

# Swindon Borough Council

## Scrutiny Committee

**Monday, 19 June 2017**

Committee Room 6, Civic Offices

At 6.00 p.m.

### **Conservative Councillors**

Claire Ellis  
Dale Heenan  
Emma Faramarzi  
(Vice-Chair)  
Kevin Parry  
Gary Sumner  
Timothy Swinyard  
Vera Tomlinson

### **Labour**

**Councillors**  
Robert Wright  
(Chair)  
Ray Ballman  
Mark Dempsey  
Des Moffatt  
James Robbins  
Chris Watts

### **Contact Officers:**

Stuart Figini (Committee Officer) 01793 463612 [sfigini@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:sfigini@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.

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## **AGENDA**

### **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. 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.

### **4. Minutes (Pages 5 - 10)**

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2017.

5. **Consideration of Cabinet and Cabinet Panel on School Organisation Decisions** DLDS (Pages 11 - 12)
6. **Leader of the Council: Annual Report** (Pages 13 - 44)
7. **Work Programme 2017/18** (Pages 45 - 70)
8. **Status of Requests for Action and/or Information** (Pages 71 - 82)

**Date of Despatch:** 07 June 2017

**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). We will give priority to those who submit questions in writing at least two days before the meeting. 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 Director of Law and Democratic Services, 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?sch=doc&cat=13338&path=0>) or from the Committee Officer named above.

### **The Scrutiny Committee - Terms of Reference**

- To meet at regular intervals to review the policies, process and implications of Cabinet, Cabinet Member and Officer decision making and the way in which Cabinet and Cabinet Member decisions are made;
- To consider requests for "Call-in" as defined in the Council's "Call-in" Procedure;
- To refer decisions back to Cabinet (or the decision maker) for reconsideration. It may do this once for any individual decision, after which if there is no agreement the decision will be referred to the full Council for determination;
- To refer Cabinet and Cabinet Member decisions to the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee for investigation without delaying the implementation of the decision concerned;
- To receive a report by the Leader of the Council at its first meeting after each Annual Council Meeting (or at such a meeting as is agreed by the Chair of the Committee and the Leader of the Council) on the service issues for the year ahead, the Leader of the Council's priorities for the coming year and on the Council's performance in the previous year;
- To oversee the arrangements for Overview and Scrutiny within the Council, including determining (i) where matters fall within the remit of more than one Overview and Scrutiny Committee which of those Committees will assume responsibility for any particular issue, (ii) a system to ensure that referrals from

Committees to the Cabinet, either by way of report or for reconsideration are managed efficiently and do not exceed any limits set out in the Council's Constitution, and (ii) in the event of reports to the Cabinet exceeding any limits in this Constitution or if the volume of such reports creates difficulty for the management of Cabinet business or jeopardises the efficient running of Council business, at the request of the Cabinet to make decisions about the priority of referrals made.

- To carry out any investigation into the business and functions of the Council and to call in any Cabinet Member or senior officer of the Council so that they can offer advice, support or answer any question that will assist the Committee in carrying out its functions.
- To carry out an external scrutiny function, particularly in relation to corporate issues and issues falling into the remit of a number of Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

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 against corporate priorities and
- the formulation of advice for the Cabinet, Council and other partners and stakeholders.

To have specific responsibility (but not limited to)

- Good governance and the operation of Law and Democratic Services
- The Budget Scrutiny function.

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**SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**TUESDAY, 2 MAY 2017**

PRESENT:- Councillors Robert Wright (Chair), Emma Bushell, Claire Ellis (Vice-Chair), Emma Faramarzi, Nick Martin, Cathy Martyn, Gemma McCracken, Des Moffatt, Kevin Parry, James Robbins, Chris Watts and Steve Weisinger

Councillors David Renard (Leader of the Council), Oliver Donachie (Cabinet Member for Housing and Homelessness), Toby Elliott (Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Sustainability), Fionuala Foley (Cabinet Member for Children's Services), Mary Martin (Cabinet Member for Communities), Garry Perkins (Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration and Skills) and Keith Williams (StreetSmart, Highways and Transport)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mark Dempsey and Vera Tomlinson

**82. Declarations of Interest**

The Chair reminded Members of the need to declare any known interests in any matters to be considered at the meeting. The following declarations were made during the meeting:

1. Councillor Gemma McCracken made a personal, non-prejudicial declaration of interest in respect of Agenda Item 5 "Consideration of Cabinet decisions", (Draft Economic Strategy for Swindon to 2026), on the grounds that her husband is a tenant of a commercial unit in the Town Centre.
2. Councillor Toby Elliott made a personal, non-prejudicial declaration of interest in respect of Agenda Item No. 5 "Consideration of Cabinet Decisions", (Draft Airports National Policy Statements), on the grounds of his employment by Network Rail.

**83. Public Question Time**

Mr Jan Piechowicz, a local resident, submitted questions about the Council policies that regulate how Council Officers respond to questions asked by the public. The Director of Law and Democratic Services agreed to meet with Mr Piechowicz to discuss the matter further.

**84. Minutes**

Resolved – That the minutes of the meetings held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017 and 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017, be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**85.**

## **Consideration of Cabinet Decisions**

The Director of Law and Democratic Services submitted a report introducing decisions arising from the Cabinet meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

### *117. Budget Management Update 2016/17*

Councillors David Renard, Leader of the Council and Chair of the Cabinet and Oliver Donachie, Cabinet Member for Housing and Homelessness responded to questions put by the Chair and Councillors Des Moffatt on the Revenue forecast out-turn 2016/17 and savings within the Housing Revenue Account.

Resolved – That Minute 117 of the Cabinet be noted.

### *118. Housing Revenue Account Acquisitions Programme 2017/18*

Councillors Oliver Donachie, Cabinet Member for Housing and Homelessness and Toby Elliott, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Sustainability, responded to questions put by the Chair and Councillors Cathy Martyn, Des Moffatt, James Robbins and Chris Watts on the following matters:

- The inclusion of former council housing stock within the process of improvement works to meet the Decent Homes Standard.
- Building new homes with Right to Buy receipts
- The standard of existing homes compared to new builds.
- The consideration given to building on Council owned land prior to the purchase of new plots.
- Timescales for the building programme.
- Demand for Social Housing and availability of dwellings.
- Impact on the homeless following a reduction in funding from the Government.
- The availability of affordable housing for people employed by large distribution centres in the New Eastern Villages.
- The introduction of the Benefit Cap and its impact on family's ability to purchase affordable housing.
- The potential for the delivery of 30% affordable housing within the New Eastern Villages development.
- The expected rent returns from the proposals.

Resolved – That Minute 118 of the Cabinet be noted.

### *119. Education Transport*

Resolved – That Minute 119 of the Cabinet be noted.

### *120. Swindon Challenge*

Councillor Fionuala Foley, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, responded to questions put by the Chair and Councillors Cathy Martyn, Gemma McCracken, James Robbins and Chris Watts on the following matters:

- The number of Ofsted inspection reports in Swindon schools rated as good or better against the national average and comparisons with the Swindon GCSE outcomes against national outcomes.
- Celebrating positive achievements in education through Swindon Challenge.
- Looked after Children and GCSE outcomes.
- Actions undertaken to ensure strong leadership of academies.
- The controls to improve outcomes for young people and improve school performance offered by the Swindon Challenge.
- The management structures of Multi Academy Trusts.
- The movement of pupils between underperforming and higher performing schools.
- Swindon Challenge key initiative of making Swindon 'A Learning Town'.

Resolved – That Minute 120 of the Cabinet be noted.

*121. Karen Reeve, Director of Children's Services*

Resolved – That Minute 121 of the Cabinet be endorsed.

*122. Swindon Local Transport Plan Implementation Plan 2017/18*

Councillor Keith Williams, Cabinet Member for StreetSmart, Highways, and Transport, responded to questions put by the Chair and Councillors Emma Faramarzi, Cathy Martyn, Des Moffatt and James Robbins on the following matters:

- A decision on the B4005 Wroughton – Three Tuns roundabout to west of Wanshot Close Maintenance Scheme.
- Definition of 'Thematic', in relation to the supplementary documents supporting the current Local Transport Plan.
- Importance of Councillor engagement with officers in relation to Local Transport Plan schemes.
- Delays in delivering projects supported by Locality funds.

Resolved – That Minute 122 of the Cabinet be noted.

*123. Draft Airports National Policy Statement*

Councillor Garry Perkins, Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration and Skills, responded to questions put by the Chair and Councillor Des Moffatt on the following matters:

- Aspirations for a low carbon economy and the justification for additional flight paths in the vicinity of Swindon following proposals for the expansion of Heathrow Airport.
- Air quality and the size of particulates.

Resolved – That Minute 123 of the Cabinet be noted.

#### *124. Draft Economic Strategy for Swindon to 2026*

Councillor Garry Perkins, Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration and Skills, responded to questions put by the Chair and Councillors Gemma McCracken, Des Moffatt and James Robbins on the following matters:

- Implementation of successful economic strategies.
- Managing processes to accelerate growth in Swindon's economy.
- Achieving maximum impact and engagement with the public consultation.
- Engagement with business and education sectors.
- Measuring the current and future success of Swindon's economy.
- Funding for town centre regeneration.

Resolved – That Minute 124 of the Cabinet be noted.

#### *125. Libraries Strategy – Alternative Delivery Models*

Councillor Mary Martin, Cabinet Member for Communities, responded to questions put by the Chair and Councillors Gemma McCracken, Des Moffatt and James Robbins on the following matters:

- Consultation about the intention to establish a Public Service Mutual for the delivery of Library services.
- Consultation outcomes and future delivery models.
- The transfer and control of assets.
- Process for approving the successful delivery option.
- Future Scrutiny of the preferred delivery partner.

Resolved – That Minute 125 of the Cabinet be noted.

#### *126. Swindon Libraries – Children's Library Membership*

Councillor Mary Martin, Cabinet Member for Communities, responded to a question put by Councillor Gemma McCracken on the following matters:

- Marketing of the Library Service to parents by the Register Office.

Resolved – That Minute 126 of the Cabinet be noted.

