

Swindon Borough Council

Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday, 1 September 2020

In Public Virtual Meeting - LiveStream

At 6.00 p.m.

Conservative Councillors

Matthew Courtliff

Steve Heyes

Vinay Manro

Caryl Sydney-Smith

Vera Tomlinson

Labour Councillors

Steve Allsopp

Jim Grant

Janine Howarth

Liberal Democrat Councillors

Committee Officer: Shaun Banks (07980752047) sbanks@swindon.gov.uk

Swindon Borough Council can be contacted at the Civic Offices, Euclid Street, Swindon, SN1 2JH (Telephone 01793 445500)

Access Arrangements - The venue is wheelchair accessible and an infrared receiver hearing system is provided. If you have any special requirements to enable you to attend the meeting or would like to receive any of the pages contained in this agenda in a larger print size, please contact the Committee Officer as soon as possible prior to the date of the meeting.

AGENDA

NOTE:

The link for the public meeting is here:

[Communities and Place Committee Meeting](#)

This link will only work from 6:00 p.m. on 1st September 2020. For help on viewing the meeting, please visit: <https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Attend-a-live-event-in-Teamsa1c7b989-ebb1-4479-b750-c86c9bc98d84>.

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Declarations of Interest**

Members are reminded that at the start of the meeting they should declare any known interests in any matter to be considered, and also during the meeting if it becomes apparent that they have an interest in the matters being discussed.

3. Minutes (Pages 3 - 6)

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 29th January 2020.

4. Public Question Time

See explanatory note below. Please phone the Committee Officer whose name and number appears at the top of this agenda if you need further guidance.

5. Update on the Work of the Climate Change CMAG

(Oral)

6. Littering and Enviro Crime

(Report to follow)

7. Food Waste Collections

(Report to follow)

8. Committee Work Programme 2020/21 (Pages 7 - 14)

Date of Despatch: 21 August 2020

Public Question Time - Swindon Borough Council remains committed to increasing its accountability to the public and to promoting active citizenship. 15 minutes will be allowed at the start of all Council meetings for questions to the Chair from the public about the work of the Committee (except for confidential matters, and matters relating to planning and licensing applications). During Covid-19, you must submit your question to CommitteeServices@swindon.gov.uk with your contact details 48 hours before the meeting so the committee officer can send you details about how to participate. The deadline is 16:00 on Monday 29th June 2020 Questions must be relevant, clear, and concise. You may not use Public Question Time as an opportunity to make speeches or statements.

Questions in writing should be sent to the Committee Officer whose contact details appear on the agenda above or to the Chief Legal Officer, we will publish it, along with the answer, alongside the Minutes. The process associated with asking a public question is set out in the "Public Question Time at Council

Meetings Protocol and Guidance" available on the Council's Website.

(<http://ww5.swindon.gov.uk/moderngov/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sched=doc&cat=13338&path=0>) or from the Committee Officer named above.

A privacy note about how we record Public Questions is available here:

https://www.swindon.gov.uk/directory_record/23533/publication_of_public_questions_and_questioners_privacy_notice

COMMUNITIES AND PLACE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 29 JANUARY 2020

PRESENT:- Councillors Matthew Courtliff, Steve Heyes, Roger Smith, Bazil Solomon and Vera Tomlinson

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Janine Howarth and Garry Perkins.

18. Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded Members of the need to declare any known interests in any matters to be considered at the meeting. No declarations were made.

19. Minutes

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd September 2019, be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

20. Public Question Time

No public questions were received during the meeting.

21. LED Street Lighting Conversion Programme

The Head of Highways and Transport submitted a report updating members on the progress of the LED street lighting conversion programme. In introducing the report Mr Price, Head of Highways and Transport, drew members' attention to the following points:

- The programme to replace 28,000 street lights within the Borough with LED lights over an eighteen month period commencing in March 2020.
- That once completed the replacement programme could reduce costs by around 50% and would cost in the region of £7.2 million.
- That street lighting accounted for approximately one third of the Council's total energy consumption and was a major component of the Council's energy costs and carbon footprint.
- Replacement of old lights with LED's would contribute to reducing energy costs and the Council's carbon footprint.
- A budget of up to £2.5 million had been identified for column replacement.

Following his presentation Mr. Price answered Members' questions in respect of the following issues:

- That those roads currently not adopted in the Borough would be included in the LED replacement and column replacement programme once they were adopted.
- All non LED lanterns and around 10% of street light columns, depending on state of repair, were scheduled to be replaced as part of the programme.
- There were around 5,000 concrete street light columns in the Borough which would be replaced depended on their condition and as they came to the end

of their working life.

