

CABINET – 16TH SEPTEMBER 2021

Report of the Scrutiny Commission

ITEM 13 FEASIBILITY WORK ON SOUTHFIELDS EXTENSION CAR PARK

Purpose of Report

To consider the comments and recommendations of the Scrutiny Commission in relation to Feasibility Work on Southfields Extension Car Park.

Recommendation of the Scrutiny Commission

That the Cabinet be informed that the Commission welcomes and supports the recommendations set out in the report of the Strategic Director of Commercial Development, Assets and Leisure.

Reason

The Commission, having carefully considered and asked questions on the report felt the Cabinet should approve the recommendations set out.

Meeting Discussion

- i. The council was proposing to assess the site due to financial pressures and with a view to further support the Carbon Neutral Plan by reducing office space to reflect new working practices. The survey undertaken would eliminate the risk of overspending and allowing for a proactive plan should the council choose to develop on the site.
- ii. Any future development for the purpose of constructing new office space for Charnwood Borough Council would be flexible and sustainable in terms of potential use.
- iii. The current Southfields offices had been well-maintained but were no longer fit for purpose for the council. It was possible that following the development of a new site, the current Southfields building could be sold or rented.
- iv. The sum of £150k included an initial estimation of £100k, plus contingency funds to mitigate any risks. The procurement process would be undertaken using compliant and competitive processes.

Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

Scrutiny Commission Procedure Rule 11.12 sets out the procedure by which a report of a Scrutiny Committee should be considered by Cabinet.

Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions and Scrutiny

The information on this in the Cabinet report is not affected by the recommendation of the Scrutiny Commission.

Report Implications

The following implications have been identified for this report.

Financial Implications

There are no further financial implications associated with the recommendation of the Scrutiny Commission.

Risk Management

There are no specific risks associated with the recommendations of the Scrutiny Commission.

Key Decision:	Yes
Background Paper:	Scrutiny Commission Minute 31 2021/22, 13th September 2021
Officer to Contact:	Sally Watson Democratic Services Officer (01509) 634969 Sally.watson@charnwood.gov.uk