#### *127. References from Other Council Bodies – Health and Wellbeing Board*

Councillor David Renard, Leader of the Council, and Chair of the Cabinet, responded to questions put by the Chair and Councillors Claire Ellis, Gemma McCracken on the following matters:

- Enforcement of no smoking at Swindon Bus Station.
- Extension of deadlines for the Place of Safety Consultation.
- Successful approach by Health Watch to Dementia.



- The number of Swindon resident's accessing the Place of Safety.

Resolved – That Minute 127 of the Cabinet be noted.

#### 128. *Wichelstowe Parcels 2 and 3*

Councillor Toby Elliott, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Sustainability, responded to a question put by Councillor Cathy Martyn about the marketing of the site.

Resolved – That Minute 128 of the Cabinet be noted.

### **86. Work Programme**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Law and Democratic Services setting out the topics for inclusion in the 2016/17 Scrutiny Work Programme as agreed by the Committee at its meeting on 20th June 2016.

The Chair informed the Committee that he had attended a meeting of the Corporate Governance Working Group which considered a report on the development of the Council's Scrutiny process and the introduction of a government style 'Green Paper' approach. The Committee were informed that this approach would allow Members the opportunity to be involved in the oversight and development of matters of interest detailed in the Cabinet Forward Plan, prior to Cabinet consideration. The Leader of the Council encouraged all Chairs of Scrutiny and Overview and Scrutiny Committees to consider the Cabinet Forward Plan to identify matters that might be of particular relevance to Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

Resolved – That the work programme 2016/17 and comments by the Chair and Leader of the Council be noted.

### **87. Status of Requests for Action and/or Information**

The Committee received an updated report advising on the status of outstanding issues and member requests for information.

Resolved – That the report on the status of outstanding issues and member requests for information be noted.

### **88. Chair's Announcement**

The Chair thanked all members for their help and support during the year.

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## Consideration of Cabinet and Cabinet Panel Decisions

**Scrutiny Committee**

**Date: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

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Author: Director of Law and Democratic Services  
Wards: All  
Parishes Affected: All

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### **1. Purpose and Reasons**

- 1.1 To allow the Scrutiny Committee to consider the decisions arising from the meeting of the Cabinet and Cabinet Panel on School Organisation held on the 14<sup>th</sup> June 2017.
- 1.2 The Scrutiny Committee's Terms of Reference include the review of the Cabinet decision making process and the way in which Cabinet decisions are made. As part of the Scrutiny function the Scrutiny Committee is able: -
  - (a) to refer decisions back to Cabinet for reconsideration. It may do this once for any individual decision, after which, if there is no agreement, the decision will be referred to the full Council for determination
  - (b) to refer Cabinet decisions to the relevant Overview Committee

### **2. Recommendations**

The Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 Review the process of Cabinet decision-making and the decisions made.

### **3. Detail**

- 3.1 The Scrutiny Committee is invited to review the decisions of the Cabinet and Cabinet Panel on School Organisation to be held on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2017. (The minutes of this meetings will be forwarded to Members as soon as they become available.)

### **4. Alternative Options**

- 4.1 None

### **5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management**

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 This report has no financial or procurement implications. Such implications are set out in the original reports previously circulated to all Councillors with the Cabinet Agenda.

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Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Stuart Figini (Committee Officer), Direct Dial Telephone Number 01793 463612, [sfigini@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:sfigini@swindon.gov.uk)

# Consideration of Cabinet and Cabinet Panel Decisions

Scrutiny Committee

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017

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## Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 Legal and Human Rights considerations have been fully taken into account in compiling this report. It is considered that the recommendations of this report are compatible with convention rights.

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

- 5.3 None

## Links to One Swindon, Plans and Policies

- 5.4 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.

## 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 Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

## **7. Background Papers**

- 7.1 Cabinet Agenda and Cabinet Panel on School Organisation for the meetings held on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

## **8. Appendices**

- 8.1 The draft minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet and Cabinet Panel on School Organisation held on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2017 (to follow).

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Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Stuart Figini (Committee Officer), Direct Dial Telephone Number 01793 463612, [sfigini@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:sfigini@swindon.gov.uk)

## Leader of the Council: Annual Report

**Scrutiny Committee**

**Date: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

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Author: Leader of the Council

Wards: All

Parishes Affected: All

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### **1. Purpose and Reasons**

- 1.1 To allow the Leader of the Council to set out the Administration's record in the 2016/17 as well as the priorities for the 2017/18 Municipal Year.
- 1.2 To allow the Scrutiny Committee to ask questions about those priorities.
- 1.3 The body of the report contains references to a number of the Council's plans and policies and allows the Scrutiny Committee to discharge one of its functions under Article 6.02 of the Council's Constitution.

### **2. Recommendations**

The Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 Note the achievements for 2016/17 and Leader's comments on the year ahead.
- 2.2 Put relevant questions to the Leader of Council;
- 2.3 Decide if any changes to the Overview and Scrutiny work programmes are required as a result of the progress report; and
- 2.4 Decide if any further action is required.

### **3. Detail**

Achievements in 2016/17

Delivering the Pledges and Priorities supporting Swindon's Vision

- 3.1 The 2017/18 Municipal Year was the first full year in which the Council and its partners to start delivering the 30 pledges contained in the Council's Vision. We have made the process as transparent as possible in two ways.
  - 3.1.1 We have the performance dashboard that is easily accessible through the internet. A full list of the pledges is attached at Appendix A.
  - 3.1.2 I have assigned specific pledges to individual cabinet members so there is clear responsibility and accountability. A full list is attached at Appendix B.

What We have done well

- 3.2 We have undertaken a massive programme to devolve decision-making and the control of services to local communities along with increasing local democracy.

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Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Steve Jones, (01793) 463602 [stevejones@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:stevejones@swindon.gov.uk)

# Leader of the Council: Annual Report

**Scrutiny Committee**

**Date: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

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Through the Community Governance Review, every part of Swindon now has a Civil Parish while all but one part also has elected town or parish councillors. I would like to thank Councillor Mary Martin and all the staff involved in this process.

- 3.3 As a local authority, we were also able to take the bold decision to sell the loss-making Thamesdown Transport Ltd to Go South Coast, part of the GoAhead Group. While there will be some ongoing liabilities, we have received short term cash injection and at the same time we have ensured there is competition to provide public transport. I cannot provide more details as the item at Cabinet was private and confidential owing to its commercial nature. This decision should help ensure we get the best value for money from any routes we secure through tender as well as helping customers get a better deal by retaining consumer choice. I would like to pay tribute to all the Council appointed board members from both the majority and opposition groups for their work and support in this complex commercial transaction.

- 3.4 We have completed the following pledges.

3.4.1 Pledge 8. In February 2017, we finished the redevelopment of Sussex Square, which includes new shops, flats and homes.

- 3.5 We are making good progress on the following:

## Priority One

3.5.1 Pledge 2. We are already producing 167 megawatts of electricity through sustainable means towards our target of 200 megawatts by 2020. Alongside this we have completed our carbon management plans to reduce the amount emitted through the council's activities.

3.5.2 We are keeping traffic moving on our managed A class roads at a safe, not excessive speed. Our target by 2019 is to see average speeds no higher than 26.4mph and they are currently 25.8mph. We can have a healthy economy and safe roads at the same time.

3.5.3 Pledge 14 As a planning authority, we are continuing to operate effectively as part of a strategic goal to support managed development. As at October 2016, 12,284 properties had been given planning permission on a number of sites, including Tadpole Village Farm and Badbury Village. It is now for the developers who secured those permissions to fulfil their role and start construction.

## Priority Two

3.5.4 Pledge 15 Since forming the Administration in 2003 and inheriting so many schools that were in such poor condition that they were not fit for purpose, along with my predecessors Mike Bawden and Rod Bluh, we have put

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# Leader of the Council: Annual Report

Scrutiny Committee

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017

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providing new and improved school buildings at the heart of our capital programme. Not only have we replaced many of the obsolete classroom that only had running water when it rained, but we have kept pace with the town's growing population.

- 3.5.5 In September 2017, 91.4% of primary school pupils will have a place at their most preferred schools, while 98% will have a place at one of the three schools they choose. Both of these figures are slightly up on 2016.
- 3.5.6 By April 2017, seven new schools had been approved by the Department for Education, consisting of two secondary schools, four primary schools and one special school.
- 3.5.7 Pledge 16. Our local economy continues to thrive. Our annual Gross Value Added per worker is £59,212 which is better than Bristol and Norwich and on par with international university towns like Oxford and Cambridge. Employment is now at 80.3% (December 2016) and was above both the British and South West average employment rates.
- 3.5.8 Following a reorganisation of the One Swindon partnership a business led place marketing board was established at the beginning of the year and the Switch on to Swindon campaign was successfully launched in January. To date over 400 ambassadors, representing businesses and organisations in Swindon, have signed up to support the campaign and it has received widespread media backing. A first class digital presence, along with associated marketing material, has been created including the 'Swindon in Motion' campaign film which has had over 125,000 views.

## Priority Three

- 3.5.9 Pledge 20. Our programme of devolution to existing parishes has seen an improvement in the quality of street cleaning in those areas. I am confident that the new parishes created this April will soon follow suit and that more residents will benefit from improvements. However, this is one area where no council, borough or parish, can do everything. While we value the efforts of local communities to help with neighbourhood clean-up days, the most sustainable solution is that we all follow the simple rules of getting rid of our own rubbish appropriately. We cannot afford to be a "throw away" society.

## Priority Four

- 3.5.10 Pledge 24. Without revenue the Borough could not provide any services and Council Tax is our principal source of income. This year we have raised the average Band D Council Tax by 4.99%, the most that was

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permitted without a referendum. It was only the second increase in seven years. Data from the Department for Communities and Local Government confirm that not only was Swindon's increase in line with many other councils, but that our average Band D tax was also lower.

Table 1 Comparison of Average Band D Council Taxes

Local authority	Adult social care element of Average Band D council tax	Average council tax for the authority including adult social care precept, excluding parish precepts (Band D)	Average council tax for the authority including adult social care and parish precepts (Band D)
	£	£	£
<b>SHIRE UNITARY AUTHORITIES</b>			
Swindon	36	1,251	1,350
Wiltshire	38	1,335	1,430
Reading	43	1,491	1,491
Bristol	44	1,549	1,549

Source: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/council-tax-levels-set-by-local-authorities-in-england-2017-to-2018>. Table 7: 2017-18 Council Tax (average Band D) and % change on 2016-17, individual local authorities

3.5.11 The Council has achieved a 97.9% collection rate for 2016/17, which was above our target. At the same time, the Council has taken a number of initiatives to prevent people from falling behind on Council Tax and rent and so help them avoid costly collection charges. We have also introduced a number of measures to reduce the use of bailiffs and



# Leader of the Council: Annual Report

**Scrutiny Committee**

**Date: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

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summonses issued. The Council issued 8642 summonses in 2016/17, which is a fall of 8.2% on 2015/16 and 38.4% on 2013/14.

