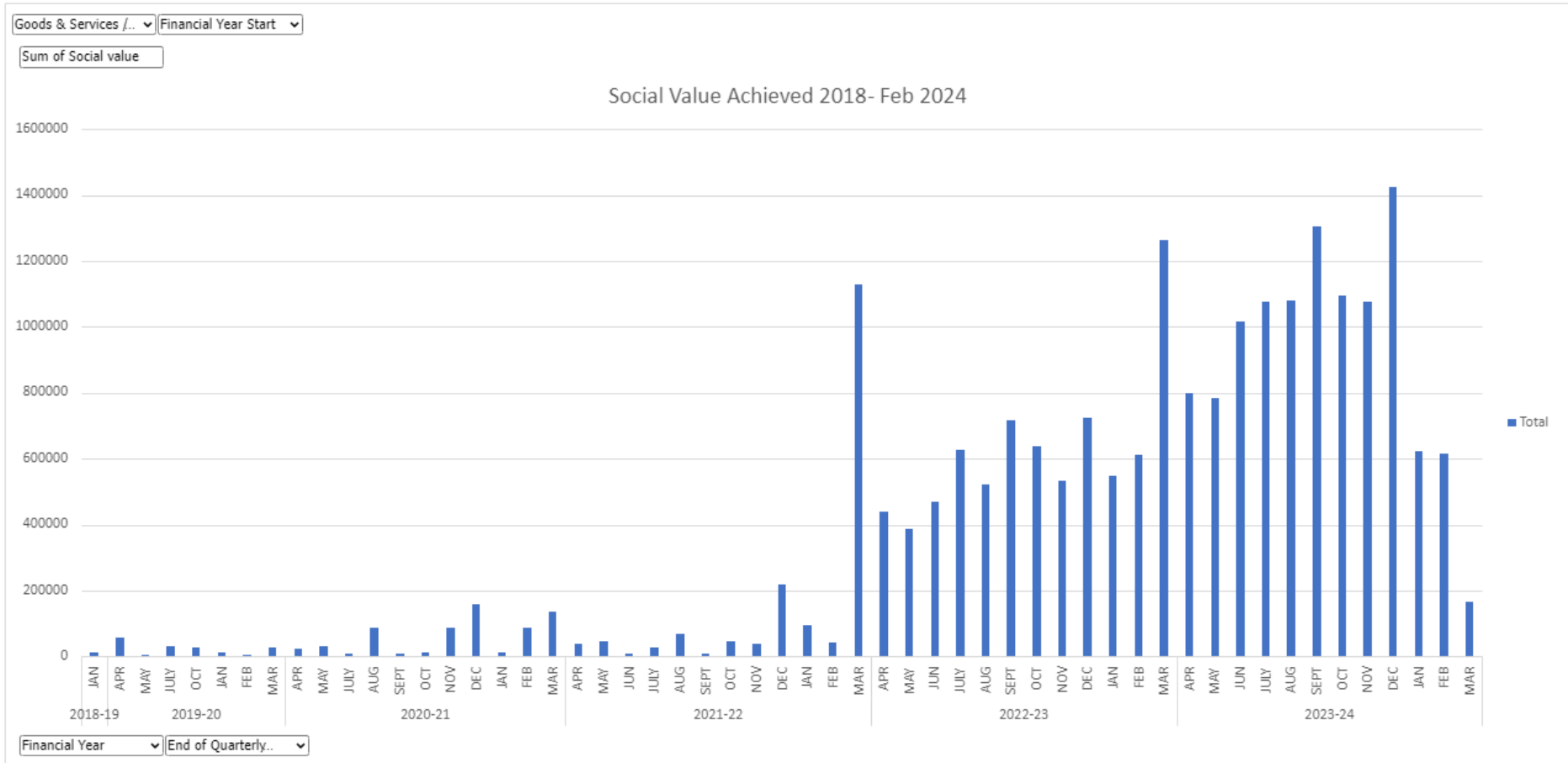
Contract Title: S&DR200 – Ghost Train	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stockton, Darlington and Durham Councils will be celebrating the bicentenary of the birth of the railway in 2025. 2. A programme of events will be commissioned including a large scale finale to take place in both Stockton and Darlington town centres. 3. The estimated cost of the event is circa £600k split between Stockton and Darlington Councils 	
Key Decision: No	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Reuben Kench, Director of Community Services, Environment and Culture	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: Events Framework	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council will carry out a tender process to appoint suitable providers to deliver services to facilitate events. 2. It is proposed to have different lots covering Fencing, Toilets and Security & Stewarding 3. The is will commence on 01/10/ 2024 for an initial term of 2 years with 2 x 12 months optional extension. 4. The estimated spend is circa £171k per annum, however this is dependent on the number of events that will be held and the spend can fluctuate from year to year. The estimated figure is based on the 2022/23 spend. 	
Key Decision: No	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Reuben Kench, Director of Community Services, Environment and Culture	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: SIRF Framework	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council will carry out a tender process to appoint suitable providers to deliver services to facilitate SIRF 2. It is proposed to have different lots covering audio visual, lighting, staging structures, power and distribution 4. The aim is for this to commence on 01/04/2025 for an initial term of 2 years with 2 x 12 months optional extension. This is expected to be awarded in December 2024 3. The estimated spend is circa £144,000 per annum, however this is dependent on the SIRF programme over the next 4 years. There is a reduced programme in 24/25 due to the Waterfront works. The estimated figure is based on the 2022/23 and 2023/24 spend. 	
Key Decision: No	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Reuben Kench, Director of Community Services, Environment and Culture	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: Household Waste Recycling Centre	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stockton and Middlesbrough councils operate a joint HWRC. Following a tender in 2021 where no bids were received, it is necessary to enter into a new contractual arrangement. 2. It is currently unknown as to how long the new contractual arrangement will be required for 3. The current annual spend is £624k including transport and haulage. 	
Key Decision: Yes	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Reuben Kench, Director of Community Services, Environment and Culture	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	

