

<b>Committee(s):</b> Policy, Resources and Corporate Asset Committee	<b>Date:</b> 9 March 2022
<b>Subject:</b> Corporate Asset Strategy 2022-2025	<b>Wards Affected:</b> All
<b>Report of:</b> Jacqueline Van Mellaerts, Corporate Director (Finance & Resources)	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report Author:</b> Name: Jacqueline Van Mellaerts, Corporate Director (Finance & Resources) Telephone: 01277 312500 E-mail: jacqueline.vanmellaerts@brentwood.gov.uk	<b>For Decision</b>

### Summary

The Council's Corporate Strategy 2020-25 was adopted in January 2020 and outlined the Council's key corporate priorities and objectives. This report seeks approval to adopt a Corporate Asset Strategy 2022-2025, which will complement and underpin the Corporate Strategy across all priorities.

The Corporate Asset Strategy provides a vision for the Councils asset portfolio, our approach to classify our assets as well as set seven key priorities that will deliver aims and objectives for our asset base.

### Recommendations

**Members are asked to:**

- R1. Adopt the Corporate Asset Strategy as set out in Appendix A.**
- R2. Approve that delegated authority be given to the Corporate Director of Finance & Resources, in consultation with the Chair of Policy, Resources and Economic Development Committee, to make minor artwork and formatting changes to the Corporate Asset Strategy in advance of publication.**

### Main Report

#### **Introduction and Background**

1. The Council's Corporate strategy 2020-2025 was adopted in January 2020 and defines the Council's priorities for the next five years. Critical to the delivery of this strategy is a set of supporting strategies that assist with delivery of these priorities.

2. The Council's previous Asset Strategy was set in 2014/15.
3. The new Corporate Asset Strategy focuses on the seven key priorities which fit across all the Councils corporate priorities.
  - a) Manage our assets strategically
  - b) Provide value for money and secure efficiencies
  - c) Work effectively with partner
  - d) Support Economic Growth and regeneration
  - e) Reduce the environmental impact of our estate
  - f) Support and empower local people
  - g) Deliver good quality sustainable housing
4. Each of the asset priorities provides aim and objectives that will deliver efficiency and effectiveness across the Council's asset portfolio.

### **Issue, Options and Analysis of Options**

5. The Council's Corporate Asset Strategy has come to an end and needs refreshing.
6. The Strategy has been designed to be a short document which can be used to underpin specific objectives or be adapted to future changes in the economy, environment, communities, or housing. It creates a vision for our asset base to ensure our property assets actively contribute towards the Council's ambitions for Brentwood.
7. The approach will incorporate categorisation process to define the portfolio. Every Council property will be determined through a clear process of assessment as either: Operational, Community, Development & Regeneration, Investment and Disposal.
8. The seven priorities aim to deliver key objectives which will be supported by a detailed asset management plan providing more specific information on process and delivery of individual assets across the council's portfolio.

### **Reasons for Recommendation**

9. The Corporate Asset Strategy 2022-2025 is critical to the delivery of the Corporate Strategy 2020-2025.

### **Consultation**

10. None

## **References to Corporate Strategy**

11. The Corporate Asset Strategy 2022-2025 supports the delivery of the Council's Corporate Strategy 2020-25. The strategy aligns with the 'Delivering an Efficient and Effective Council' theme but will influence delivery of projects against a wide range of the corporate priorities.

## **Implications**

### **Financial Implications**

**Name/Title: Jacqueline Van Mellaerts, Corporate Director (Finance & Resources) and S151 Officer**

**Tel/Email: 01277 312500/jacqueline.vanmellaerts@brentwood.gov.uk**

12. The resource required to deliver the Corporate Asset Strategy objectives will be considered through future budget setting processes, which will in turn shape the Council Capital strategy.

### **Legal Implications**

**Name & Title: Claire Mayhew, Corporate Manager (Democratic Services) and Deputy Monitoring Officer**

**Tel & Email: 01277 3125500/claire.mayhew@brentwood.gov.uk**

13. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

### **Economic Implications**

**Name/Title: Phil Drane, Corporate Director (Planning & Economy)**

**Tel/Email: 01277 312500/philip.drane@brentwood.gov.uk**

14. The economic implications are contained within the objectives of the Corporate Asset Strategy and compliments the ethos of the Council's Economic Development Strategy.

### **Equality and Diversity Implications**

**Name/Title: Kim Anderson, Corporate Manager (Communities, Leisure and Health)**

**Tel/Email: 01277 312500/kim.anderson@brentwood.gov.uk**

15. The Public Sector Equality Duty applies to the Council when it makes decisions. The duty requires us to have regard to the need to:
  - a) Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other behaviour prohibited by the Act. In summary, the Act makes discrimination etc. on the grounds of a protected characteristic unlawful
  - b) Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

- c) Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.
16. The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, race, religion or belief, gender, and sexual orientation. The Act states that 'marriage and civil partnership' is not a relevant protected characteristic for b) or c), although it is relevant for a).
17. The proposals in this report will not have a disproportionately adverse impact on any people with a particular characteristic.

### **Background Papers**

None

### **Appendices to this report**

- Appendix A: Corporate Asset Strategy 2022-2025