- 3.6 Since the Council has been prudent in maintaining reserves and allocating money to change the organisation to meet now demands, we were able to cope with two unexpected pressures that had adverse effects on our Adult Social Care budget.
- 3.7 Central government legislated to create a National Minimum Living Wage to complement its previous policy of increasing the personal allowance, the amount that you can be paid before you pay income tax. While I welcome lifting the tax burden on the lowest paid employees, the government's decision added more than 1m of extra cost pressures to our adult social care budgets in order to cover the additional pay to our contractors.
- 3.8 The second problem was that Seqol, the not-for profit social enterprise commissioned by the Council and the Clinical Commissioning Group to provide adult care services became financially insolvent. The first priority for Councillor Brian Ford, the Cabinet Member, and the officers, was to ensure that there was no break in the care provided to residents. I would like to repudiate the allegation made in some partisan leaflets that the Council was responsible for this business failure.
- 3.9 I am delighted to report that no residents were affected as the management of the services changed from Seqol to the Borough. I would like to thank Cllr Ford and the Opposition Group spokesperson for their efforts in ensuring that this issue was resolved successfully.

## Challenges for the Year Ahead

- 3.10 At a national level, our first task will be to work with the new government for the benefit of the residents of Swindon. This will contribute to our ongoing review of the detailed tasks within each pledge to ensure that they have not been overtaken by policy developments and that they are still the most appropriate actions to ensure success.
- 3.11 I am delighted that my Cabinet covers a range of experiences, skills, and backgrounds outside the Council. I have also taken the opportunity to revise the portfolio to ensure more political capacity is brought to bear on economic development and rebuilding the town centre.
- 3.12 The portfolios will be as follows
- 3.12.1 Leader of the Council, David Renard
  - 3.12.2 Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Commercialisation, Russell Holland

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Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Steve Jones, (01793) 463602 [stevejones@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:stevejones@swindon.gov.uk)

# Leader of the Council: Annual Report

**Scrutiny Committee**

**Date: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

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- 3.12.3 Cabinet Member for the Economy and Skills, Oliver Donachie
- 3.12.4 Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Sustainability, Toby Elliott
- 3.12.5 Cabinet Member for Children's Services and School Attainment, Fionuala Foley
- 3.12.6 Cabinet Member for Adults' Health and Social Care, Brian Ford
- 3.12.7 Cabinet Member for Communities and Place, Mary Martyn
- 3.12.8 Cabinet Member for Housing and Public Safety, Cathy Martyn
- 3.12.9 Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Garry Perkins
- 3.12.10 Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Digitalisation, Keith Williams
- 3.13 The complete set Cabinet Members' responsibilities is attached at Appendix 2.
- 3.14 This new Cabinet Structure will double the amount of political leadership and resource that the Administration gives to economic development and regeneration. It complements the commitment we made in the Vision and sends an unequivocal message to employers, investors, and wealth creators that Swindon wishes to enhance its role as an economic powerhouse. Alongside this we will have a modern town centre with the retail, leisure and cultural facilities, a wide range of good or outstanding schools and excellent housing and infrastructure that will make it as easy as possible for employers to continue to attract
- 3.15 Alongside this we will continue to provide the necessary personalised support and care services to vulnerable elderly residents, those with learning difficulties and on safeguarding children. These are not parts of the Vision even though they consume over 70% of the revenue budget and the term "business as usual" is woefully inadequate given the importance of the outcomes we are trying to secure.
- 3.16 In re-appointing Councillors Fionuala Foley and Brian Ford, I wish to show to those who need our support as well as the council staff and those who provide the actual services that this Administration takes both quality of care and value for money seriously.
- 3.17 As part of this, one of the major tasks for Councillor Foley will be working with the new Director of Children's Services.
- 3.18 There are a number of specific pledges where we need to achieve more that I would wish to highlight. However, I would remind Members that the Council is

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# Leader of the Council: Annual Report

## Scrutiny Committee

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only one partner in this process and success will come from our ability to engage others to work with us.

- 3.19 We have a major task to work with schools to raise education attainment in the Borough. As Members will be aware, the all but one secondary school and around half the primary schools are completely separate from the Council since they have become Academies or parts of Academy Trusts. The term “local education authority” is somewhat outdated as the Council carries liability for any underperformance but we have no executive powers to intervene.
- 3.20 Although we have no powers over schools, this is an opportunity for the Borough to use its far more extensive powers to influence Academies and Academy Trusts. We have set up the Swindon Education Challenge and reported its work in full to Cabinet on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017 and Scrutiny on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2017. I am confident that this Board will continue to strengthen the partnership working with and between schools.
- 3.21 I would like to echo Councillor Foley, the Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, who reminded Scrutiny on 2<sup>nd</sup> May that improving exams result is a responsibility for us all and as ward councillors we can show leadership on this by visiting schools in our wards and working with teachers and parents.
- 3.22 Pledge 14: As stated above, Swindon has been good at granting planning permissions, which more than exceed the number needed to show a five-year land supply. Unfortunately, developers have not commenced work as soon as we would like.
- 3.23 The Council is pragmatic and is prepared to follow any route that will secure its desired outcome. If the private sector is not able to deliver, the local authority is now ready to intervene to secure new homes. That is why we have taken a number of reports to Cabinet setting out how we will use the Council’s resources, as a partner or developer, to ensure that we build new homes. As well as opening up more parts of Wichelstowe, we are also building on small plots of land across the Borough to provide new homes for sale or rent and additional assisted living bungalows to allow more vulnerable elderly residents and those with learning difficulties to live independently.
- 3.24 Swindon Town Centre remains a concern. We need the private sector developers’ resources to enable this large scale rebuilding to go ahead. The Council is supporting this by securing money from the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership for infrastructure improvements such as the new bus station.
- 3.25 Alongside this, we are focusing Forward Swindon Ltd on delivering specific projects so that our limited public sector investment can act as a spur to private developers. We have projects in hand to make better commercial use of the

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Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Steve Jones, (01793) 463602 [stevejones@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:stevejones@swindon.gov.uk)

# Leader of the Council: Annual Report

**Scrutiny Committee**

**Date: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

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Carriage works, to redevelop the former Aspen House site, and to develop 1-3 Faringdon Road, the former W G Little building.

- 3.26 The Administration remains committed to finding sustainable uses for any heritage buildings that the Council owns as well as working in partnership with those who own such properties to enable them to be viable going concerns. I am delighted that the Council is working with GLL, the swimmers and other users of the Health Hydro, and the Heritage groups to look at possible options to preserve the historic building without public subsidy.
- 3.27 Our work with Swindon Museum and Art Gallery Trust to prepare out bid for the Heritage Lottery Fund remains an important task. We have three goals for which we need a new, iconic building.
- 3.27.1 We want to display our large collection of museum artefacts and more of our world-renowned Twentieth Century Art, which currently has to be locked away in storage,
- 3.27.2 We need the building in a location that will support the shops, homes and offices planned for the town centre, which is why the Carriage Works, the Mechanics' or the Health Hydro are unsuitable
- 3.27.3 The facility must be able to generate its own income through shops, cafes or restaurants so that it becomes completely free from Tax Payers' subsidy.
- 3.28 I am confident that the new Museum and Art Gallery Trust Director will work with all key partners to help us realise our shared ambition.
- 3.29 We cannot overlook the continued pressure on the Council's finances as demand for personal care services will continue to rise simply from the demographic pressure of a growing, ageing population. There are still too many unanswered questions about implications of the full transfer of business rates to local authorities, especially to those like Swindon that have a healthy business sector that was used to subsidised less developed areas in the UK.
- 3.30 We are looking to expand our commercial activities both to provide new sources of income and to help support the local economy. Council has now approved the creation of a commercial investment fund, a Commercial Investment Strategy Board and a cross party Cabinet Member Advisory Group to support the decision-making process. We have had one proposal through this process so far and I would like to record my thanks to the CMAG Members for their constructive comments at the meeting.
- 3.31 Cabinet has approved the first steps to set up a wholly owned trading company limited by shares, through which the Council will design and construct housing on a commercial basis for sale and private market rent.
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Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Steve Jones, (01793) 463602 [stevejones@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:stevejones@swindon.gov.uk)

# Leader of the Council: Annual Report

Scrutiny Committee

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017

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## 4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 There are no alternative options; Article 6.02 of the Council's Constitution requires the Leader to submit a report.

## 5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

### Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial or procurement implications in this report.

### Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 The author has considered legal and human rights legislation in the preparation of this report. It is considered that the report's recommendations are compatible with Convention Rights.

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

- 5.3 Where appropriate, these are addressed in the body of the report.

### Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.4 Full Diversity Impact Assessments will be undertaken on proposals listed in this report when they are included in Cabinet reports for Members to determine whether to implement them. Hence, no DIA was undertaken at this time.

### Risk Management

- 5.5 None

## 6. Consultees

- 6.1 The Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

## 7. Background Papers

- 7.1 None

## 8. Appendices

- 8.1 Appendix 1: The Vision's Priorities and Pledges  
8.2 Appendix 2: The Cabinet Member Portfolios

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## Priority 1: Improve infrastructure and housing to support a growing, low-carbon economy.