Contract Title: Newport Bridge Works	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council will appoint a suitable contractor to undertake urgent repairs. The anticipated cost of the works is circa £1.1m 2. Stockton will lead on the contract for works and Middlesbrough Council will contribute their share of the overall cost. 3. Stockton's funding is identified within the CRST element within the Capital Programme but the wider scheme has not been added in at present. 	
Key Decision: Yes	Funding within MTFP: Yes
Delegated Officer: Reuben Kench, Director of Community Services, Environment and Culture	
Checks and Balances: In consultation with other appropriate officers for professional advice to include finance and procurement.	



Contract Title	Total Social Value achieved 23/24	NT Reference and Short Descriptor	Social Value (Proxy Value)
Demolition of Swallow Hotel & Castlegate	£6,625,989	NT88 – Recycled and Reused Material	£6,192,170
		NT19 – Spend with local MSMEs	£192,349
		NT7 – Supporting unemployed people into work	£1,055
		NT9 – Training opportunities offered	£5,729
		NT11 – supporting young people into work	£3,166
Elton Interchange	£36,789	NT1 – Local Labour	£30,195
		NT13 – Meaningful Work Placements	£2,383
Preston Park Museum Grounds (Stage 1 – Planning & Design)	£4,755	NT11 – supporting young people into work	£2,111
		NT9 – Training opportunities on the contract (BTEC, NVQ etc)	£794
		NT20 – Work practices that improve staff wellbeing	£1,243
CCTV Maintenance Contract	£75,771	NT1 – Local Labour	£47,979
		NT10 – Apprentices	£6,554
		NT28 – Donations to local community	£2,000
Minor Works – Planned Maintenance Works	£192,596	NT1 – Local Labour	£82,672
		NT10 – Apprentices	£8,857
		NT18 – Materials purchased in Stockton on Tees	£100,979
Strategic Partnership for Family Support	£53,058	NT9 – Number of Training Opportunities Provided	£4,435
		NT11 – Supporting young people into work	£5,367
		NT17 – Voluntary hours to support VCSEs	£8,569
Highway Surfacing & Planing	£365,091	NT16 – Equipment / Resource donated to VCSE	£500
		NT31 – Savings made in CO2 Emissions	£9,083
		NT88 – Recycled and Reused Material	£355,372

Themes	Outcomes	Ref	Measures - Minimum Requirements	Stockton Council Plan Equivalent	Prioritisation	Units	Social Value Proxy
					Weighting based Stockton on Tees Borough Councils Key Strategic Priorities 3 = Standard Measure 2 = Important Priority 1 = Strategically Important Priority	How it should be measured	Social Value proxy
Jobs: Promote Local Skills and Employment	More Stockton people in employment	NT1	No. of Stockton people (FTE) employed on contract for one year or the whole duration of the contract, whichever is shorter.	Job Creation and Increased Employment	1	no. people FTE	£27,834.00
	More opportunities for disadvantaged people from Stockton	NT3	No. of employees (FTE) taken on who are long term unemployed (unemployed for a year or longer)	A growing Economy, Improved Education and Skills Development and Job Creation and Increased Employment	1	no. people FTE	£20,429.00
		NT4	No. of employees (FTE) taken on who are not in employment, education, or training (NEETs)	Job Creation and Increased Employment	1	no. people FTE	£15,382.90
		NT4a	No of full time equivalent local 16-25 y.o. care leavers (FTE) hired on the contract		1	no. people FTE	£15,382.90
		NT5	No. of employees (FTE) taken on who are rehabilitating young offenders (18-24 y.o.)	Improved Education and Skills Development and Job	1	no. people FTE	£23,056.23

		NT6	No. of jobs (FTE) created for people with disabilities	Creation and Increased Employment	1	no. people FTE	£16,605.00
		NT7	No. of hours dedicated to supporting unemployed people into work by providing career mentoring, including mock interviews, CV advice, and careers guidance -(over 24 y.o.)		2	no hrs * no of employees	£105.58
	Improved skills for Stockton people	NT9	No. of training opportunities on contract (BTEC, City & Guilds, NVQ, HNC) that have either been completed during the year, or that will be supported by the organisation to completion in the following years - Level 2,3, or 4+ (For new employees taken on as a result of this contract)	Improved Education and Skills Development	2	no. weeks	£317.82
		NT10	No. of weeks of apprenticeships or T-Levels (Level 2,3, or 4) provided on the contract (completed or supported by the organisation) (For new employees taken on as a result of this contract)	Improved Education and Skills Development and Job Creation and Increased Employment	1	no. of weeks	£251.79
		NT81	No. of weeks of employee upskilling (FTE) delivered on contract as part of apprenticeships, T-Levels and comprehensive upskilling programmes - Only applies to apprenticeships or T-Levels on the contract that have either been		2	no. of weeks	£13.81

			completed during the year, or that will be supported by the organisation until completion in the following years - Level 2,3, or 4+ (For current employees employed by the organisation)				
	Improved employability of young people from Stockton	NT11	No. of hours dedicated to support young people into work (e.g. CV advice, mock interviews, careers guidance) - (24 y.o. and under)	Improved Education and Skills Development	2	no. hrs*no. attendees	£105.58
		NT12	No. of weeks spent on meaningful work placements or pre-employment course; 1-6 weeks student placements (unpaid)		2	no. weeks	£194.50
		NT13	Meaningful work placements that pay Minimum or National Living wage according to eligibility - 6 weeks or more (internships)	Improved Education and Skills Development and Job Creation and Increased Employment	2	no. weeks	£194.50
		SBC-NT13	Meaningful supported internships that pay Minimum or National Living wage according to eligibility - 6 weeks or more (supported internships through SBC only) (see Definitions and Guidance Tab)		1	no. weeks	£194.50
Growth: Supporting Growth of Responsible Regional Business	More opportunities for Stockton SMEs and VCSEs	NT14	Total amount (£) spent with VCSEs within your supply chain	A Growing Economy	2	£	£0.12
		C-NT15	Provision of expert business advice to VCSEs and SMEs (e.g. financial advice / legal advice / HR advice/HSE) when linked to a Catalyst specific VCSE requirement. This link takes you		1	no. staff expert hours	£101.00

			to the Catalyst Give Services Page.				
		C-NT16	Equipment or resources donated to VCSEs (£ equivalent value). This link takes to the Catalyst Support VCSE page.	Cross cutting strategic themes	1	£	£1.00
		C-NT17	Number of voluntary hours donated to support VCSEs (excludes expert business advice). This link takes you to the Catalyst Stockton Volunteers Opportunities page.		1	No. staff volunteering hours	£16.93
		NT18	Total amount (£) spent in LOCAL supply chain through the contract.	A Growing Economy	2	£	£0.66
		NT19	Total amount (£) spent through contract with LOCAL micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs)		2	£	£0.66
Social: Healthier, Safer and more Resilient	More working with the Community in Stockton	NT28	Donations or in-kind contributions to local community projects (£ & materials)	Cross cutting strategic themes	2	£ value	£1.00
		C-NT28	Donations or in-kind contributions to local community projects (£ & materials). This link takes you to the Catalyst Give Money page.		1	£ value	£1.00
Environment: Protecting and Improving	Climate Impacts are reduced	NT31	Savings in CO2e emissions on contract achieved through de-carbonisation (i.e. a reduction of the carbon intensity of processes and operations, specify how these are to be achieved) against a specific benchmark.	People Live Healthy Lives, Great Places to Live and Visit and Clean and Green Spaces	1	tonnes CO2e	£244.63

