

Decision Application WPCC20166 2021/22 CAPITAL STRATEGY

Application Date:March 2021Name of Applicant:Sara Ansell,
Treasurer

Application Decision Reference: WPCC20166

1. Summary of the application

The Commissioner is asked to approve the Capital strategy for 2021/22

2. Background information:

CIPFA in its revised Prudential Code 2017 set out the requirement for a capital strategy to be formally reported. It includes some explicit areas for formal reporting by the Chief Finance Officer particularly around risk. This formal reporting became a requirement from 2019/20 onwards. The CIPFA Prudential Code has at its centre the belief that all decisions should be affordable, prudent and sustainable. The development of the Capital strategy reinforces these principles and strengthens the Code.

The Capital strategy has been fundamentally reviewed for 2021/22 to reflect best practise. It's purpose is to demonstrate that capital expenditure and investment decisions are taken in line with desired outcomes and take account of stewardship, value for money, prudence, sustainability and affordability.

The Capital Strategy is a key document for the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and Warwickshire Police and forms part of the revenue and capital planning process. It provides a high level overview of how capital expenditure, capital financing and treasury management activity contribute to the delivery of strategic priorities. It also provides an overview of how associated risk is managed and the implications for future financial sustainability and an overview of the governance processes for approval and monitoring of capital expenditure.

The 2021/22 capital strategy has been considered by the Joint Audit and Standards Committee and their comments and feedback have been incorporated into the final document approved by the PCC.

3. Whether additional information/report is attached to support this decision application

YES

List of additional information/report

- a) 2021/22 Capital Strategy
- b)
- c)

4. Expected benefits (non financial)

The strategy outlines the framework for setting the capital budget, along with the governance arrangements for capital projects and the wider capital programme and it's financing. The strategy also reflects on the management framework and risk management issues associated with capital investment.

This strategy will comply with the CIPFA Prudential Code.

5. Impact of not approving the application

Failure to comply with the CIPFA prudential code

6. Costs

Revenue: All the revenue costs of capital expenditure are included within the annual budget in line with this capital strategy

Capital: All capital spending plans are outlined within the approved capital budget which includes the financing and affordability of those plans. The financing of the capital spending plans are also supported by the PCC's treasury management strategy for 2021/22.

7. Savings:

There are no direct savings arising from the report. However the capital strategy outlines the governance and decision making process which should ensure that value for money is achieved from the capital investment plans.

8. Equality and Diversity Implications:

All relevant equality and diversity policies relate to all areas of capital spending and investment decisions.

9. Treasurer's comments

The Capital Strategy sets out the long term context in which capital and investment decisions are made and identifies the associated risks. This document may need to be reviewed if and when a settlement is agreed with West Mercia, as different funding and borrowing strategies may ensue. This document has been revamped for 2020/21 to reflect best practise and outlines a clear capital strategy for 2020/21 based on the most up to date information available.

10. Legal/Monitoring Officer comments

The Capital Strategy complies with the CIPFA Prudential Code and demonstrates good governance in setting capital budgets and in the planning of longer term investments.

Pir Jecust

Decision of the Police and Crime Commissioner

To approve the 2021/22 capital strategy

PCC Signature:

Date of Decision: 17th March 2021