Pledge – we will:		When
1	Deliver the Government standard Superfast Broadband coverage to all commercial and domestic premises in the Borough by 2017.	Short
2	Construct solar arrays on Council-owned land at Common Farm, Chapel Farm and a solar noise barrier along roads including the M4 at Wichelstowe.	Short
3	Demolish the obsolete Carlton Street and Wyvern car parks and use the space for regeneration.	Short
4	Make the case to Government to invest in a Thamesdown Drive extension and surrounding road improvements.	Short
5	Replace the current Health Centre in the town centre with a new and improved facility.	Medium

## Priority 1: Improve infrastructure and housing to support a growing, low-carbon economy.

Pledge – we will:		When
6	Establish effective and appealing pedestrian links from the Town Centre to North Star and enhance Wellington Street as a prime thoroughfare for the town.	Medium
7	Build new affordable homes including 200 new council homes and 66 units through the Affordable Housing Development programme at sites including the Hawthorns, the Royal British Legion site in Penhill, Townsend House in Old Town and the Former Refuge in Park South.	Medium
8	Complete the redevelopment of Sussex Square.	Medium
9	Develop Council-owned brownfield sites at Oakfield, and other sites as they become available, for housing.	Medium



## Priority 1: Improve infrastructure and housing to support a growing, low-carbon economy.

Pledge – we will:		When
10	As part of the town's regeneration: a) Re-develop the former Aspen House site / Granville Street area, to extend on the successful Regent Circus development. b) Make Havelock Square an attractive, safe open space to complement local shops.	Medium
11	Replace the current bus station with a new and modern facility.	Medium
12	Improve the town centre road network to pave the way for the Kimmerfields development.	Medium
13	Improve highway linkages to the Eastern Villages, particularly around the White Hart roundabout.	Medium
14	With Barratt Homes we will build up to 3,500 homes in Wichelstowe including the development of a district centre.	Medium/ Long

## Priority 2: Offer education opportunities that lead to the right skills and right jobs in the right places

Pledge – we will:		When
15	In addition to the two new Free secondary schools, build one secondary and 12 primary schools to meet the needs of our increasing population.	Medium - Long
16	Improve the reputation and image of Swindon to attract inward investment.	Short - Medium
17	Improve educational attainment, in particular at ages 16-19 so we are above the average in England within five years.	Medium
18	Increase the number of businesses employing young people as an apprentice from 15% to 20% (an additional 280).	Medium
19	Secure a range of options to access Higher Education in Swindon.	Long

## Priority 3: Ensure clean and safe streets and improve our public spaces and local culture.

### Pledge – we will:

### When

20	Find new ways to engage communities and neighbourhoods to increase the cleanliness of their local areas.	Short
21	Secure a new Museum and Art Gallery that can showcase the high quality art and exhibits that we possess.	Medium
22	Support the development of the new regional leisure destination at North Star.	Medium
23	a) Secure a sustainable future for the Mechanics Institute. b) Support the redevelopment of the Corn Exchange.	Long

## Priority 4: Help people to help themselves while always protecting our most vulnerable children and adults.

Pledge – we will:		When
24	Provide early support for people in debt so that we significantly reduce the need to use bailiffs to recover Council Tax and other debts.	Short
25	Deliver a borough-wide approach to increase the impact of volunteering, enabling more people to be active citizens in their communities.	Short
26	Work with the Clinical Commissioning Group and GP surgeries to help people with long term health and social care needs to manage their health effectively with support from community groups and multi-disciplinary teams	Medium

## Priority 4: Help people to help themselves while always protecting our most vulnerable children and adults

Pledge – we will:		When
27	Ensure that more people and their carers are supported to live as independently as possible and reduce the length of time people need to spend in residential care.	Medium
28	Increase the number of foster carers in Swindon so that every ‘child looked after’ who should be, is placed in their home borough.	Medium
29	Work with all of the 1270 families in Swindon who are in most need of support by 2020 in phase 2 of the Troubled Families Programme.	Medium
30	Reduce smoking prevalence to less than the England average.	Medium

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## Cabinet Portfolio Themes

Theme 1: Growing the Economy	
1 Cabinet Member for the Economy and Skills	
Councillor Oliver Donachie, Haydon Wick Ward	
<p>Switch on Swindon</p> <p>Economic Development</p> <p>Strategic (Commercial and non-Commercial Council-owned Property Portfolio)</p> <p>Adult Learning</p> <p>Higher/Tertiary Education</p> <p>Skills</p> <p>Country Parks (securing sustainable uses)</p> <p>Strategic Parking assets</p> <p>Parking Services – charges, and enforcement</p> <p>Apprentices</p> <p>Securing business growth and investment.</p>	<p>Priority two: Offer education opportunities that lead to the right skills and right jobs in the right places.</p> <p>16 Improve the reputation and image of Swindon to attract inward investment.</p> <p>18 Increase the number of businesses employing young people as an apprentice from 15% to 20% (an additional 280).</p> <p>19 Secure a range of options to access Higher Education in Swindon.</p>

Theme 1: Growing the Economy	
2 Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Sustainability	
Councillor Toby Elliott, Priory Vale Ward	
<p>Strategic Spatial Planning and Development Framework Planning</p> <p>The New Eastern Villages</p> <p>Neighbourhood Planning</p> <p>Building Control and Local Land Charges</p> <p>Housing Strategy</p> <p>Design-based consultancy</p> <p>Superfast Broadband</p> <p>Wichelstowe (Commercialisation)</p> <p>Sustainability</p> <p>Strategic flood and water management</p> <p>Public Power Solutions (PPS) – Client</p> <p>Strategic Transport Network</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New proposed major road schemes</li> <li>- Major road schemes outside the town centre (<i>inter alia</i> Junction 16, Greenbridge, etc.)</li> </ul>	<p>Priority one: Improve infrastructure and housing to support a growing, low-carbon economy.</p> <p>1 Deliver the Government standard Superfast Broadband coverage to all commercial and domestic premises in the Borough by 2017.</p> <p>2 Construct solar arrays on Council-owned land at Common Farm, Chapel Farm and a solar noise barrier along roads including the M4 at Wichelstowe.</p> <p>4 Make the case to Government to invest in a Thamesdown Drive extension and surrounding road improvements.</p> <p>9. Develop Council-owned brownfield sites at Oakfield, and other sites as they become available, for housing.</p> <p>13 Improve highway linkages to the Eastern Villages, particularly around the White Hart roundabout.</p> <p>14 With Barratt Homes we will build up to 3,500 homes in Wichelstowe including the development of a district centre.</p>



Theme 1: Growing the Economy	
3 Cabinet Member for Regeneration	
Councillor Garry Perkins, Haydon Wick Ward	
<p>Current Museums, including Steam Swindon Museum and Art Gallery</p> <p>Arts and Culture</p> <p>Community Heritage</p> <p>Regeneration</p> <p>Client Member for FSL Ltd</p> <p>Town Centre regeneration (including <i>inter alia</i>, Aspen House, Kimmerfields, and the Carriage Works, bus station, town centre parking strategy, Fleming Way)</p> <p>North Star</p> <p>Securing capital investment</p> <p>Specific Responsibility for Lydiard Park Project</p>	<p>Priority one: Improve infrastructure and housing to support a growing, low-carbon economy.</p> <p>3 Demolish the obsolete Carlton Street and Wyvern car parks and use the space for regeneration</p> <p>5 Replace the current Health Centre in the town centre with a new and improved facility</p> <p>6 Establish effective and appealing pedestrian links from the Town Centre to North Star and enhance Wellington Street as a prime thoroughfare for the town.</p> <p>10 As part of the town's regeneration:</p> <p>a. Re-develop the former Aspen House site / Granville Street area, to extend on the successful Regent Circus development. b. Make Havelock Square an attractive, safe open space to complement local shops</p> <p>11 Replace the current bus station with a new and modern facility.</p> <p>12 Improve the town centre road network to pave the way for the Kimmerfields development.</p> <p>22 Support the development of the new regional leisure destination at North Star.</p> <p>23 Long term To:</p> <p>a) Secure a sustainable future for the Mechanics Institute and</p> <p>b) Support the redevelopment of the Corn Exchange</p>

	<p>Priority three: Ensure clean and safe streets and improve our public spaces and local culture.</p> <p>21 Secure a new Museum and Art Gallery that can showcase the high quality art and exhibits that we possess.</p>
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Theme 2: Building Resilience	
<p>4 Cabinet Member for Children's Services and School Attainment</p> <p>Councillor Fionuala Foley, Chiseldon and Lawn Ward</p>	
<p>Children and Family Services including Early Help, Youth Offending Team, Young Person Substance Misuse team, Targeted Mental Health, Education Welfare, Educational Psychology, Youth Engagement, Services for Disabled Children</p> <p>Children's Social Work services</p> <p>Community Health Services including Health Visitors, School Nurses and Family Nurse Partnership, Paediatric Therapy Services, Speech and Language and Portage</p> <p>Local Safeguarding Children's Board</p> <p>Corporate Parenting Board</p> <p>Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)</p> <p>Education Services including, Provision for Early Years, LA Maintained Schools, Provision for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, Education Other Than At School, Tuition Service, Championing Excellence and Promoting High Standards</p> <p>Children Voluntary Sector Contracts</p> <p>Public Health – Children</p> <p>Fostering and adoption services</p> <p>Troubled Families</p> <p>Education Services including, Provision for Early Years, LA Maintained Schools, Provision for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, Education Other Than At School, Tuition Service, Championing Excellence and</p>	<p>Priority two: Offer education opportunities that lead to the right skills and right jobs in the right places.</p> <p>15 In addition to the two new free secondary schools, build one secondary and 12 primary schools to meet the needs of our increasing population.</p> <p>17 Improve educational attainment, in particular at ages 16-19 so we are above the average in England within five years.</p> <p>Priority four: Help people to help themselves while always protecting our most vulnerable children and adults.</p> <p>28 Increase the number of foster carers in Swindon so that every 'child looked after' who should be, is placed in their home borough.</p> <p>29 Work with all of the 1270 families in Swindon who are in most need of support by 2020 in phase 2 of the Troubled Families Programme</p>

Promoting High Standards	
Educational Challenge Board	
Schools' Forum	
Music Services	
Plas Pencelli Outdoor Education Centre	
Governor Support services	
Traded Services	

Theme 2: Building Resilience	
5 Cabinet Member for Adults' Health and Social Care	
Councillor Brian Ford, Wroughton and Wichelstowe Ward	
<p>Adult Services (older people, people with a learning disability, physical disabilities and mental health)</p> <p>Adult Voluntary Sector Contracts</p> <p>Implementation of Care Act 2014</p> <p>Adult Local Safeguarding Board</p> <p>Public Health – adults</p> <p>Supported Housing</p> <p>Learning Disability Partnership Board</p> <p>Maintaining links between the Council and partner organisations in the Health Services</p> <p>Health Improvement</p> <p>Sexual Health</p> <p>Oversight of Better Care Fund and integration with ASC and CCG Funding</p>	<p>Priority four: Help people to help themselves while always protecting our most vulnerable children and adults.</p> <p>26 Work with the Clinical Commissioning Group and GP surgeries to help people with long term health and social care needs to manage their health effectively with support from community groups and multi-disciplinary teams</p> <p>27 Ensure that more people and their carers are supported to live as independently as possible and reduce the length of time people need to spend in residential care.</p> <p>30 Reduce smoking prevalence to less than the England average</p>

