CABINET
HELD ON 13 NOVEMBER 2019
(FROM 5.30 PM TO 5.43 PM)

PRESENT: Councillor Richard Cooper in the Chair. Councillors Mike Chambers, Phil Ireland, Stan Lumley, Andy Paraskos and Graham Swift.

Late Arrivals: None

Early Departures: None

55/19 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: An apology for absence had been received from Councillor Rebecca Burnett. (5.31 pm)

56/19 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were no declarations of interest. (5.31 pm)

57/19 – MINUTES: The Minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held on 16 October 2019 were approved unanimously as a correct record and signed by the Chair. (5.31 pm)

58/19 – EXEMPT INFORMATION: The reports considered at Minutes 59/19, 69/19 and 70/19 and the appendices at Minutes 65/19, 66/19 and 68/19 were considered to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Schedule 12a to the Local Government Act. Discussion on the items took place in open session. (5.31 pm)

MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION

59/19 – CAPITAL AND INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2019/20 QUARTER 2: The Head of Finance submitted a written report and sought approval for the amended Capital Programme for 2019/20 and Indicative Programmes from 2020/21 to 2023/24. The Council had made good progress in taking a more proactive approach to its asset management and ensuring that the return from investment was maximised. Positive developments included: Planned Asset Maintenance, the move to new office accommodation, introduction of the Capital and Investment Strategy, the establishment of a Council Investment Reserve and approval of a five year ICT Strategy and Development Plan. A number of significant reviews would impact on the Capital and Investment Strategy in the future and these included the Sport and Leisure review, HCC Future Strategy and the Economic Growth Strategy.

The amended Capital Programme for 2019/20 to 2023/24 was outlined in Table 1 at paragraph 7.1 of the report, and further detail was given at Appendix 1. Paragraph 7.2 detailed works which had resulted in an increase from the original approved programme. This included works on the Digital Incubator and increasing the budget available to enable the purchase of empty homes. The amended Revenue Investment Programme for 2019/20 to 2023/24 was shown in Table 2 at paragraph
7.3, and further detail was given at Appendix 2, this was less than the agreed programme as a result of works detailed at paragraph 7.4. Overall, capital and revenue expenditure of £50,935k was forecast in the amended five year rolling programme to 2024, which was £1,348k more than the previously approved programmes.

RECOMMENDED (UNANIMOUSLY):

That the amended Programme for 2019/20 and Indicative Programmes from 2020/21 to 2023/24 are approved, noting that future developments around the Sport and Leisure review, Harrogate Convention Centre (HCC) and Economic Growth will have an impact on the figures in this report.

(5.32 pm)

60/19 – DRAFT HOUSING STRATEGY 2019-24: The Housing Policy and Strategy Officer submitted a written report which introduced the draft Housing Strategy 2019-24, which was attached at Appendix 1.1. Whilst it was no longer a statutory requirement for Councils to have a Housing Strategy it was considered good practice for the Council to have a document which set out the Council’s approach to the delivery of housing, development, private sector renewal, social housing allocations and neighbourhood services. The Strategy had been developed alongside the Housing Delivery Action Plan, the Empty Homes Strategy and the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy.

The Strategy had taken into consideration the Council’s existing plans and priorities. Extensive consultation had taken place with officers, Management Board, the Cabinet Member and a public consultation had taken place during the summer of 2019. An analysis of the consultation was attached as an appendix to the Strategy.

The Strategy was built around strategic objectives and conditions for growth, with key actions and planned outcomes assigned to each:

- **Strategic Theme One:** Accelerated delivery of all housing, across all tenures and locations
- **Strategic Theme Two:** Maximising use of existing assets
- **Strategic Theme Three:** Improving housing standards across all tenures

In addition, actions were identified under the following themes:

- **Conditions for Growth:** Digital Services
- **Conditions for Growth:** Commercial Services

The Strategy also included a delivery plan, which would be reviewed annually to ensure that it reflected changes in policy or resources. Delivery of the Strategy would take place within existing resources where possible and financial resource would be allocated on a project by project basis. During Year 1 a joint working group of officers from the Housing and Property service, and the Place-Shaping and Economic Growth service would plan and monitor delivery of actions and ensure that working relationships were established.
61/19 – **HOMELESSNESS REVIEW AND HOMELESSNESS AND ROUGH SLEEPING REDUCTION STRATEGY 2019-24:** The Housing Policy and Strategy Officer submitted a written report which introduced the Homelessness Review, attached at Appendix A, and the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Reduction Strategy 2019-24, attached at Appendix 1.1. The Homelessness Act 2002 required local authorities to produce a Homelessness Review outlining the main causes of homelessness in the area. The review provided data on homelessness applications and causes, what was currently being done and what resources were available to prevent and tackle homelessness.

The Homelessness Act also required local authorities to formulate a homelessness strategy based on the results of the Review. The Strategy set out the Council’s approach to homelessness and rough sleeping prevention and reduction and set out the Council’s vision for the District and the key aims, actions and outcomes expected over the lifetime of the strategy. The Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019-24 (HRSS) replaced the Council’s Homeless Strategy 2013-18.

The Strategy had been developed using the priorities recommended by MHCLG and consultation had been undertaken both internally with Council officers and a public consultation had taken place in the summer of 2019. An analysis of the consultation was included at Appendix C.

In order to deliver the strategy five strategic outcomes had been identified which were:

1. Preventing Homelessness and rough sleeping in the District
2. Securing that sufficient accommodation is and will be available for people in the District who are or may become homeless
3. Securing the satisfactory provision of support for people in the District who are or may become homeless and need support to prevent them becoming homeless again.
5. Sustainability of our approach to homelessness and rough sleeping in the District.

Delivery of the strategy would take place within existing resources, where possible. The strategy would be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that changes in trends, policy or resources were reflected

**RECOMMENDED (UNANIMOUSLY):**

That the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Reduction Strategy 2019-24 be approved.