

Report to: Asset Management Forum



Date of Meeting 17 June 2024

Document classification: Part A Public Document

Exemption applied: None

Review date for release N/A

Place & Prosperity Team Update

Report summary:

The report provides a summary of the various projects that the Place and Prosperity Team are currently involved in.

Is the proposed decision in accordance with:

Budget Yes No

Policy Framework Yes No

Recommendation:

That the Asset Management Forum note the report.

Reason for recommendation:

To ensure that members of the Asset Management Forum are informed about project progress.

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Portfolio(s) (check which apply):

- Climate Action and Emergency Response
- Coast, Country and Environment
- Council and Corporate Co-ordination
- Democracy, Transparency and Communications
- Economy and Assets
- Finance
- Strategic Planning
- Sustainable Homes and Communities
- Tourism, Sports, Leisure and Culture

Equalities impact Low Impact

Climate change Low Impact

Risk: Medium Risk; Projects which involve considering the future uses of council owned assets involves a level of risk be it financial or reputational. These would be reported to cabinet at the relevant time when recommendations are being made to take a project forward for delivery.

Links to background information

[Link to Council Plan](#)

Priorities (check which apply)

- Better homes and communities for all
 - A greener East Devon
 - A resilient economy
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Report in full

1. DEPOTS REVIEW

- 1.1 The Place, Assets and Commercialisation Team are leading on a project to review the Council's operational depot properties. The Council's Streetscene and Recycling and Waste Services need operational depot properties that are fit for purpose, able to support service, operations and fleet decarbonisation and in locations that optimise service delivery, resilience and business continuity.
- 1.2 As previously reported, we have been working with colleagues from the Streetscene and Recycling and Waste Teams we have appointed a multi-disciplinary team of consultants to review the existing depot services and advise on how we can future proof new facilities for the next decade or more, reflecting technological changes, the growth of AI as well as the growth in household numbers and local population. The decarbonisation of the services is a council priority.
- 1.3 Since previously reported, the project team has been focussing on the Streetscene Operations service and considering the site size requirements and potential locations for these services, including reviewing the potential for consolidation of existing facilities where possible.
- 1.4 Work on reviewing costings for provision of both a new MRF for the recycling and waste service, along with costs for Operational depots is underway.
- 1.5 The project timeline has slipped slightly due to the timescales involved in enabling relevant officers to engage in providing feedback on options presented by the consultant. We are expecting the final report in June and will report to Cabinet in September on the findings.

2. PUBLIC TOILETS, ESPLANADE, & DRILL HALL, SIDMOUTH

- 2.1 See June 2023 AMF report for further background on this project.
- 2.2 The Council has now progressed the legal agreements with Rockfish and should the planning application be approved in due course, the lease to Rockfish will commence, and they will be able to commence the detailed design work for the new restaurant offer prior to construction work commencing later this year.
- 2.3 The planning application has been delayed from coming forward to a Planning Committee due to an outstanding consultation response being required from the Environment Agency that is required in order for the planning committee report to be finalised. At the time of writing the LPA is considering the latest consultation response and will finalise their recommendation in due course. The timescales for delivery of the new toilet facility,

(subject to the planning application outcome), will be postponed due to these recent delays. The existing or a temporary toilet facility would remain open until the replacement works are undertaken. It is hoped that the new restaurant would still open in spring/summer 2025.

3. UKSPF Feasibility Studies

- 3.1 The feasibility study for Sidmouth has now been completed. The study reviews options for the refurbishment/redevelopment of the existing Youth facility in Sidmouth. This study has enabled Sidmouth to build upon earlier work in 2022/23 completed by Devon West which reviewed the youth services within the town, consulting extensively with young people. The Town Council's Youth Provision Working Group is meeting in May to discuss both reports and will consider their options. The supplementary Ottery St Mary study is being finalised currently. The spending allocation has been completed within the 23/24 financial year. Work has now commenced on considering which projects in Exmouth might be suitable for feasibility studies. An allocation of £35,000 is available for the year 3 (2024/25) spend.

4. SEATON AND AXMINSTER EMPLOYMENT SITES

- 4.1 We are currently reviewing the options for delivery of the employment sites in Colyford Road and Harepath Road in Seaton. A report will be brought forward to cabinet in due course setting out options for delivery.

5. SEATON MORIDUNUM

- 5.1 Following the marketing exercise, a report will be coming forward to Cabinet on 10 July under Part B with a recommendation for the selection of a preferred developer.

Financial implications:

This is an update report with no new financial implications to highlight.

Legal implications:

There is no direct comment to be made in relation to this update report, each and any individual issue will need to be considered as it arises