Theme 2: Building Resilience	
6 Cabinet Member for Communities and Place	
Councillor Mary Martin, Shaw Ward	
<p>Waterside Depot Management, including Household Waste Recycling Centre</p> <p>StreetSmart</p> <p>Public Toilets,</p> <p>Waste Disposal / Waste Minimisation</p> <p>Street Lighting [maintenance and strategic]</p> <p>Street Cleaning</p> <p>Recycling</p> <p>Refuse Collection – Domestic &amp; Trade</p> <p>Ground &amp; Tree Maintenance and open spaces</p> <p>Removal of graffiti and abandoned vehicles</p> <p>Parks (Streetsmart services only)</p> <p>Environmental Issues Landscape &amp; Countryside (including Community Forest)</p> <p>Playgrounds, including those that are not presently utilised.</p> <p>Maintenance of Roundabouts and non-HRA verges</p> <p>Cemeteries and Crematoria Assets</p> <p>Building &amp; Engineering</p> <p>Building Services, cleaning, catering &amp; security services</p> <p>Gullies and drainage, minor road repairs, potholes</p>	<p>Priority one: Improve infrastructure and housing to support a growing, low-carbon economy.</p> <p>Priority three: Ensure clean and safe streets and improve our public spaces and local culture.</p> <p>20 Find new ways to engage communities and neighbourhoods to increase the cleanliness of their local areas.</p>

<p>Strategic Transport Network</p> <p>Public Transport (including Concessionary Fares, Specialist Transport, Council Transport and Fleet Management)</p> <p>Traffic and Transport Forward Planning (including Local Transport Plan and Implementation of Local Transport Plan)</p> <p>Strategic Highways &amp; Maintenance Works</p> <p>Building community capacity</p> <p>Liaison with parishes and increased collaboration</p> <p>Libraries</p> <p>Leisure strategy and relationship with GLL</p>	
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Theme 2: Building Resilience	
7 Cabinet Member for Housing and Public Safety	
Councillor Cathy Martyn, (Wroughton and Wichelstowe)	
<p>Allocations and Advice Services</p> <p>Empty Homes</p> <p>Estate and Tenancy Management</p> <p>Housing Enabling and Strategic Services</p> <p>Homeline Services</p> <p>Homelessness</p> <p>Housing Right to Buy/Sales Services</p> <p>Neighbourhood Wardens</p> <p>Private Sector Housing Renovation Grants</p> <p>Repair and Improvements to Council Housing Stock</p> <p>Sheltered Accommodation</p> <p>Environmental and Public Protection Services Gypsies, Travellers and Unauthorised Encampments</p> <p>Reducing Drugs, Alcohol and Substance Abuse</p> <p>Control Room Operations</p> <p>Principal Member for consultation on Public Space Protection Orders</p> <p>Envirocrime</p> <p>Licensing, including taxis, etc.</p> <p>Community Safety Partnership including young offenders and reducing anti-social behaviour</p> <p>Reducing Domestic Violence and Abuse</p> <p>Lead Member for PSPOs</p>	<p>Priority one: Improve infrastructure and housing to support a growing, low-carbon economy.</p> <p>7. Build new affordable homes including 200 new council homes and 66 units through the Affordable Housing Development programme at sites including the Hawthorns, the Royal British Legion site in Penhill, Townsend House in Old Town and the Former Refuge in Park South.</p> <p>8. Complete the redevelopment of Sussex Square.</p>



Theme 3: Corporate and Finance	
8 Cabinet Member for Finance and Commercialisation	
Councillor Russell Holland, St Margaret and South Marston Ward	
<p>Financial Management (Revenue and Capital Programme)</p> <p>Finance Management Overview</p> <p>Preparing Future Year's Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan</p> <p>Procurement</p> <p>Implementing Commercialisation Strategy</p> <p>Lead Member for commercial housing development</p> <p>The Council's Transformation Programme including Stronger Together</p> <p>Revenue and Benefits Services</p> <p>Developing Welfare and Benefits Policy</p> <p>Cabinet Member for the Commercial Investment Fund and Procurement</p> <p>Financial Management (Revenue and Capital Programme)</p> <p>Finance Management Overview</p> <p>Preparing Future Year's Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan</p>	<p>Priority four: Help people to help themselves while always protecting our most vulnerable children and adults.</p> <p>24 Provide early support for people in debt so that we significantly reduce the need to use bailiffs to recover Council Tax and other debts.</p>

Theme 3: Corporate and Finance	
9 Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Digitalisation	
Councillor Keith Williams, Shaw Ward	
<p>Digital by Design</p> <p>IT Strategy and delivery</p> <p>Emergency Planning</p> <p>Member Development</p> <p>Human Resources, Personnel &amp; Trades Union Relations, Equalities.</p> <p>Schools HR</p> <p>Human Resources, Personnel &amp; Trades</p> <p>The Council's Change Programme including Stronger Together</p> <p>Risk Management</p> <p>Customer Access strategy, including Customer Services and the One Stop Shop</p> <p>Health and Safety</p> <p>Operational Buildings and Property</p> <p>Corporate Performance Management</p> <p>Customer Services, including the One Stop Shop</p>	<p>Ensuring transparency and accountability for the Pledges</p>

Theme 3: Corporate and Finance	
10 Leader of the Council	
Councillor David Renard, Haydon Wick Ward	
<p>Overview of the Vision, Priorities, and Pledges</p> <p>Cabinet</p> <p>Communications Services</p> <p>Law and Democratic Services</p> <p>Management Overview, including Cemeteries &amp; Crematoria (operational)</p> <p>Local, National, Regional and External Relations</p> <p>Council Strategy, Strategic Objectives and Corporate Plan</p> <p>One Swindon Strategy</p> <p>Health and Well-Being Board</p> <p>Audit</p> <p>Corporate Governance</p> <p>Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)</p> <p>Police and Crime Commissioner liaison</p>	The entire Vision

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## Work Programme 2017/18

**Scrutiny Committee**

**Date: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

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Author: Director of Law and Democratic Services

Wards: All Wards

Parishes Affected: All Parish Areas

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### **1. Purpose and Reasons**

- 1.1 This report sets out details of the topics for the Scrutiny Committee work programme for 2017/18. Copy to be circulated.
- 1.2 Each Overview and Scrutiny Committee is required to have a work programme that details the activities that it will be undertaking during the municipal year.
- 1.3 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.
- 1.4 The report is required in order to provide members of the Scrutiny Committee with details of what will occur in regards to work programme development at the first meeting of the Municipal Year.

### **2. Recommendations**

The Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 Approve a work programme for the Scrutiny Committee for the 2017/18 Municipal year, ensuring they have taken into account the Leader of Council annual presentation, the priorities and suggestions of relevant Cabinet Members.
- 2.2 Once a work programme has been agreed the Committee Officer will make the necessary arrangements for the work programme to be carried out.

### **3. Detail**

The Work Programme

- 3.1 Each Overview and Scrutiny Committee is required to have a work programme that details the activities that it will be undertaking during the municipal year.

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Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Stuart Figini, Direct Dial Telephone Number 01793 463612, [sfigini@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:sfigini@swindon.gov.uk).

# Work Programme 2017/18

**Scrutiny Committee**

**Date: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

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- 3.2 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.
- 3.3 The work programme is developed taking into account:
- Corporate priorities and objectives, including the Cabinet Forward Plan
  - 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
- 3.4 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.
- 3.5 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

## Developing the Work Programme – The Executive

- 3.6 It is important that Overview and Scrutiny adds value to the work of the Council and its partner agencies, and produces tangible outcomes for local people that result in real service improvements. Selecting the right topics is crucial to ensure that scrutiny will be effective.
- 3.7 In order to help the Scrutiny Committee select the right topics for the work programme the Leader of Council give his annual presentation to the Committee at its first meeting of the new municipal year. The Leader will outline priority areas for the coming 12 months and highlighted problem areas or policies that required development and/or renewal. These issues should be considered by the Scrutiny Committee for possible inclusion in the work programme. In addition the Leader may make suggestions for the Scrutiny Committee to include in its work programme.

# Work Programme 2017/18

**Scrutiny Committee**

**Date: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

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- 3.8 Members of the Scrutiny Committee are encouraged to work with Cabinet in the best interests of the Borough and to take into account the priorities and suggestions of Cabinet as detailed in the Cabinet Work Programme and Forward plan, attached at Appendix 2 when considering the contents for their work programme.
- 3.9 In addition, Members attention is drawn to the Scrutiny Process Flowchart, attached at Appendix 3, which is aimed at assisting Members in identifying how they could influence policy development.

## Standard Work Programme items

- 3.10 In addition to selecting various topics and issues for inclusion in the work programme the Scrutiny Committee has a number of additional items that it has incorporated into its work programme, such as:
- Lead Member Question & Answer Sessions- each Cabinet Member will be expected to appear before the Scrutiny Committee to answer questions relating to their portfolio responsibilities, performance and future plans
  - Review of Cabinet Decisions – The Scrutiny Committee will be required to review the decisions taken by Cabinet
  - Leaders Report – the Scrutiny Committee will receive an annual presentation and a six monthly update form the Leader of the Council on the administrations priorities for the year and performance.

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

# Work Programme 2017/18

**Scrutiny Committee**

**Date: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

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## 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.

## Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.4 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

- 5.5 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 Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

## **7. Background Papers**

- 7.1 None.

## **8. Appendices**

- 8.1 Draft Work Programme 2017/18 – to be circulated.
- 8.2 Current Cabinet Work Programme and Forward Plan, for the period 27<sup>th</sup> April 2017 to 27<sup>th</sup> April 2018.
- 8.3 Scrutiny Process Flowchart.



