

POLICY, FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

26 JANUARY 2011

REPORT OF HEAD OF CENTRAL SERVICES

ITEMS FOR APPROVAL UNDER FINANCIAL PROCEDURE RULES

1.0 THE PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to submit requests for approval of this Committee under Financial Procedure Rules and to provide information on amounts approved under delegated powers and to report the impact of these on the Council's reserves and balances.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that:

- a) the virements approved under delegated powers (para. 3.1.1 refers) be noted,
- b) the supplementary estimates approved under delegated powers (para. 4.1 refers) be noted,
- c) the budget reductions approved under delegated powers (para. 5.1 refers) be noted,
- d) an increase to the Decent Homes Grants capital project of £35k in 2010-11 be approved (para. 6.1.1 refers) and;
- e) variations to the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme in 2010-11 be approved (para. 6.2.1 refers).

3.0 VIREMENTS

3.1 Delegated Authority

3.1.1 Since the last meeting the Head of Central Services has approved fifteen requests for virement within the same service totalling £103,550 and two requests for virement between services totalling £6,500. More details of those requests in excess of £5,000 can be found in Appendix A. There are no virements between services in excess of £5,000.

4.0 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES

4.1 The following items have been approved under delegated authority funded from budget reduction money:

Budget Head	Reason	Amount
<u>Policy, Finance & Administration Committee</u>		
Corporate & Democratic Services – Employee Related Costs	Cost of post revaluation	7,060
Policy & Performance & Street Scene & Environment – Various Costs	Net costs of Management Restructuring	66,970
Total		£74,030

5.0 BUDGET REDUCTIONS

5.1 The following items have been approved under delegated authority as a budget reduction:

Budget Head	Reason	Amount
<u>Community & Social Affairs Committee</u>		
Council Tax Benefit – Admin Subsidy	Balance of additional admin grant	8,860
<u>Policy, Finance & Admin Committee</u>		
Corporate Finance Costs – Audit Fees	Annual inspection fee no longer chargeable by the Audit Commission	8,420
<u>Rural, Economic & Environmental Affairs Committee</u>		
Cattle Market – Return of Capital	Agreement ended 31 December 2010 resulting in 3 months saving	2,500
Total		£19,780

5.2 It should be noted that the balance of budget reduction money that remains uncommitted in relation to the General Fund currently stands at £47,910.

6.0 CAPITAL PROGRAMME

6.1 General Fund (GF)

6.1.1 At a meeting of the Community & Social Affairs Committee held on 25 January 2011 an increase to the Decent Homes grants programme of £35k was approved funded by an increase in government grant therefore resulting in no additional cost to the Council. It is therefore recommended that Members of this committee approve this increase to the programme.

6.2 Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

6.2.1 At a meeting of the Community & Social Affairs Committee held on 25 January 2011 an increase to the re-roofing programme in 2010-11 of £30k was approved funded by savings in the asbestos removal programme of £20k and the stock condition survey of £10k. It is therefore recommended that Members of this committee approve the changes outlined above.

7.0 POLICY & CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Policy and corporate implications are considered for each new budget proposal as part of the Council's priority assessment process. The results of this are reported to members as part of the budget setting process.

8.0 FINANCIAL & OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The effect on the Council's General Fund balances and reserves will be reported to Full Council in February as part of the budget setting process.

9.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS

9.1 Any legal implications arising from these movements in funds will have been addressed during the approval process.

10.0 **COMMUNITY SAFETY**

10.1 Individual budgets could have links to community safety issues. These are covered in any associated reports and financial forms that refer to these budgets as they progress through the decision making process. As community safety is a corporate priority this is considered as part of the priority assessment and budget setting process when considering individual budget proposals.

11.0 **EQUALITIES**

11.1 The equality issues of each specific budget are considered as they progress through the approval process.

12.0 **RISKS**

12.1 There will be risks associated with all budgets and these should be considered as part of the consideration of these individual budget proposals through the decision making process.

13.0 **CLIMATE CHANGE**

13.1 Individual budget heads could have climate change issues but these are considered individually as they progress through the approval process.

14.0 **CONSULTATION**

14.1 Any proposed adjustments to budgets are made in consultation with budget holders and the Management Team where appropriate.

15.0 **WARDS AFFECTED**

15.1 All wards are affected.

Contact Officer: David Cowl

Date: 7 January 2011

Appendices: Appendix A – List of Virements over £5k

Background Papers: Committee Papers
Budget Reduction/Virements/Supplementary Estimate Forms

Reference: X: Committees/PFA/2010-11/26-1-11/DG-Items for Approval