FLEXIBLE USE OF CAPITAL RECEIPTS STRATEGY 2022/23 – 2024/25

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 On the 4 April 2022, The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) announced a 3-year extension from 2022/23 onwards to the existing flexibility around the use of capital receipts. The flexibility allows authorities to use the proceeds from asset sales to fund the revenue costs of projects that will reduce costs, increase revenue or support a more efficient provision of services.
- 1.2 The Council has historically adopted this flexibility using approximately £3.9M to fund the implementation of the Future Eastleigh initiative between 2016/17 and 2019/20.
- 1.3 This Strategy 2022/23 2024/25 will enable the Council to utilise this facility where appropriate in the coming years. This strategy is to be approved by Full Council, and then details are to be submitted to the Secretary of State as a requirement of the direction. The Strategy also meets the requirement to submit the Council's plan for the use of the flexibility in advance of use for each financial year.

2. METHODOLOGY

- 2.1. Capital receipts are funds councils receive from asset sales, the use of which is normally restricted to funding other capital expenditure or repaying borrowing. The receipts cannot usually be used to fund revenue costs.
- 2.2. To remove the restrictions and to make use of the flexibility offered as an option by Government in restricted circumstances, capital receipts must arise in the period 2016/17 to 2024/25 and qualifying expenditure must take place in the same period.

3. RECEIPTS AVAILABLE FOR USE

3.1. The table below shows capital receipts received and spent over the periods from 2016/17 to 2021/22 and forecast receipt expenditure in future years. It should be noted that Right to Buy Capital receipts are excluded from this flexibility. It has also been clarified by DLUHC that capital receipts used in this flexibility must arise from disposals outside of the 'Group' structure of the Council. To comply with these restrictions Right to Buy Receipts and receipts received from Aspect Eastleigh for the repayment of the Pembers Hill loan have been removed from the below table:

	£000
Total Qualifying Receipts received 2016/17 – 2021/22	17,987
Amount used previously under flexibility	(3,904)
Used for other capital expenditure between 2016/17 and 2021/22	(1,714)
Approved forecast use of capital receipts in future years	(9,182)
Total Available Receipts for flexibility from 2022/23 – 2024/25	3,187

4. ELIGBLE PROJECTS AND USE OF CAPITAL RECEIPTS

4.1. As the Council moves into the implementation stage of its Corporate Continuous Improvement Strategy (CCI), areas of this Strategy have been identified as eligible to be funded from capital receipts. The table below summarises these areas. This list is not exhaustive, and should further projects be identified, or revisions needed to the planned use of receipts an update to the Strategy will be brought for approval at Full Council where appropriate.

Project	Description	Reason	Area	Portfolio	Forecast use of receipts £'000
Continuous Improvement	To facilitate the implementation of new structures across the Council.	Reduce costs	All	All	1,220
Service and		Support a more			
Structure	Progress: Majority of structures to be	efficient			
Review	implemented by 31st March 2023, with some	provision of			
	implemented early 2023/24	services			
Asset	To facilitate a review of the Asset Management	Increase Income	Asset	Planning	90
Management	Team, including resourcing, systems, and		Management	and	
Review	integration with other areas of the Council	Support a more		Property	
		efficient			
	Progress: Initial review has started, planned	provision of			
	implementation in early 2023/24	services			

5. CAPITAL FINANCING REQUIRMENT

5.1. There is no impact on the Council's Capital Financing Requirement from the use of these receipts under this flexibility, as these Capital Receipts are currently not allocated to future expenditure in the Community Improvement Programme (CIP).