## Swindon Borough Council

### CABINET WORK PROGRAMME AND FORWARD PLAN

27 APRIL 2017 - 27 APRIL 2018 – Proposed AGENDA ITEMS and KEY DECISIONS (as at 19/05/17)

**Key Decisions are defined as:**

- a) decisions that are likely to be significant in terms of spending or savings having had regard to the Council's budget for that particular service or function, and
- b) decisions that are likely to have a significant impact on two or more Council wards.

If you wish to make your views known on any matter set out in this work-plan, please contact the relevant Cabinet Member or the contact officer identified.

<b>Councillor:</b>	<b>Portfolio:</b>
David Renard	Leader of the Council and Chair of Cabinet
Russell Holland	Deputy Leader of the Council and Vice-Chair of Cabinet and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services
Oliver Donachie	Cabinet Member for Housing and Homelessness
Toby Elliott	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Sustainability
Fionuala Foley	Cabinet Member for Children's Services
Brian Ford	Cabinet Member for Adults' Health and Social Care
Mary Martin	Cabinet Member for Communities
Garry Perkins	Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration and Skills
Keith Williams	Cabinet Member for Streetsmart, Highways and Transport

### Cabinet Member Decisions Proposed for April 2017

Subject	Key Decision Yes/No?	Portfolio Holder / Cabinet Member	Decision Maker	Consultation Responses/Date of Notice	Contact Officer	Available Background Papers
Future of the Big Screen, Wharf Green	No	Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration and Skills	Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration and Skills	<p>Councillors Des Moffatt, Julie Wright and Junab Ali submitted no comments. Councillor Bob Wright asked that the proposed action be reconsidered on the following grounds: "The screen has always been portrayed as of Town Wide importance for Town wide benefits. In that sense this concerns the whole of the Council and therefore should be a decision of the Council as a whole.</p> <p>Date of Notice: 4<sup>th</sup> May 2017</p>	Head of Planning, Regulatory Services & Heritage or Claire Andrews Tel: 01793 466045 Email: candrews@swindon.gov.uk	Future of the Big Screen Wharf Green
Coate Agricultural Collection - Off site storage solutions	No	Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration and Skills	Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration and Skills	<p>Councillor Fionuala Foley commented supported the proposals, following amendments to address her views disposal and involving the heritage community. Councillor Eric Shaw supported the proposals and asked that the best items be displayed as soon as possible. Councillors Jim Robbins and Stan Pajak supported the proposals</p> <p>Date of Notice: 10<sup>th</sup> May 2017</p>	Head of Planning, Regulatory Services & Heritage Tel: 01793 466706 Email: rbell@swindon.gov.uk	Coate Agriculture Collection Off-site Storage Solutions

**Cabinet Meeting Date - 14th June 2017 (TBC)**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Key Decision Yes/No?</b>	<b>Portfolio Holder / Cabinet Member</b>	<b>Decision Maker</b>	<b>Consultation Responses/Date of Notice</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>	<b>Available Background Papers</b>
Budget Out-turn and Management 2016/17.	No	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2016	Director of Finance (s151) Officer Mick Bowden Tel: 07392 109917 or Email: mbowden@swindon.gov.uk	N/A
Housing Revenue Account - Medium Term Financial Plan	No	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2016	Director of Finance (s151) Officer or Paul Smith Tel: 07500 884176 or Email: psmith@swindon.gov.uk	N/A
Capital Programme Monitoring Out-Turn 2016/17	No	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2016	Director of Finance (s151) Officer or Ian Burbidge, Finance, Tel: 464384 or Email: iburbidge@swindon.gov.uk	N/A

Treasury Performance 2016/17	No	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2016	Director of Finance (s151) Officer or Paul Smith, Finance, Tel: 463976 or Email: psmith2@swindon.gov.uk	N/A
Motion At Council - Dial-A-Ride	No	Cabinet Member for StreetSmart, Highways and Transport	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 26 <sup>th</sup> January 2017	Jason Humm, Head of Highways & Transport or Nigel Hale Tel: 01793 466211 Email: nhale@swindon.gov.uk	N/A
School Place Planning	Yes	Cabinet Member for Children's Services	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 9 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	Head of Education or Gareth Cheal Tel: 01793 465802 Email: gcheal@swindon.gov.uk	N/A
The Swindon Housing (Holding) Company, Governance	Yes	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 9 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	Head of Housing Management & Community Safety Tel: 01793 464377 Email:	N/A

Arrangements		Finance and Corporate Services			Mash@swindon.gov.uk	
Wichelstowe - Parcels 2 and 3	No	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Sustainability	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2017	or Rob Powe Tel: 01793 463305 Email: rpowe@swindon.gov.uk	Cabinet Minute 128(2) refers
Wichelstowe Joint venture	Yes	Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration and Skills	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	or Emma Leake Tel: 01793 967277 Email: eleake@swindon.gov.uk	

**Cabinet Meeting Date - 12th July 2017 (TBC)**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Key Decision Yes/No?</b>	<b>Portfolio Holder / Cabinet Member</b>	<b>Decision Maker</b>	<b>Consultation Responses/Date of Notice</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>	<b>Available Background Papers</b>
Budget Management 2017-18	No	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2016	Director of Finance (s151) Officer Mick Bowden Tel: 07392 109917 or Email: mbowden@swindon.gov.uk	N/A
Education Transport Policy 2018-19.	No	Cabinet Member for Children's Services	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 13 <sup>th</sup> September 2016	Head of Education Peter Nathan Tel: 07467 440955 Email: pnathan@swindon.gov.uk	
Debt Management	No	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 13 <sup>th</sup> September 2016	Head of Revenues and Benefits Andy Stevens Tel: 01793 464661 Email: anstevens@swindon.gov.uk	

Progress - Priorities and Pledges	No	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	Samantha Mowbray or Carmel Burton Tel: 01793 46 6028 Email: carmelburton@swi ndon.gov.uk SMowbray@swind on.gov.uk	N/A
Skills and Employment Strategy	No	Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration and Skills	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2017	Corporate Director Economy, Regeneration & Skills or Philippa Venables Tel: 07824 550469 Email: pvenables@swind on.gov.uk	N/A
Swindon Borough Local Development Scheme Review 2017	Yes	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Sustainability	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2017	or Philip Smith Tel: 01793 466443 Email: psmith@swindon.g ov.uk	N/A
Libraries Strategy - Alternative Delivery	No	Cabinet Member for Communities	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2017	Head of Localities and Volunteering Patrick Weir Tel: 07946 595852	Cabinet Minute 125 2016/17 refers

Models					Email: pweir@swindon.gov.uk	
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**Cabinet Meeting Date - 6th September 2017 (TBC)**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Key Decision Yes/No?</b>	<b>Portfolio Holder / Cabinet Member</b>	<b>Decision Maker</b>	<b>Consultation Responses/Date of Notice</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>	<b>Available Background Papers</b>
Budget Management 2017/18 and 2017 -2021 Efficiency Statement	No	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 13 <sup>th</sup> September 2016	Director of Finance (s151) Officer Mick Bowden Tel: 07392 109917 or Email: mbowden@swindon.gov.uk	
Annual review of Local Ombudsman Complaints	No	Leader of the Council	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 13 <sup>th</sup> September 2016	Director of Law & Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) or Erz Turner Tel; 01793 463002 Email: eturner@swindon.gov.uk	
2020 Renewables target, the achievement of "subsidy free solar	Yes	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Sustainability	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2017	Andy Evans, Corporate Director, Economy, Regeneration, and Skills	Cabinet Minute 60(9) 2016/17 refers

projects and the reduction of Council energy costs by at least 20%					AEvans@swindon.gov.uk	
Draft Economic Strategy	No	Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration and Skills	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 16 <sup>th</sup> September 2016	Corporate Director Economy, Regeneration & Skills or Trudy Godfrey Tel: 01793 466416 Email: tgodfrey@swindon.gov.uk	Cabinet Minute 124 2016/17 refers
Kimmerfields Strategic Programme	No	Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration and Skills	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 18 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	Andy Evans, Corporate Director, Economy, Regeneration, and Skills or Trudy Godfrey Tel: 01793 466416 Email: tgodfrey@swindon.gov.uk AEvans@swindon.gov.uk	N/A

Lydiard House and Park - Business Transfer Agreement and Lease	Yes	Cabinet Member for Communities	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2017	Bernie Brannan, Corporate Director Communities and Place bbrannan@swindon.gov.uk	Cabinet Minute 107 (2016/17) refers
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**Cabinet Meeting Date - 18th October 2017 (TBC)**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Key Decision Yes/No?</b>	<b>Portfolio Holder / Cabinet Member</b>	<b>Decision Maker</b>	<b>Consultation Responses/Date of Notice</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>	<b>Available Background Papers</b>
2017-18 Budget Management, 2018-19 Draft Budget and Medium Term Resourcing Plan	Yes	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2106	Director of Finance (s151) Officer Mick Bowden Tel: 07392 109917 or Email: mbowden@swindon.gov.uk	N/A
Forward Swindon Ltd - review of role and remit	No	Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration and Skills	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2017	Andy Evans, Corporate Director, Economy, Regeneration, and Skills AEvans@swindon.gov.uk	N/A
Swindon - A Learning Town	No	Cabinet Member for Children's Services	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	Peter Nathan, Head of Education Tel: 07467 440955 Email: pnathan@swindon.gov.uk	Cabinet Minute 120(3) refers

**Cabinet Meeting Date - 6th December 2017 (TBC)**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Key Decision Yes/No?</b>	<b>Portfolio Holder / Cabinet Member</b>	<b>Decision Maker</b>	<b>Consultation Responses/Date of Notice</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>	<b>Available Background Papers</b>
2017-18 Budget Management, 2018-19 Draft Budget and Medium Term Resourcing Plan	No	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services;	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2016	Director of Finance (s151) Officer Mick Bowden Tel: 07392 109917 or Email: mbowden@swindon.gov.uk	
Capital Programme Monitoring - Second Quarter and Treasury Management Performance 2017/18.	No	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services	Cabinet	N/A Notice of Decision: 9 December 2016	Director of Finance (s151) Officer or Ian Burbidge, Finance, Tel: 464384 or Email: iburbidge@swindon.gov.uk	N/A
Treasury Strategy Statement (Minimum Revenue Provision Policy)	No	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 26 <sup>th</sup> October 2016	Director of Finance (s151) Officer or Paul Smith Tel: 01793 463976 Email: psmith2@swindon.gov.uk	N/A