- A proportion of both concrete and steel street light columns were tested annually and RAG rated; those classified as red would be replaced within 12 months and amber would be inspected more regularly.
- Some street light columns were not designed to take additional loads and therefore would not be used for purposes such as Christmas or other decorations or signage.
- Where a street light column was replaced its replacement would include a LED light; likewise when a traditional lantern was replaced it would be with an LED light.
- It was anticipated that lights would their average life extended from four to ten years.
- The replacement of other lighting such as car park lighting and traffic signals as well as lighting at the waterside depot was being investigated.
- The use of LED solar powered lighting for street and road signage.
- The use of the Central Management System "smart" control system to remotely monitor the new lanterns in the case of failure and to offer opportunities to remotely fine tune lighting levels to suit the individual needs of each street and further increase energy savings.
- The storage of information from the Central management System and potential ways of using and sharing this, for instance, with other Council departments or Parish Councils in the future.
- The disposal and recycling of old columns and how this could be undertaken in the most environmentally friendly manner.
- The newly fitted lights had less light spillage and the criteria for turning off lighting.
- The timetable for energy, cost and carbon savings accrued from the programme.

Resolved – That the report be noted and the Head of Highways and Transport be thanked for his presentation.

22. Electric Vehicle Charging Charging Points within the Borough

The Head of Streetsmart submitted a report updating members on the progress on the installation of Electric Vehicle Charging Points within the Borough. In introducing the report Ian James, Head of Streetsmart, drew members' attention to the following points:

- The study on the installation of Electric Vehicle Charging Points within the Borough was just commencing and would probably take a year to complete.
- This work related to the Council's priorities and pledges in that Priority one of SBCs Vision is to "improve infrastructure and housing to support a growing, low carbon economy". More specifically, Pledge 2 sees this priority secured in part through "...facilitating the move to electrified transport, ... to reduce carbon footprint."
- This Study sought to establish a mechanism for delivering the Pledge by assessing the options to facilitate the growth in electric cars. More specifically, the Study would assess the scope to introduce new electric vehicle charging points, reflecting the fact that one of the most significant deterrent to the ownership of electric vehicles is the perceived difficulty in finding suitable charging opportunities, particularly when away from home.

Following his introduction of the report Mr James answered Members' questions in respect of the following issues:

- This work was separate from the Local Plan Review which sought to ensure all new housing developments were fitted with electric vehicle charging points or that properties could be retrofitted with them.
- The role of the new Local Plan in progressing electric vehicle friendly policies in the non-domestic setting.
- The proposed study included the examination of the Council's property portfolio to identify how this could be coherently retrofitted with electric vehicle charging points.
- How the Council's experience and findings might be shared with Parish Council's to enable them to undertake such work and the possibility of partnership working with them.
- How the Council was working to learn from other local authorities who might be more experienced in this area; including the use of private/public partnerships to bring in the leaders in this field in larger scale projects and in the use of cutting edge technology.
- Funding streams that might assist with the provision of electric vehicle charging points including, but not limited to, Government grants and the Regional Development Fund.
- The potential to use energy generated by solar farms within the Borough to supply electric vehicle charging points.
- Whether new street lighting columns could be adapted to include charging points for electric vehicles.
- How the Council can best future proof any work undertaken as part of this project.

Resolved – (1) That the report be noted and the Head of Streetsmart be thanked for his presentation.

(2) That officers be requested to consider ways in which the Council might assist Parish Councils in the provision of electric vehicle charging points.

(3) That officer be requested to investigate whether electric vehicle charging points can be included in street light columns when these are replaced.

(4) That officer investigate how the Council might apply for Government Grant funding for electric vehicle charging points during 2020/21.

23. Committee Work Programme

The Committee considered a report by the Chief Legal Officer setting out the Committee's proposed Work Programme for the Municipal Year 2019/20.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

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Work Programme 2020/21

Communities and Place

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date: 1st September 2020

Author: Chief Legal Officer

Wards: All Wards

Parishes Affected: All Parish Areas

1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 To give members the opportunity to consider issues that the Committee wish to include in its work programme for the 2020/21 Municipal Year
- 1.2 Under the Council's Constitution, Overview and Scrutiny Committees are required to agree a work programme at the start of the municipal year outlining their priorities and likely outcomes of considering these issues.

2. Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 Consider the draft Work Programme for the 2020/21 Municipal Year.
- 2.2 Appoint Members to any Task Groups agreed by the Committee.

3. Detail

- 3.1 This report seeks details of the topics for the Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme for 2020/21. A list dates and suggested topics is attached as Appendix 1 to the report.
- 3.2 To assist Members in developing the Committee's Work Programme, a copy of the current Cabinet Work Programme and Forward Plan, for the period 2nd July 2020 to 30th June 2021, can be inspected on the Council's website and copies can be obtained from the Committee Officer. A hard copy will be available for inspection at the meeting
- 3.3 Each Overview and Scrutiny Committee is requested to have a work programme that details the activities that it will be undertaking during the municipal year.
- 3.4 The work programme details the various topics and issues that each Committee intends to look into during the coming year with the aim of producing evidence based recommendations intended to provide service improvements for Cabinet and external agencies/bodies to consider.

The work programme is developed taking into account:

- Corporate priorities and objectives, including the Cabinet Forward Plan

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Contact Shaun Banks, 07980752047, sbanks@swindon.gov.uk

Work Programme 2020/21

Communities and Place

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date: 1st September 2020

- Partnership strategic priorities and objectives
 - The interests and concerns of Members, Council officers, members of the public and other stakeholders such as community and voluntary groups and local businesses
- 3.5 Committees are encouraged to review the work programme on a regular basis to ensure it remains relevant and to prioritise the workload of the Committee.
- 3.6 Members are reminded that the work programme must also take into account:
- The workload of the Committee and of individual members
 - The capacity of officers to support a review
 - The resource implications of carrying out a review
 - The timescales for a review
 - The most appropriate method of carrying out a review e.g. Committee meeting, Task Group, Member Champion review
- 3.7 The Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee is encouraged to be mindful of its role and remit when considering a work programme for the 2020/21 Municipal Year.
- 3.8 It is important that Overview and Scrutiny adds value to the work of the Council and the Borough and produces tangible outcomes for local people that result in real service improvements. Selecting the right topics is crucial to ensure that Overview and Scrutiny will be effective.

Task Group Reviews

- 3.9 The Committee is able to undertake individual reviews throughout the municipal year and proposals for reviews should be proposed and discussed at the Committee meeting.

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 The Committee can choose not to have a detailed work programme although it is recommended that it is best practice to do so.

5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial or procurement implications arising as a result of this report. Any expenditure arising as a result of an item on the Committee's work

Work Programme 2020/21

Communities and Place

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date: 1st September 2020

programme will be met by the Overview and Scrutiny Support budget, subject to the approval of the Committee.

Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 Section 21 of the Local Government Act requires every local authority to establish an overview and scrutiny function to hold the Executive to account, undertake policy development and review, monitor and improve performance.

All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

- 5.3 There are no other direct implications arising as a result of this report. Any further implications will be identified when a topic is reviewed by the Scrutiny Committee and in any recommendations made by the Scrutiny Committee.

Links to One Swindon, Plans and Policies

- 5.4 The remit of the Committee includes the review, scrutiny and development of policy recommendations and the monitoring performance of corporate priorities including One Swindon.

Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.5 No Diversity Impact Assessment is required at this stage, any DIA that is required during review of topics included within the work programme will be identified at the appropriate stage

Risk Management

- 5.6 No risk management issues have been identified at this stage, any risk management issues will be identified at the appropriate time when a topic is under review by the Scrutiny Committee and if it makes any recommendations.

6. Consultees

- 6.1 The Corporate Director of Finance and Assets (s151 officer) and Chief Legal Officer (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 None

8. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Suggested topics for the Communities and Place O/S Committee Work Programme for 2020/21.

Work Programme 2020/21

Communities and Place

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date: 1st September 2020

Appendix 2 – Scrutiny Process Flowchart

Work Programme 2020/21

Communities and Place

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date: 1st September 2020

Appendix 1

Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme 2020/21

Terms of Reference of the Committee

To fulfil all the functions of an overview and scrutiny committee as they relate to –

- the review, scrutiny and development of policy recommendations,
- the management of performance,
- the monitoring of progress towards delivering corporate priorities, and
- the formulation of advice for the Cabinet, Council and other partners and stakeholders.

To have specific responsibility for (but not limited to) the scrutiny of: -

- the performance of services seeking to deliver sustainable communities against agreed local and national performance indicators,
- StreetSmart services,
- Transport and strategic transport planning,
- Flood risks,
- Environment and sustainability,
- Waste and Recycling,
- Library services,
- Business Support,
- Parishes and Devolution,
- Community and Neighbourhoods,
- Localities
- Volunteering

Review of the Work Programme

The work programme will be reviewed at every meeting of the Communities and Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee to ensure that it remains relevant, to ensure that Members and Officers have sufficient capacity to deliver the work programme and to include any additional items on the work programme, if appropriate.

Work Programme 2020/21

Communities and Place

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date: 1st September 2020

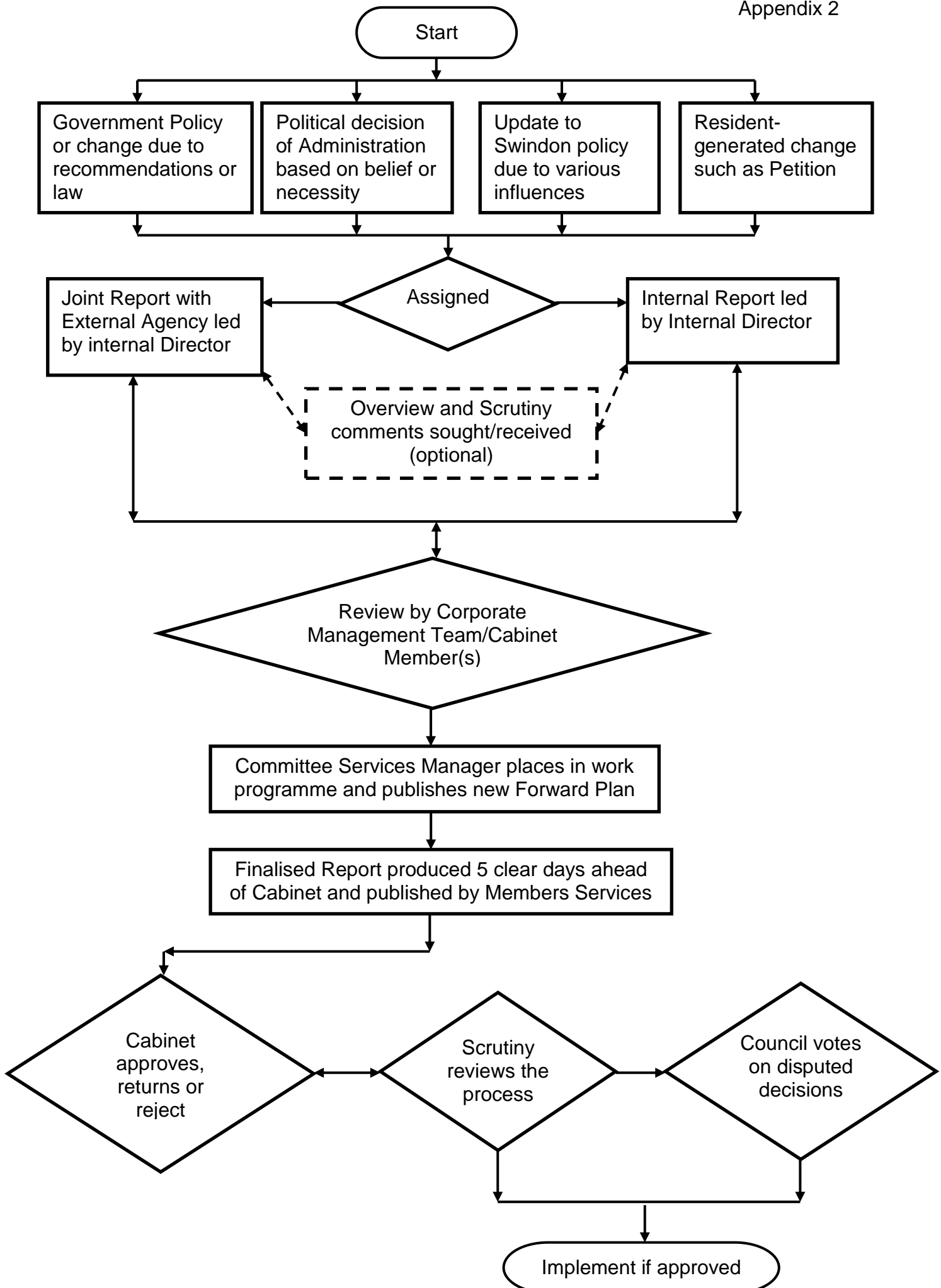
Dates of Meetings:

18th November 2020

- Work Programme 2020/21
- COID Recovery – effect on work within Committee remit
- Strategic Transport Planning – Proposed schemes during the Municipal Year

27th January 2021

- Work Programme 2020/21
- Overview of Solar Schemes within the Borough
- Update on LED Streetlight Installation



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