

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Cabinet **DATE:** 16th July 2018

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WARD(S): All

PORTFOLIO: Cllr Swindlehurst – Leader of Council

PART I **NON-KEY DECISION**

REFERENCES FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY – CAPITAL STRATEGY 2018/19 TO 2023/24

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to ask Cabinet to consider the recommendation of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee from its meeting held on 12th July 2018.

2. Recommendation

That Cabinet consider the provision of affordable housing within the context of the Capital Strategy 2018/19 to 2023/24.

3 The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Corporate Plan

3a Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy (SJWS) Priorities

The Capital Strategy indirectly supports all of the strategic themes and cross cutting themes. The recommendation of the OSC relates specifically to the following theme:

- Housing

3b Five Year Plan Outcomes

The Capital Strategy adopted by Council on 7th June supports the following Five Year Plan outcomes:

- Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work and stay
- Our residents will live in good quality homes
- Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide opportunities for our residents

4 Other Implications

(a) Financial

The recommendation does not require any immediate amendment to the existing Capital Strategy as adopted by Council on 7th June 2018.

(b) Risk Management

Risk/Threat/Opportunity	Mitigation(s)	Recommendation
That Slough Borough Council does not maximise the impact of its Capital Strategy on the creation of affordable housing	The proposed relocation will lead to the creation of affordable housing at St Martins Place	Cabinet asked to consider the provision of affordable housing in the SBC Capital Strategy.

(c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

There are no legal implications to the content of this report.

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

It is not necessary to undertake an Equalities Impact Assessment at this stage. Any future changes raised by accepting the recommendation will be assessed as appropriate at the time.

5 Supporting Information

- 5.1 At its meeting on 12th July 2018, OSC took an item on the Capital Strategy 2018/19 to 2023/24. During its deliberations, the issue of affordable housing was raised.
- 5.2 Given the increased borrowing requirement in the Capital Strategy, which has been put in place to support a policy on strategic acquisition, OSC requested that Cabinet consider the need for affordable housing within Slough within any future Capital Strategy. As the acquisition of land or properties will allow SBC to expedite key outcomes in the 5 Year Plan.
- 5.3 OSC were also aware of the need to ensure that SBC's financial resilience was maintained to protect the long term viability of the Council's plans. However, the recommendation was made to ensure that all aspects of the potential benefits from SBC's Capital Strategy should be considered rather than favouring investment income alone.

6 Comments of Other Committees

The Capital Strategy 2018/19 to 2023/24 was approved by Council on 7th June 2018. Prior to this, Cabinet decided to approve the proposed acquisition of the strategic asset presented to it on 29th May 2018. Both the reports leading to these decisions were included in the agenda for OSC on 12th July 2018, which lead to the recommendation contained in this report.

7 Conclusion

The Cabinet is requested to decide upon the recommendation outlined in section 2 and discussed in sections 5.1 – 5.3 of this report.

8 **Appendices**

None

9 **Background Papers**

None