

**MEETING: 22 FEBRUARY 2010**

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**SUBJECT: CAPITAL STRATEGY**

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER, FINANCE OFFICER AND CLERK  
TO THE AUTHORITY**

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**1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 This report seeks Member approval of the Capital Strategy which sets out the organisation's approach to using capital to deliver corporate objectives.

**2 THE CAPITAL STRATEGY**

- 2.1 The effective use of capital to secure and manage physical assets is essential in delivering corporate priorities. The Authority's capital programme is planned for use on a wide range of schemes linked to specific corporate objectives.

- 2.2 The Capital Strategy sets the framework for planning and financing capital expenditure to ensure that decisions are taken in the context of overall corporate strategy as set out in the Strategic Community Safety Plan. It is supported by the Asset Management Plan and the Capital Programme, progress against which is regularly reported to Members.

- 2.3 More specifically, the Strategy:

- Shows how the investment of capital resources contributes to the achievement of the Authority's key Objectives
- Provides a framework for the management and monitoring of the Capital Programme and the operational work of asset management
- Sets out processes for the generation of capital investment proposals and the appraisal of options, the prioritisation of capital investment proposals and the monitoring and final evaluation of projects
- Outlines the Authority's approach to alternative funding such as PPP/ PFI
- Demonstrates how the revenue implications of capital investment will be taken into account in deciding priorities
- Ensures that Value for Money is a key consideration when appraising capital investment from a capital expenditure, capital financing and revenue implications perspective

- Raises awareness of the need to ensure efficient and effective use of the Authority's assets among staff, partners and the wider community.

2.4 The capital programme is designed and managed in accordance with this strategy through the Capital Strategy Team and Asset Management Group.

### **3 RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 A clear capital strategy provides a framework for rigorous management of capital investment, mitigating risks of slippage or lack of tight budgetary control

### **4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no direct financial implications in respect of this report.

### **5 EQUALITY AND FAIRNESS IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no equality and fairness implications in respect of this report.

### **6 HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 There are no health and safety implications in respect of this report.

### **7 RECOMMENDATIONS**

7.1 Members are requested to approve the Capital Strategy.

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