

Council – 11 December, 2017

Motion

8. PLANNING AHEAD TO USE THE COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY *(the Civic Mayor to refer to the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee)*

Proposed by Councillor Phil Gilchrist

Seconded by Councillor Stuart Kelly

Council recognises that the Cabinet last considered the use of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) at its meeting on 15 January 2015 (Minute 131 refers).

<http://democracy.wirral.gov.uk/documents/s50022901/Community%20Infrastructure%20Levy%20Update%20Report.pdf>

At that time, it was reported that...

'The Council's Core Strategy Local Plan is now at an advanced stage in preparation. A revised Proposed Submission Draft Core Strategy is expected to be presented to the Council for approval for publication and public examination in July 2015.'

Since that study, it is worth noting that

- (a) Knowsley Council adopted a Supplementary Planning Document on developer contributions in June 2016.
- (b) Cheshire West and Chester Council adopted a full scheme in July 2017.
- (c) Sefton set out a draft charging schedule for consultation in September 2017.

Council appreciates that developer contributions can be secured by the planning system through on-site provision and design, site-specific planning obligations and the Community Infrastructure Levy. Given the extent of the Budget Gap it is essential that these means are explored.

Council is also aware that documentation released at the time of the most recent Budget has laid out the Government's intention to set about speeding up the process of setting and revising CIL to make it easier to respond to changes to the market. Apparently, this will include...

'allowing a more proportionate approach than the requirement for two stages of consultation and providing greater clarity on the appropriate evidence base'.

Council believes that, whatever the outcome of the intervention by Sajid Javid (Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government) on 16 November, this Council now needs to make greater progress in assessing how the use of the Community Infrastructure Levy can raise resources to assist in the provision of local facilities and services.

Accordingly, it requests that the Cabinet allocates sufficient resources to speed up the local plan making process, the use of developer contributions and examination of the use of the Community Infrastructure Levy.