our Environment		NT82	Carbon emissions reductions through reduced energy use and energy efficiency measures - on site		1	tonnes CO2e	£244.63
	Air pollution is reduced	NT32	Car miles saved on the project (e.g. cycle to work programmes, public transport or car pooling programmes, etc.)		1	Miles Saved	£0.06
		NT33	Car miles driven using low or no emission staff vehicles included on project as a result of a green transport programme		2	Miles Driven	£0.03
		NT84	Freight miles saved as a result of a green logistics plan (e.g. reduced trips to site)		1	Miles Saved	£0.06
	Better places to live in Stockton	NT34	Voluntary time dedicated to the creation or management of green infrastructure, to increase biodiversity, or to keep green spaces clean		2	no. staff volunteering hours	£16.93
	Resource efficiency and circular economy solutions are promoted	NT88	Reduce waste through reuse of products and materials		1	Tonnes	£96.70

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

14 March 2024

REPORT OF CORPORATE MANAGEMENT TEAM

CABINET DECISION

Children & Young People - Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Lisa Evans

STOCKTON-ON-TEES AGREED SYLLABUS FOR PRIMARY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE)

SUMMARY

Recommendation from the Agreed Syllabus Conference to purchase a new primary RE syllabus.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)/DECISION(S)

SACRE is required to review the agreed syllabus every five years. Following consultation and review, the Agreed Syllabus Conference unanimously voted to put forward the following recommendation for approval by Cabinet.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To purchase a new agreed syllabus from RE Today, licensed for 5 years for all the primary schools that need it (42).
2. To purchase the package of support which will ensure that schools have access to the professional development and resources they require to deliver the syllabus effectively. (see Appendix 1 for detail)

DETAIL

1. The LA has a statutory duty to provide an agreed syllabus.
2. The consultation and review highlighted that the current agreed syllabus (in place for more than five years) is no longer fit for purpose as it does not adequately support effective assessment, lesson planning etc, particularly for non-specialist teachers.
3. Other options, such as updating or writing an agreed syllabus specifically for Stockton, were considered and explored. These options were not viable or cost effective.
4. The RE Today curriculum is well-respected and used by a number of local authorities; it is also similar in structure to the Diocesan curriculum used by most Church of England schools in Stockton and this will therefore support transition and continuity between KS2 and KS3.
5. The package of support includes a launch event, regular webinars (for the first three years) and membership of NATRE (for one year).

COMMUNITY IMPACT IMPLICATIONS

6. The CIA process has not been undertaken as the proposed changes positively impacts the community and will ensure that schools are able to access a quality agreed syllabus. The provision of quality RE supports community cohesion.

CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

7. There are no corporate parenting implications.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8. The LA is required to pay for the agreed syllabus.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9. The LA has a statutory duty to provide an agreed syllabus.

RISK ASSESSMENT

N/A

WARDS AFFECTED AND CONSULTATION WITH WARD/COUNCILLORS

N/A

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

Name of Contact Officer: Gill McCleave
Post Title: Service Lead: Education (0-11)/LA Officer
Telephone No. 01642 528824
Email Address: Gill.mccleave@stockton.gov.uk

Appendix 1

Product	Cost	NOTES
Syllabus licence x42	£65 + vat – discounted to £0	Printable PDF full cover syllabus
Live Launch + expenses	£1,000 + expenses – discounted to £650	Provision of 1 primary specialist RE Adviser
3-year CPD programme	£1,350 discounted to £975 x 3 = £2,925	3 x 1 termly webinar per year, for 3 years. This can be mixed between primary and secondary
Support for KS4 and 5	£1,350 discounted to £975	3 x 1 termly webinar for 1 year, or one full day
NATRE membership for 1-year x42 (paid for by SACRE)	£270 discounted by 30% = £189 per school = £7,938	All teachers within the 42 schools will be able to access the benefits provided by membership
TOTAL: £12,488 (this can be split 50%/50% over 2 financial years)		

This page is intentionally left blank

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

14 MARCH 2024

REPORT OF CORPORATE MANAGEMENT TEAM

CABINET DECISION

Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Robert Cook
Regeneration and Housing – Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Nigel Cooke