		Services				
Polling District and Places Review	No	Leader of the Council	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 5 <sup>th</sup> October 2016	Director of Law & Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) or Sally Sprason Tel: 01793 46399 Email: ssprason@swindon.gov.uk	N/A
School Organisational Changes 2018/19	No	Cabinet Member for Children's Services	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 19 <sup>th</sup> September 2016	Head of Education or Danielle Maundrell Tel: 01793 466314 Email: DMAundrell@swindon.gov.uk	N/A

**Cabinet Meeting Date - 7th February 2018 (TBC)**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Key Decision Yes/No?</b>	<b>Portfolio Holder / Cabinet Member</b>	<b>Decision Maker</b>	<b>Consultation Responses/Date of Notice</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>	<b>Available Background Papers</b>
Budget 2018/19 and Beyond	No	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 20 <sup>th</sup> January 2017	Director of Finance (s151) Officer Mick Bowden Tel: 07392 109917 or Email: mbowden@swindon.gov.uk	N/A
Capital Programme 2018/19	No	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 20 <sup>th</sup> January 2017	Director of Finance (s151) Officer or Ian Burbidge Tel: 464384 or Email: iburbidge@swindon.gov.uk	N/A
Treasury Strategy Statement 2018/19	No	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 20 <sup>th</sup> January 2017	Director of Finance (s151) Officer or Paul Smith Tel: 07500 884176 or Email: psmith2@swindon.gov.uk	N/A

Housing Revenue Account - Rents and Charges 2018/19	No	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 20 <sup>th</sup> January 2017	Director of Finance (s151) Officer or Paul Smith Tel: 07500 884176 or Email: psmith2@swindon.gov.uk	N/A
Swindon Pay Policy Statement 2018	No	Leader of the Council	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 20 <sup>th</sup> January 2017	Sam Mowbray Tel: 07823 525337 or Email: smowbray@swindon.gov.uk	N/A
School Admission Arrangements	Yes	Cabinet Member for Children's Services	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 20 <sup>th</sup> January 2017	Head of Education or Emily Heaton Tel: 01793 465769 Email: eheaton@swindon.gov.uk	N/A



**Cabinet Meeting Date - 14th March 2018 (TBC)**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Key Decision Yes/No?</b>	<b>Portfolio Holder / Cabinet Member</b>	<b>Decision Maker</b>	<b>Consultation Responses/Date of Notice</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>	<b>Available Background Papers</b>
Budget Management 2017/18	No	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2016	Director of Finance (s151) Officer Mick Bowden Tel: 07392 109917 Email: mbowden@swindon.gov.uk	N/A
Capital Programme Monitoring 3rd Quarter 2017/18	Yes	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2016	Director of Finance (s151) Officer or Ian Burbidge, Finance, Tel: 464384 or Email: iburbidge@swindon.gov.uk	N/A

**Cabinet Meeting Date - 25th April 2018 (TBC)**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Key Decision Yes/No?</b>	<b>Portfolio Holder / Cabinet Member</b>	<b>Decision Maker</b>	<b>Consultation Responses/Date of Notice</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>	<b>Available Background Papers</b>
Budget Management Update	No	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2016	Director of Finance (s151) Officer Mick Bowden Tel 07392 109917 Email:mbowden@swindon.gov.uk	N/A
School Transport	No	Cabinet Member for Children's Services	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2016	Director of Children's Services or Gareth Cheal Tel: 01793 46 5802 Email:gcheal@swindon.gov.uk	N/A
Swindon Local Transport Plan - Implementation Plan 2017/18	Yes	Cabinet Member for StreetSmart, Highways and Transport	Cabinet	N/A Date of Notice: 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2017	Jason Humm, Head of Highways & Transport Tel: 01793 463201 Email: jhumm@swindon.gov.uk	N/A

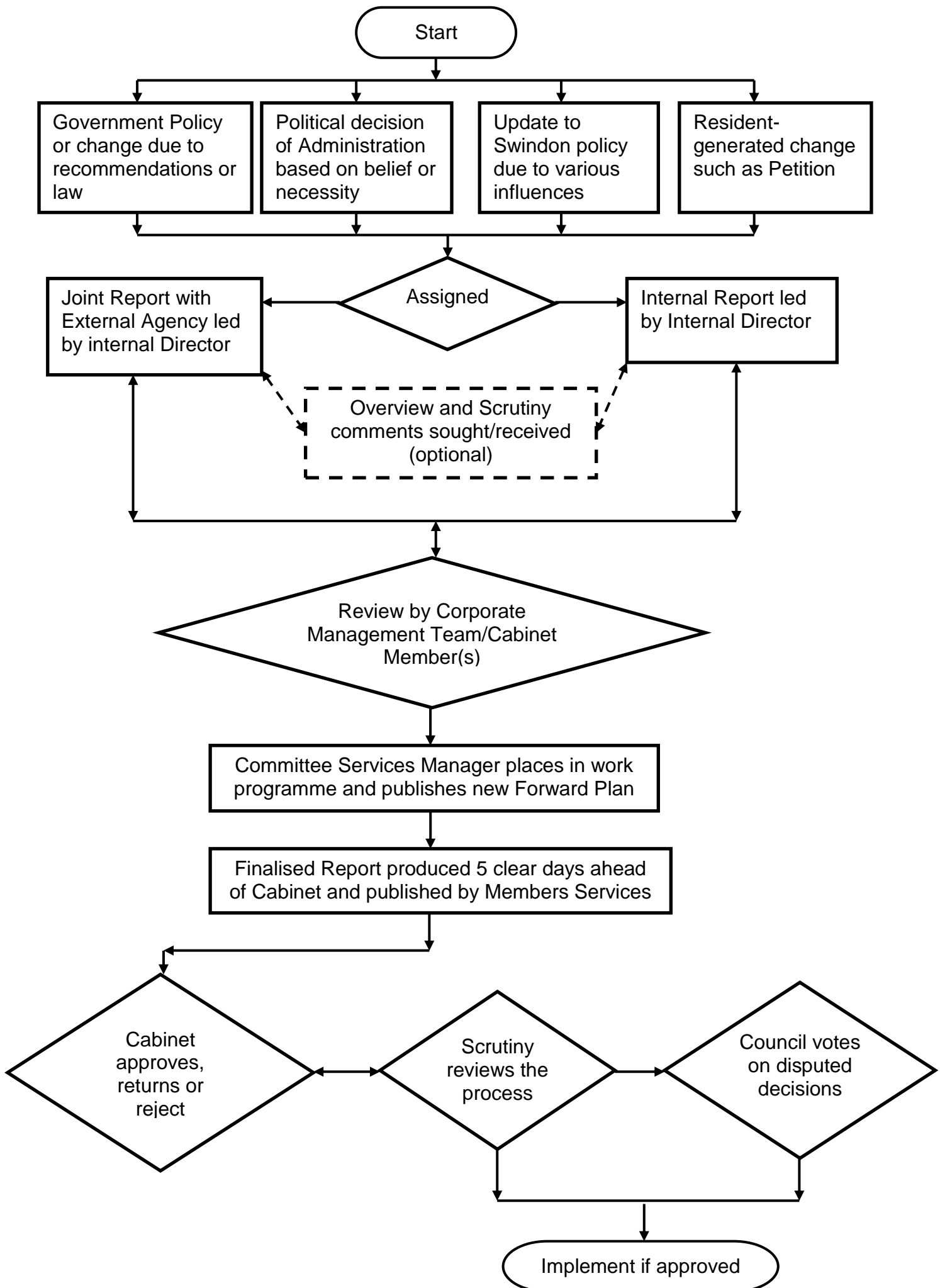

**FIELD\_TITLE**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Key Decision Yes/No?</b>	<b>Portfolio Holder / Cabinet Member</b>	<b>Decision Maker</b>	<b>Consultation Responses/Date of Notice</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>	<b>Available Background Papers</b>
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**FIELD\_SUMMARY**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Key Decision Yes/No?</b>	<b>Portfolio Holder / Cabinet Member</b>	<b>Decision Maker</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>	<b>Support Documentation/ Date of Notice</b>	<b>Available Background Papers</b>
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## Status of requests for action and/or information

**Scrutiny Committee**

**Date: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

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Author:	Director of Law and Democratic Services
Wards:	All
Locality Affected:	All
Parishes Affected:	All

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### **1. Purpose and Reasons**

- 1.1 To advise the Committee of the status of requests for action to be taken or information to be provided.

### **2. Recommendations**

The Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 That the report be noted.
- 2.2 That the Committee considers the responses provided by officers, and actions taken in relation to each issue, and determines if any further action is required.
- 2.3 That, subject to the Committee's requests for further action to be taken, issues shown as being completed be removed from the status report.

### **3. Detail**

- 3.1 The Scrutiny Committee has requested that a report be submitted to each meeting on the status of its earlier decisions, allowing members to consider if any further action is required.

### **4. Alternative Options**

- 4.1 None

### **5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management**

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 This report has no financial or procurement implications.

Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 Legal and Human Rights considerations have been fully taken into account in compiling this report. It is considered that the recommendations of this report are compatible with convention rights

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Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Stuart Figini, 01793 463612, sfigini@swindon.gov.uk.

