

Taunton Deane Borough Council

Council Meeting – 9 April 2013

Part I

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

(i) Councillor Mrs Stock-Williams

Financial and Performance Monitoring – Quarter 3 2012/2013 – Proposed Carry Forwards

At its meeting on 13 March 2013, the Executive considered a report concerning the update on the financial position and the performance of the Council to the end of Quarter 3 of 2012/2013 (as at 31 December 2012) is an important part of the overall performance management framework.

The Executive noted that the current forecast outturn for the Council's General Fund Capital Programme was Net Expenditure of £5,200,000, compared to the budget of £7,424,000. The forecast under spend is therefore £2,224,000 (30%) for the financial year. Of this amount, £2,176,000 related to slippage on projects into 2013/2014, with an under spend on project budgets of £48,000.

Explanations for variances were provided in the report in respect of 14 capital projects. However, of these 14, the following five projects were identified as requiring a carry forward of budgets into the 2013/2014 Financial Year:-

- (a) **Climate Change Initiatives** - Slippage is being reported against this project of £40,000. A request has recently come forward to Members to consider installing solar PV cells on the tennis centre roof at Blackbrook Pavilion, to be funded from this budget next year. It is therefore recommended that £40,000 of the budget is carried forward.
- (b) **PC Refresh Project** - It is currently forecast that expenditure of £15,000 will be deferred until the 2013/2014 financial year. A new five year rolling programme for the replacement of PC's is currently being prepared which will determine when the cost is incurred. It is therefore recommended that £15,000 of the budget is carried forward.
- (c) **ICT Infrastructure Maintenance** - This project has not yet been started due to continuing discussions with partners. The cost of the project to the Council is currently unknown and the timescale for spend has not yet been determined. It is therefore recommended that the £35,000 budget is carried forward.
- (d) **Project Taunton – Coal Orchard** - A new masterplan is required for this

project which is connected to the Town Centre Retail project. This is not due to happen until next financial year therefore it is recommended that the £10k budget is carried forward.

- (e) **Grants to Registered Social Landlords (RSLs)** - There is slippage reported on the grants to RSLs capital budget of £414,000. Normally 50% of Taunton Deane grants are paid on commencement and the remaining 50% on completion. These resources are all allocated to schemes such as the affordable housing scheme at Parmin Close, Taunton but payment will not be required before April 2013. It is therefore recommended that the £414,000 budget is carried forward.

In the circumstances, it is **recommended** that the following carry forwards, totalling £514,000 be approved:-

- Climate Change Initiatives – £40,000;
- PC Refresh Project – £15,000;
- ICT Infrastructure Maintenance – £35,000;
- Project Taunton – Coal Orchard – £10,000; and
- Grants to Registered Social Landlords – £414,000.