DURHAM LANE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE REDEVELOPMENT

SUMMARY

The report provides Cabinet with an update on the vacant employment land at Durham Lane Industrial Estate that the Council purchased with Indigenous Growth Fund (IGF) monies in July 2021 in order to safeguard the site and bring forward development. A preferred developer has been selected to deliver a business park, subject to completion of legal contracts. This report seeks authority to dispose of the land to the developer.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)/DECISION(S)

To provide Members with an update on Durham Lane Industrial Estate and seek approval to dispose of the land to a preferred developer.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Cabinet approve the disposal of land at Durham Lane Industrial Estate on a phased basis to the preferred developer, in accordance with the details outlined in this report and Appendix A and in accordance with the Development Agreement subject to recommendation 2 below.
2. Cabinet delegate authority to the Assistant Director - Inclusive Growth and Development in consultation with the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing, to agree the detailed terms of the disposal and the Development Agreement.
3. Cabinet note that any money received from the sale of the land is required to be spent in line with the TVCA IGF criteria.

DETAIL

Background

1. In January 2020, Cabinet approved the acquisition of vacant, undeveloped employment land at Durham Lane Industrial Park at Market Value to safeguard strategically important employment land. The site was purchased in July 2021 for £2.8m using IGF monies. Durham Lane is a key element of the Council's IGF Strategic Initiatives Programme which seeks to promote inward investment, unlock employment land, support existing business growth, and be a catalyst for economic growth and job creation across the borough.

2. Since July 2021, numerous site surveys along with an options appraisal have been commissioned in order to better understand the sites opportunities and constraints; essentially completing due diligence to make the site more attractive to a developer.
3. In summer 2022 Knight Frank were appointed as the Council's land agents following an engagement process. DWF were also appointed as the Council's legal advisors using the NEPO framework. It was agreed following advice from DWF that the site should be dealt with as a land disposal as The Public Contracts Regulations 2015 would not apply, but that certain conditions should still be included as part of the land transaction to ensure the Council's aspirations for the site are delivered and to minimise risk to the Council.
4. Knight Frank marketed the site on behalf of the Council to attract a developer. They advised on the strategy and produced a marketing brochure which was supported by an SBC Design Code for the site. The site was marketed between May and July 2023 via a mailshot to potential developers and agents, Knight Frank, EG Propertylink, Rightmove Commercial and Invest Stockton-on-Tees websites, and in the Estates Gazette, accompanying website and dotmailer to their subscriber list which boasts UK coverage. The advert had a really good response with 28 enquiries received, with several requests for access to the Data Room which held detailed information on the site including the topographical, archaeological, drainage, flood, ground investigation and ecological surveys that have been completed since SBC purchased the site.
5. Interested developers were requested to submit an initial bid proposal for the site by 12th July 2023. 5 Expressions of Interest bid proposals were submitted for consideration which Knight Frank considered a good response. The 5 bid proposals were shortlisted to two by SBC, Knight Frank and DWF based against a criteria of requested information to demonstrate the bidders financial resources, track record and proposed delivery of a scheme at Durham Lane. A period of competitive dialogue and interviews took place in October, and in November a developer was selected as the Council's preferred development partner.
6. The preferred development partner was recommended by Knight Frank as they can demonstrate their ability to develop on a magnitude similar to Durham Lane and have a knowledge of end users of a scale and size from outside the North East which would be beneficial to attract to the site. The developer's ambitions are also more aligned with the Council's in terms of removing obstacles to efficient development, improving the offer of the estate and they aim to achieve BREEAM excellent rated buildings. They have a strong 'in-house' and external professional team and the financial information provided also demonstrated that they were the stronger company with greater financial resources to call upon than most of the other parties. Detail of the preferred developer partner is commercially sensitive and is included at Exempt Appendix A. It is proposed that the land is drawn down to the preferred development partner under the terms set out in the Development Agreement.

Site Disposal Update

7. The preferred developer is currently working with the Council and key partners, at risk, to better understand Durham Lane's opportunities and constraints and develop the masterplan. An Exclusivity Agreement has been signed with the preferred developer until 31st March 2024 whilst the legal contracts are being drawn up. They have committed to submitting a planning application soon after the agreement is signed and intend to deliver the project on a phased basis. They have committed to defraying £3m IGF grant monies by March 2026 on infrastructure improvements to unlock the land for development.
8. Initial Heads of Terms have been provisionally agreed by both parties and lawyers are now working to complete a Development Agreement. The detail is commercially sensitive and included as Exempt Appendix A.

