

Taunton Deane Borough Council

Council Meeting – 13 July 2010

Part I

To deal with written questions to and receive recommendations to the Council from the Executive.

(i) Councillor Catherine Herbert

Wellington Sports Centre Bid

Wellington Sports Centre is well used but is in need of further investment to enhance and develop the facilities on offer and improve the swimming experience, ensuring sustainability of current usage and increasing the number of new swimmers.

A refurbishment proposal has been submitted to Sport England for funding of a capital grant of £350,000. To date the formal decision on this bid is still awaited.

The aim of the project is to increase swimming participation and to sustain the swimmers who have taken advantage of the Free Swimming initiative by making a series of improvements to both the pool and the changing facilities at Wellington Sports Centre.

The estimated budget for the work is £600,000, which means that a contribution from the Council, of £250,000 is required. It is proposed that this funding should be taken from the Earmarked Asset Management Maintenance Reserve which was set up to meet the needs of Tone Leisure's 10 year maintenance Programme.

It is **recommended** that subject to written confirmation being received from Sport England of £350,000 grant funding:-

- (a) the addition of the Wellington Sports Centre refurbishment to the 2010/2011 Capital Programme with a budget of £600,000 be approved; and
- (b) the virement of £250,000 from the Asset Management Earmarked Maintenance Reserve to the Capital Programme be also approved.

(ii) Councillor Ken Hayward

Climate Change – Revenue contribution to Capital

In April 2010 the Executive approved the Council's Carbon Reduction Plan which is aimed at delivering on the 10:10 challenge.

The Plan includes the replacement of the old gas fired boilers at The Deane House with more modern, high efficiency gas boilers at a cost of approximately £55,000.

The funding for the replacement boilers (and associated zoning of the heating system) is available within the existing Climate Change revenue budget. However, the boiler replacement is a capital project.

It is therefore **recommended** that a Revenue Contribution to Capital of £55,000 to enable the funding of replacement gas boilers at The Deane House, in line with the Council's agreed Carbon Reduction Plan, be agreed.

(iii) Councillor Williams

2009/2010 Budget Outturn Report

The Executive received a detailed report on the outturn position of the Council on revenue and capital expenditure for the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account and trading services for 2009/2010 at its meeting on 16 June 2010.

A number of issues including the general economic climate and the recession in the United Kingdom and major changes within the Council's organisation, have impacted on Taunton Deane's services and financial performance in a variety of ways. However, the Council has continued to operate within the framework of its Budget Strategy and the overall financial standing at the end of the financial year is sound.

There are two matters which require the approval of Full Council due to slippage in the original spending plans. These are in connection with the net transfer of earmarked reserves and the Carry Forward of Capital Programme Budgets.

During the discussion of the Outturn Report at the Executive's meeting it was decided that, subject to a Supplementary Estimate being agreed, funding should once again be made available to enable the Council to enter a display in this year's Taunton Flower Show.

It is therefore **recommended** that:-

- (i) the net transfer of £856,000 to earmarked reserves for use on General Fund Services and £513,000 to earmarked reserves for use on Housing Revenue Account Services, in 2010/2011 or later years, as set out in the report to the Executive, be approved;
- (ii) the Carry Forward of General Fund Capital Programme Budget totalling £1,026,580 for slippage into 2010/2011 and the carry forward of Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme Budget of £1,497,820 for slippage into 2010/2011 as set out in the report to the Executive, be approved; and
- (iii) a Supplementary Estimate of £8,500 within the Leisure Portfolio for entry in the Taunton Flower Show in 2010, to be funded by a one-off transfer from the Deane DLO Trading Account Earmarked Reserve in 2010/2011 be approved; and that funding for entry in the Show in future years be considered as part of budget setting for 2011/2012.