



East  
Northamptonshire  
Council

## Finance Sub Committee – 24 June 2013

### Council Land and Building Asset Plan

#### Purpose of report:

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with information in relation to work that is currently being undertaken by the Amenities Manager and Finance Manager to ensure the council has an up-to-date land and building asset plan which is taken into consideration within the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).

#### Attachment(s) – None

#### 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Prior to the recession, the council had a detailed land and building asset plan that was taken into consideration within the MTFS. However, when the recession hit the majority of items relating to maintenance of the council's land and building assets were removed from budgets and the strategy adopted was to respond to issues as they occurred.
- 1.2 Whilst the budget position has improved, although it should be recognised the public sector finances are still in a position of austerity measures, the maintenance and/or replacement of assets remains on going. It is becoming increasingly difficult for the Amenities Manager to ensure land and buildings owned by the council are kept in a suitable condition. Recent examples where issues have been encountered include:
- the urgent replacement of the boiler at the Rushden Centre
  - urgent repairs to the boiler at Cedar Drive
  - urgent replacement of air conditioning at Cedar Drive.
- 1.3 Future items that are becoming increasingly urgent include:
- replacement lighting at Cedar Drive
  - improvements to lifts at Cedar Drive and the Rushden Centre to ensure they continue to meet health and safety requirements
  - improvements and repairs to the Splash Leisure Centre.

#### 2.0 What action is being taken?

- 2.1 The Head of Organisational Development and the Amenities Manager are currently reviewing the land and building asset plan and this will be brought back to the Finance Sub-Committee for consideration and agreement of any actions that have financial implications. The council's S151 Officer will be consulted about the content of the plan and also how it will operate in relation to the proposed capital governance arrangements.

#### 3.0 Legal implications

- 3.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report.

#### 4.0 Financial implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report. However, there will be financial implications associated with the land and buildings asset plan that will be brought back to a future Finance Sub-Committee.

## 5.0 Equality implications


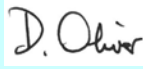
5.1 There are no equality implications associated with this report.

## 6.0 Risk implications

6.1 There is a risk that, if a land and building asset plan is not developed and taken into consideration within the council's MTFS, land and buildings owned by the council will deteriorate which could result in health and safety issues for staff and customers and in the end more money will need to be spent on them to bring them back to an appropriate standard.

## 7.0 Recommendation

7.1 Councillors are asked to note the content of this report.

|   |  |  |            |  |  |
|---|--|--|------------|--|--|
| <b>Legal</b>  | Power: Local Government Act  |  |            |  |  |
|   | Other considerations: None   |  |            |  |  |
| <b>Background Papers:</b> None  |  |  |            |  |  |
| <b>Person Originating Report:</b> Katy Everitt Head of Resources and Organisational Development<br>01832 742120 keveritt@east-northamptonshire.gov.uk |  |  |            |  |  |
| <b>Date:</b> 13 June 2013   |  |  |            |  |  |
| <b>CFO</b><br>13.6.2013   |  |  | <b>DMO</b> |  | <b>CX</b><br>13.6.2013<br> |