

Budget Carry Forwards

Report of the Finance Portfolio Holder

Recommended:

That the items shown in the Annex to the report, totalling £39,640, be approved for carry forward into the 2021/22 revenue budget.

SUMMARY:

- Each year there are items included within the original estimates and forecasts that Services are unable to spend before the end of the financial year.
- This report seeks approval to carry forward the more significant of these items into the 2021/22 revenue budget.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The forecasts for 2020/21 were approved by Council on 26 February 2021.
- 1.2 Due to timing differences and factors beyond the control of Services, some items for which budgetary provision was made in the forecasts were not spent in the 2020/21 financial year.
- 1.3 This report seeks approval to carry forward the more significant of these items in to the 2021/22 revenue budget.

2 Background

- 2.1 In order to qualify as a carry forward, an item should meet the following criteria.
 - The budget should have been for one-off or specific expenditure in the year.
 - There should be an appropriate reason for the delay.
 - There are no specific sources of funds to meet the expenditure in the next financial year.
- 2.2 The items contained in the Annex represent those items that are put forward for approval. An explanation as to why each of these items is requested to be carried forward to 2021/22 is also included.

3 Risk Management

- 3.1 An evaluation of the risks associated with the matters in this report indicates that further risk assessment is not needed because the changes/issues covered do not represent significant risks.

4 Resource Implications

- 4.1 The items recommended to be carried forward were included in the forecasts for 2020/21 and have not been spent. This means there will be a positive variance on Service estimates in 2020/21, providing no other areas of the Service are overspent.
- 4.2 The resultant increase in balances at 31 March 2021 will mean sufficient funds are available to enable these items to be added to the 2021/22 revenue budget.
- 4.3 The reason for bringing this report before the final revenue account position is known is to let Services know as soon as possible the decision as to whether or not the funds will be carried forward. This should prevent further delays in committing the expenditure.
- 4.4 The latest budget position has been taken into account in preparing these carry forward requests. If, following the year end, there is insufficient budget to carry forward the amounts requested, a verbal update will be provided at the meeting.
- 4.5 The recommended amount of £39,640 to be carried forward into the 2021/22 revenue budget will be equal to the variance on these items in 2020/21. Assuming all other items remain on budget in the 2020/21 revenue accounts, there will be no additional resource implications

5 Legal Implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications.

6 Equality Issues

- 6.1 An EQIA screening has been completed in accordance with the Council's EQIA methodology and no potential for unlawful discrimination has been identified, therefore a full EQIA has not been carried out.

7 Other Issues

- 7.1 There are no other issues.

8 Conclusion and reasons for recommendation

- 8.1 This report gives the Cabinet the opportunity to consider including unspent revenue items from the 2020/21 estimates in the current year's budget.

- 8.2 The Annex shows a small number of projects that were expected to be completed in 2020/21 but are now planned for delivery in 2021/22. The budget for these projects is available to carry forward without impacting on future service delivery. For this reason the budget carry forwards are recommended for approval.

<u>Background Papers (Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D)</u>			
None			
<u>Confidentiality</u>			
It is considered that this report does not contain exempt information within the meaning of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, and can be made public.			
No of Annexes:	1	File Ref:	N/A
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Report to:	Cabinet	Date:	14 April 2021