# Status of requests for action and/or information

Scrutiny Committee

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017

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

5.3 None

## Diversity Impact Assessment

5.4 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

5.5 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 Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

## **7. Background Papers**

7.1 The Minutes of previous meetings of the Committee.

## **8. Appendices**

8.1 Appendix 1 – Schedule of the status of requests for action to be taken or information to be provided.



**SUMMARY OF PUBLIC QUESTIONS REQUIRING A WRITTEN RESPONSE AND MEMBER REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION**  
**20<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

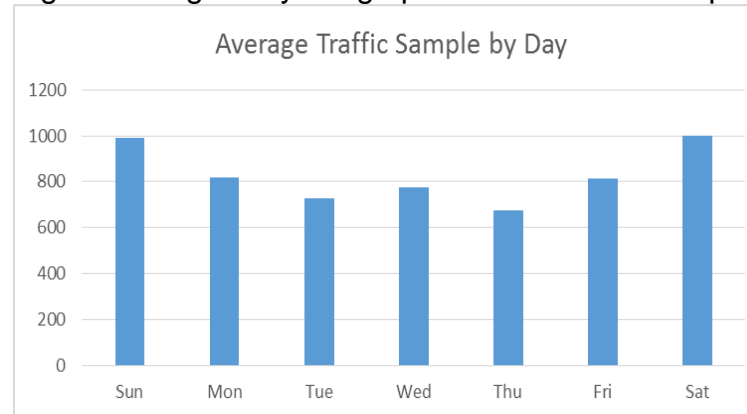
72.	<b>Public Question Time</b>		
	<p>Mr Cockbill, a local resident, submitted the following questions about public transport in Swindon:</p> <p><b>Qu. 1 What is the area covered by a Day Rider ticket on the last day the council owned TT?</b></p> <p><b>Qu. 2 What was the price of a Day Rider ticket on the last day the Council owned TT?</b></p>	A written response was provided at the meeting.	<b>Complete</b>
74.	<b>Consideration of Cabinet decisions</b>		
	The Head of Streetsmart was asked to provide the percentage of trade waste currently received at the Household Waste Recycling Centre.	<p>Response received from the Head of Streetsmart on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2017, as follows:</p> <p><i>All commercial waste is handled by PPS through separate commercial arrangements and does not get included in any figures reported by SBC.</i></p>	<b>Complete</b>
	The Head of Streetsmart was asked to	Response received from the Head of Streetsmart on 11 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Complete</b>

provide further detailed information on the usage of the Household Waste Recycling Centre by the public.

2017, as follows:

Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) usage data

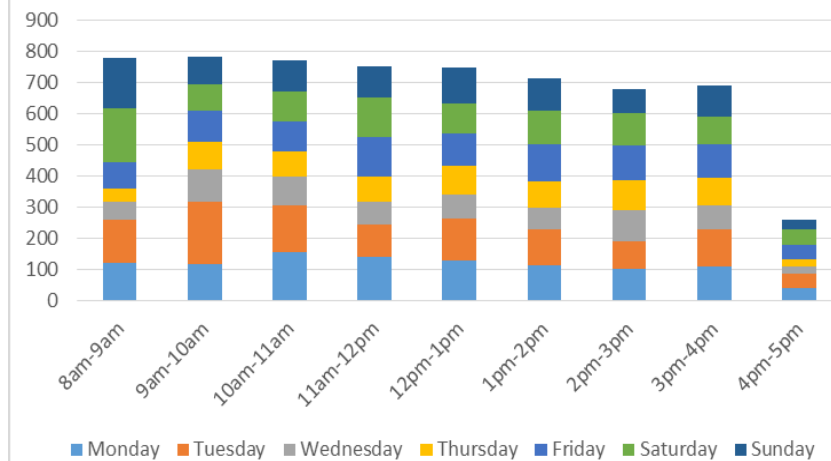
Fig 1. Average daily usage pattern over 14 week period



The highest usage of the HWRC is over the weekend period where the site is used at least 25% more than during the week.

The quietest days are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Taking into consideration the nearest HWRC outside of Swindon (Purton) is closed on a Wednesday, it was proposed we also close on a Wednesday to avoid the opportunity for waste outside of Swindon being presented for disposal. It was recognised that closing on a Wednesday would have an impact on Thursday, so it was proposed that we have Thursday as our late night of opening and we will monitor the usage of the site post implementation to review the impact of this change.

Fig 2. Hourly usage (winter period)



During the winter months, the usage of the HWRC significantly tails off at the end of the day and this trend is experienced by the Depot Support staff working during the summer period.

With 20% of usage currently being made up of vans, we expect to see an improvement in the throughput of household vehicles passing through the HWRC with Trade waste having its own dedicated disposal lane. Once again, this will be monitored post implementation.

The Leader of the Council made a commitment to review the impact of the waste changes in view of the lack of public consultation.

Response requested from the Head of Streetsmart on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

**On-going**

75.

**Consideration of Cabinet Member Q & Session for Communities**

	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Status</b>	
	To provide information on the current financial position of the Council in comparison to other Local Authorities, in particular the position on debt.	Response received from requested from the Head of Finance on 4 <sup>th</sup> April 2017, as follows:  The latest figures (based on estimate as at 31 March 2017) is: Swindon – 60% Nearest neighbours – 65% Unitary councils – 66%	<b>Complete</b>
	To provide full statistical information in relation to the most recent staff satisfaction survey	Response received from the Head of People, Performance and Engagement on 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2017 and circulated to the Committee.	<b>Complete</b>
	To provide statistical information about absences within the Council	Response requested from the Head of People, Performance and Engagement on 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2017 and circulated to the Committee.	<b>Complete</b>
	To provide information why the Council do not use the Bradford Formula for measuring staff absences	Response requested from the Head of People, Performance and Engagement on 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2017 and circulated to the Committee.	<b>Complete</b>

## SUMMARY OF PUBLIC QUESTIONS REQUIRING A WRITTEN RESPONSE AND MEMBER REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

### 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2017

83.	<b>Public Question Time</b>		
	Mr Jan Piechowicz, a local resident, submitted questions about the Council policies that regulate how Council Officers respond to questions asked by the public. The Director of Law and Democratic Services agreed to meet with Mr Piechowicz to discuss the matter further.	Response from Andy Brown, Service Manager, Development Management, Planning has confirmed that a formal complaint has been raised by Mr Piechowicz, which is being considered through the Councils formal complaints procedure.	<b>Complete</b>
74.	<b>Consideration of Cabinet decisions</b>		
	The Chair asked a question about the Flexible Homelessness Support Grant, the number of homeless in Swindon being supported by the Grant and if there are any homeless being supported outside of the Grant.	<p>Response received from the Head of Housing Management and Community Safety on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017, as follows:</p> <p>Dear Chair and Members of Scrutiny Committee, at your meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2017 the Chair raised a question regarding the allocation of funding to the Council under the new Flexible Homelessness Support Grant that replaced the previous Temporary Management Accommodation Fee.</p> <p>The Council currently supports 437 properties that have been used to prevent homelessness and to accommodate households accepted as homeless. Within this context I</p>	<b>Complete</b>

		asked the DCLG for clarity on 24 April 2017 and I await a response. As soon as a response is available I will forward.	
	The Chair asked for information about Swindon previously being the 8 <sup>th</sup> best business location in the UK, details about the current business location figures and how this could be measured against the success of the Strategy. Question to Garry Perkins and Andy Evans.	<p>Response received from the Corporate Director Economy, Regeneration and Skills on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017, as follows:</p> <p><b>How do we measure the success of Swindon Economic Strategy?</b>  The Chair suggested we look at :  Swindon previously being the 8<sup>th</sup> best business location in the UK, and asked for further information about the current business location figures and how this could be measured against the success of the Draft Economic Strategy  As identified by Jones Lang La Salle's report "Where next in the UK?", Swindon has been identified as the 7<sup>th</sup> most investable city in the UK for the following reasons:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Swindon is well-connected by road and rail, but its rail connections with London are about to be substantially improved with the electrification of the main GWR line, the arrival of new faster trains, and the completion of Crossrail. These connections will act as an enhanced conduit for further inward investment and economic growth in the town.</li> </ul>	<b>Complete</b>

- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
|  |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• By comparison with its nearest competitors, Reading to the east and Bristol to the west, it offers businesses and residents alike excellent value for money. Space is cheap and as growth occurs in those places, Swindon has become increasingly competitive. Current town centre office rentals for example – a broad measure of economic activity – are £33.50 in Reading, £28 per sq ft in Bristol, and only £18.50 per sq ft in Swindon (a new high for Swindon however). A key constraint in the past has been a lack of new and varied space for small and large businesses, dwindling supply and the poor quality of existing stock. There is a major opportunity and incentive for fresh investment. Local real estate consultants Alder King's 2015 Market Update report record levels of office take-up for 2015 in Swindon.</li></ul> |  |
|--|--|---|--|

#### Economic ranking of shortlisted cities and towns:

Milton Keynes	1
Reading	2
Luton	3
Peterborough	4
Warrington	5
Northampton	6
<b>Swindon</b>	<b>7</b>
Oxford	8
Bournemouth	9
Nottingham	10
Salford	11
Brighton	12
Southampton	13
Cardiff	14
Darby	15
Southend	16
Coventry	17
Aberdeen	18
Telford	19
Huddersfield	20
Portsmouth	21
Liverpool	22
Bradford	23
Sheffield	24
York	25
Wakefield	26
Walsall	27
Newcastle	28
Wolverhampton	29
Dudley	30
Plymouth	31
Swansea	32
Belfast	33
Leicester	34
Sunderland	35
Not	36

Relative strength of economic outlook for UK cities and towns (JLL - Where next in the UK report 2015)

This would have been an excellent benchmark report, but unfortunately it was the third and final instalment of a series of reports examining at a fine-grained level the investment prospects for different cities in the UK.

However we can take some of the measures they suggest and incorporate them into the economic strategy. We suggest looking at the following indicators of success:-



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employment created as this is easily recorded over time using national statistics</li> <li>• GVA per employee (as this is a good indicator of economic efficiency) and is produced by the Office for National Statistics</li> <li>• Employment land allocated, and taken up</li> <li>• Office space developed and occupied in town centre and out of town centre locations</li> <li>• Office rents achieved in Swindon as this is available from market data</li> </ul>	
	Cllr MacCracken asked a question about people smoking at the bus station and the perception that the Bus Station was a non-smoking area. The	<p>Response received from Cllr Ford on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2017, as follows:</p> <p>Non Smoking is not enforceable at the Bus Station as it is a voluntary code. It has worked well and most people adhere to it.</p>	<b>Complete</b>
	Cllr McCracken asked a question about the Place of Safety Consultation, considered by the Adults' Care, Adults' Health and Housing O/S Committee on 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2017, in particular how many Swindon residents have been detained at a Place of Safety.	<p>Response received from the Director of Adult Services on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017, as follows:</p> <p>Avon and Wiltshire Partnership NHS Trust reports that on average there are 4 – 6 Swindon residents being detained at a place of safety in Swindon. From the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017, the telephone triage service will be available 24 hours offering advice to police officers. AWP and Police estimates given in public meetings note that this will reduce the demand for</p>	<b>Complete</b>

		Place of safety in Swindon to 1 – 2 per month	
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