Added Benefits through Economic and Social Value

9. The development of the strategically important, vacant employment land at Durham Lane will attract inward investment, support existing business growth and allow the Council to realise additional economic value as a result of job generation and social value through our partnership approach with the preferred developer.
10. The Council is committed to maximising the impact of its public expenditure for the benefit of the local economy, the environment and wider society and communities, and this is being delivered through embedding strong Social Value policies through our partnership approach with the preferred developer. Social Value is an ability to determine and measure what is created as added value through a contracts and commissioning processes, considering more than just the financial transaction but what added benefits we wish to achieve.
11. The preferred developer has committed to delivering social value objectives and will be required to prepare an Employment and Skills Plan.

COMMUNITY IMPACT IMPLICATIONS

12. The proposals in this report will potentially have numerous community impacts including, amongst others, employment, transport and environment. As the proposals are further developed a Community Impact Assessment will be undertaken.

CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

13. This report does not contain corporate parenting implications.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

14. Financial Implications are set out in Exempt Appendix A.
15. As part of the Development Agreement conditions, the preferred developer has committed to defraying up to £3m IGF monies on behalf of the Council to deliver infrastructure improvements which will assist unlocking the land for development. SBC Officers are working with the preferred development partner to agree a programme of approved works. Expenditure of the monies will be managed by SBC Officers and paid on production of valid invoices. The preferred developer will commit to defraying the IGF by 31st March 2026 in line with the IGF agreement. This funding has been earmarked from within the IGF programme as per the update report to Cabinet in July 2023.
16. All income received for the sale of land must be reinvested in activities which align with the TVCA IGF criteria.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

17. Consideration has been given as to whether the defrayment of £3 million IGF monies is compliant with the Subsidy Control Act 2022. The legal position is that whilst it may fall within the 2022 Act, the defrayment is specifically for infrastructure works in order to promote inward investment, unlock disused employment land, support existing business growth, and be a catalyst for economic growth and job creation across the Borough. These policy objectives respect each of the seven Subsidy Control Principles listed at Schedule 1 of the Act and, for this reason, the defrayment is considered compliant with the 2022 Act. It is also noted that given the level of defrayment (£3 million), there is no legal requirement to report this to the Competition and Markets Authority under the 2022 Act.

18. The Council's Valuation and Property Manager has confirmed that the transaction represents best consideration as prescribed by the Local Government Act 1972.

RISK ASSESSMENT

19. This update report on development at Durham Lane is categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems, which include a detailed risk register that is reported quarterly to TVCA, a monthly Steering Group, alongside daily routine activities, and the appointment of key advisors which include DWF for legal advice and Knight Frank for land agent advice are considered sufficient to control and reduce risk.
20. Comprehensive site surveys and investigations regarding ecology, contamination, ground investigations, utilities, drainage, archaeology, topography and power were undertaken by the Council prior to the site being marketed to ensure the sites constraints and opportunities could be understood fully by the future developer prior to commitment to ensure the land disposal deal is realistic and to minimise risks regarding site development and potential delays.
21. Due diligence was completed during the process to select the preferred developer, which has ensured that risks such as non-delivery have been mitigated through the selection process which has secured a developer with a good track record and a strong financial position. Selection of the preferred developer was also recommended by Knight Frank who have extensive experience of the logistics/industrial market in the North East as well as insight into drivers influencing the development sector. The legal contracts, being completed by DWF, will also ensure that future risk regarding non-delivery and piecemeal, poor development will be mitigated further and that any future financial risk will be minimised for the Council.
22. As the land disposal is undertaken in phases, the necessary risk assessments and due diligence will be completed. Delivery of the scheme will be market driven and governance arrangements are being established with the preferred developer. This will range from technical; communication and marketing and business engagement groups as well as a senior board. The preferred developer has committed to open book financial appraisals and an agreed reporting mechanism for social value measures.

WARDS AFFECTED AND CONSULTATION WITH WARD/COUNCILLORS

23. Leader of the Council – Councillor Robert Cook and Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing – Councillor Nigel Cooke.
24. Ward Councillor – Councillor Stefan Houghton, Councillor Jim Taylor, Councillor Diane Clarke, Councillor Laura Tunney

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Cabinet Report: Indigenous Growth Fund Update - 23rd January 2020.

Cabinet Report: Indigenous Growth Fund Update – 12th January 2021.

Cabinet Report: Indigenous Growth Fund Update – 13th July 2023.

Name of Contact Officer: Chris Renahan
Post Title: Assistant Director Inclusive Growth
Telephone No. 01642 526025
Email Address: chris.renahan@stockton.gov.uk

Agenda Item 9

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank