

COUNCIL MEETING – 25TH JULY 2019

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5(3)

RUSHMOOR DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP – APPROVAL OF BUSINESS PLAN

A report from the meeting of Cabinet on 25th June 2019.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In October 2018 the Council established the Rushmoor Development Partnership LLP (RDP) with Hill Investments Partnership Limited (HIPL) to support the delivery of the Regenerating Rushmoor Programme. At its meeting 25 July 2019 Cabinet considered report CEX 1904, which included the RDP's first business plan. The RDP Business Plan sets out the key activities for the RDP and the processes for development of the sites to be taken forward by the Partnership. It also provides a position statement on the sites currently being worked on.

2. THE BUSINESS PLAN

- 2.1 When agreeing to establish the RDP, the Council, at its meeting on 4th October 2018, agreed a report that set out the key elements of the Partnership Agreement and other documentation that support the RDP's operation. These documents regulate the respective responsibilities and dealings between the Council and HIPL as Investment Partners and the conduct of the business and management of the affairs of the RDP.
- 2.2 The RDP has now prepared its first Business Plan and elected members were invited to a presentation on 20th May 2019. The Business Plan is included as an Appendix to this report. Members should note that Sections E and F of the Plan are considered to be commercially sensitive and are therefore exempt from publication.
- 2.3 The Business Plan, also known in legal terms as the Investment Plan, is a significant document as it will establish the ongoing principles of business between the Council and the RDP.
- 2.4 The Council has already agreed that four sites would be included as the initial "portfolio" for the RDP. These are:
- Civic Quarter, Farnborough
 - Union Street East, Aldershot
 - Farnborough Main car park (also known as Union Street West)
 - Parsons Barracks car park, Aldershot
- 2.5 The processes for progressing sites for development are set out in Section D and E of the Business Plan.

3. GOVERNANCE

- 3.1 The governance arrangements for the RDP were considered by the Licensing, Audit and General Purposes Committee at its meeting on the 6th June 2019 (report CEX 1903). The Committee agreed that, for matters arising from the establishment and proposed site development processes for the RDP, the Council's established arrangements for decision making, as set out in the Constitution, together with Statutory Guidance from MHCLG and other guidance from CIPFA, were sufficient and would ensure that RDP business would be conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards and that public money would be safeguarded, accounted for and spent economically, efficiently and effectively. The Committee also felt that the proposed RDP governance and management arrangements were sufficiently linked to the Council's democratic processes, to give assurance that the Council would not be exposed to unacceptable or unforeseen risks.

4. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 The Cabinet considered the Business Plan at length and received clarification on a number of matters, as set out in Cabinet minute 16. of 25th June 2019 and requested that these matters be brought to the attention of the RDP.
- 4.2 The Cabinet reflected on the views of the Licensing, Audit and General Purposes Committee and noted that decisions related to the sale and transfer of land would be made under normal delegations as an executive function with individual site project plans from the RDP coming forward in due course.
- 4.3 The Cabinet considered that the approaches and processes as set out in the RDP's Business Plan would, as far as possible, ensure the RDP would support the delivery of the Regenerating Rushmoor Programme as envisaged.
- 4.4 Cabinet recommends to the Council that the first Business Plan of the Rushmoor Development Partnership, as set out in the Appendix to this report, be approved.

CLLR K.H. MUSCHAMP
DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL