

<b>Report to:</b>	<b>Policy and Performance Advisory Committee</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>15 March 2021</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Investment in green energy initiatives</b>
<b>Exemption:</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Ian Fitzpatrick, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Planning and Regeneration</b>
<b>Ward(s):</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>Purpose of Cabinet report:</b>	<b>Allocation of revenue funding to: enable a later decision to be made regarding development of, or financing of, proposed green energy initiatives; and to facilitate associated due-diligence work.</b>
<b>Officer recommendations to the Cabinet:</b>	<p><b>(1) To delegate authority to the Deputy Chief Executive to initiate feasibility and due-diligence work for potential green energy initiatives up to a value of £50,000 from revenue funds.</b></p> <p><b>(2) Subject to (1) above, to delegate authority to Deputy Chief Executive, in conjunction with Chief Finance Officer and Cabinet member for finance and assets, to invest up to £100,000 capital funds for initial feasibility into the outlined solar farm subject to further due diligence being carried out.</b></p> <p><b>(3) Approve a waiver of contract rules in accordance with paragraph 4.2.1a of the council’s procurement rules for the reasons set out in paragraph 4.2 of the report namely that the council intends to procure Local Partnerships under its Teckal exemption to carry out required due diligence on solar projects rather than seeking consultancy on the open market, subject to this providing best value.</b></p>
<b>Reasons for recommendations:</b>	<b>To provide a critical friend challenge to the Cabinet decision and policy making process.</b>
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- 1.1 In its role as a provider of public scrutiny and as critical friend, the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee has a duty to provide a challenge to the executive decision and policy makers.
- 1.2 The Policy and Performance Advisory Committee is able to provide this challenge through the inclusion of the Council's Forward Plan of Decisions as a standing item on each of the Committee's agendas, allowing the Committee to request the inclusion of reports due for consideration by the Cabinet on its agenda and by asking that the relevant officers, heads of service or directors, attend the Committee meetings and discuss the content of the reports.
- 1.3 Following consideration of each item, where the Members will be able to ask questions of the relevant officers, heads of service, directors and other stakeholders, the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee will provide one of the following three recommendations to the Cabinet:
  - 1) To support the recommendations in the report in full; or
  - 2) To support the recommendation in the report subject to the consideration by the Cabinet of any amendments agreed by Committee; or
  - 3) To not support the recommendations in the report and give reasons.
- 1.4 The Cabinet will be provided with the recommendations from the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee when it considers the main report.

## **2 Financial / Legal / Risk Management / Equality Analysis/ Environmental Sustainability Implications/ Background Papers**

- 2.1 All implications are addressed in the Cabinet report attached at Appendix 1.

## **3 Appendix**

Appendix 1 – **Investment in green energy initiatives**