

JOINT INFRASTRUCTURE GROUP: MEMBERSHIP

<u>Report of the:</u>	Head of Legal and Democratic Services
<u>Contact:</u>	Fiona Cotter
<u>Urgent Decision?(yes/no)</u>	No
<u>If yes, reason urgent decision required:</u>	N/A
<u>Annexes/Appendices (attached):</u>	None
<u>Other available papers (not attached):</u>	Strategy & Resources Committee 29/09/2015 Item 11: Community Infrastructure Levy Proposed Governance Arrangements Strategy & Resources Committee 22/11/2016 Item 08: Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Governance Arrangements - Report from Joint Infrastructure Group

REPORT SUMMARY

This report requests the Strategy and Resources Committee to consider appointments to the Joint Infrastructure Group.

RECOMMENDATION (S)

That:

- (1) the Borough membership of the Joint Infrastructure Group consist of the Chairman of S&R, one other Policy Committee Chairman or Vice Chairman plus one other councillor;**
- (2) the Committee appoint Borough members to the Joint Infrastructure accordingly;**

1 Implications for the Council's Key Priorities, Service Plans and Sustainable Community Strategy

- 1.1 The Local Plan is intended to provide the spatial planning mechanism for the vision set out in the Sustainable Community Strategy, and it will assist in the achievement of all the Council's Key Priorities. The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is the mechanism that will ensure that future developments contribute towards the community infrastructure that is needed to support growth.

2 Background

- 2.1 The Council introduced the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) on 1 July 2014. The Council is responsible for the collection, distribution and spending of CIL monies.
- 2.2 At its meeting on 29 September 2015, the Strategy and Resources Committee received and considered a report which sought endorsement of the governance arrangements to be introduced to ensure that CIL monies were appropriately managed in accordance with the relevant Regulations. The report also sought approval of the Regulation 123 List which identified the types of infrastructure the Council would spend CIL monies on.
- 2.3 In regard to the governance arrangements, it was clarified that it was intended to establish a joint member/officer working group which could make recommendations via the appropriate channels to the Borough Council on the allocation of CIL. As an aside, the Committee was informed at that time that the Council had yet to finalise the precise mechanism for its approach to “engaging with neighbourhoods” in regard to the allocation of the Neighbourhood Proportion of CIL (which amounted to 15%).
- 2.4 Accordingly, it was agreed that a joint member/officer working group should be established comprising of 3 Borough Councillors and 2 County Councillors and the Committee approved the Regulation 123 List.
- 2.5 The Joint Infrastructure Group’s Terms of Reference were agreed at its inaugural meeting on 13 September 2016 and ratified by the Strategy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 22 November 2016. The Terms of Reference confirmed the elected representation on the joint working group to comprise of three Borough Councillors and two County Councillors.

3 Proposals

- 3.1 The Committee is asked to appoint Borough Council members to the Joint Infrastructure Group.
- 3.2 Given the importance of CIL funding to the Council’s overall financial position, its Corporate Plan and Asset Strategy it is suggested that the Borough Membership consist of the Chairman of S&R, one other Policy Committee Chairman or Vice Chairman plus one other councillor.

4 Financial and Manpower Implications

- 4.1 There are no significant financial or manpower implications in regard to the establishment of the joint member/officer working group.

- 4.2 **Chief Finance Officer's comments:** *It has been suggested that there may be additional associated administrative costs with the JIG. The 5% administration allocation may be sufficient. Resource expenditure will be closely monitored and managed accordingly.*

5 Legal Implications (including implications for matters relating to equality)

- 5.1 The Regulations require the Council to be transparent in how CIL funds are allocated. Establishing governance arrangements will ensure such requirements are addressed. The ratification of the Terms of Reference contributed towards that process.

- 5.2 **Monitoring Officer's comments:** *As a joint member/officer working group the JIG is not required to comply with the principles of proportionality.*

6 Sustainability Policy and Community Safety Implications

- 6.1 No direct implications for the purposes of this report.

7 Partnerships

- 7.1 The allocation of CIL monies will require partnership working with infrastructure providers. The JIG will facilitate such partnership working. This is demonstrated by the inclusion of Surrey Local Committee Members and Surrey Officers on the Group. The proposed amendments to the JIG's Terms of Reference will allow additional representation from other infrastructure partners/ providers.

8 Risk Assessment

- 8.1 Without governance arrangements for the allocation of CIL monies we will not be meeting the requirements of the CIL regulations.

9 Conclusion and Recommendations

- 9.1 Money collected through CIL will help to deliver essential community infrastructure that maintain and enhance the Borough as a sustainable place to live, work and visit.
- 9.2 In order to help to decide how our CIL monies should be allocated and spent the Strategy & Resources Committee agreed to the establishment of a Joint Infrastructure Group (JIG) and the Committee is being asked to appoint members to this Group. The JIG will report any recommendations through the appropriate committee channels.

WARD(S) AFFECTED: (All Wards);