

Report of the Interim Deputy Chief Executive

GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET AMENDMENTS 2018/191. Purpose of report

To seek approval for a number of amendments to the General Fund revenue budget for 2018/19 and for additional one-off budget allocations to address particular issues.

2. Background

Following the preparation of the 2018/19 budget and the production of the 2017/18 final accounts, a detailed review of all 2018/19 General Fund revenue budgets has been undertaken to determine that they are appropriate and in line with expectations. This has been led by the Chief Executive and Interim Deputy Chief Executive and saw them meet all budget holders individually to review their respective areas. This has identified a number of areas where amendments to the General Fund revenue budget are required. These are set out in the appendix with an accompanying narrative.

As set out in the Statement of Accounts Update and Outturn Position 2017/18 report on this agenda, a carry forward of £338,400 from 2017/18 into 2018/19 is requested with regards to ICT schemes in the 2017/18 capital programme that had either not commenced in 2017/18, or were in progress at 31 March 2018. There are already ICT schemes totalling £380,000 in the 2018/19 capital programme.

In order to progress these ICT schemes promptly whilst ensuring that regular on-going work is maintained, it is proposed that a one-off allocation of £30,000 be made to ICT Services in 2018/19 for interim staff to assist with the delivery of capital schemes.

The Accounts and Audit Regulations (2015) require the Council to produce its draft Statement of Accounts by 31 May with the external auditors issuing their audit opinion by 31 July with effect from the 2017/18 financial year. With effective planning and the assistance of an interim Chief Accountant, the Council met the 31 May 2018 deadline as required. In order to help ensure that the 31 May 2019 deadline for the 2018/19 financial year is met, it is proposed that a one-off allocation of £28,000 be made to Finance Services in 2018/19 for specialist interim accounts staff to assist with final accounts work.

The total effect of these amendments will be to reduce the anticipated withdrawal in 2018/19 from the Council's General Fund balance by £432,450.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to RESOLVE that:

- 1. The amendments to the General Fund 2018/19 revenue budget as set out in the appendix be approved.**
- 2. An additional 2018/19 budget allocation of £30,000 to ICT Services for interim staff to assist delivery of capital schemes be approved.**
- 3. An additional 2018/19 budget allocation of £28,000 to Finance Services for interim staff to assist with final accounts work be approved.**

Background papers

Nil

APPENDIX

Budget Heading	Current Budget (£)	Proposed Budget (£)	Budget Change (£)	Comment
Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)	961,650	664,050	(297,600)	Following Arlingclose review – move to annuity basis
Revenues and Benefits – DWP Grants	(2,500)	(54,300)	(51,800)	Grants received in 2018/19
Benefits and Quality Control - Employees	489,850	450,250	(39,600)	Corporate Fraud and Performance Officer (F157) – Budget included but post previously deleted
Car Parking – Pay and Display Income	(148,000)	(176,450)	(28,450)	Aligning 2018/19 budget to 2017/18 outturn
Cost of Collection – Recovered Court Costs	(200,000)	(226,100)	(26,100)	Aligning 2018/19 budget to 2017/18 outturn
Car Parking - Off Street PCN Income	(70,000)	(95,500)	(25,500)	Aligning 2018/19 budget to 2017/18 outturn
Licensing - Employees	122,250	97,200	(25,050)	Licensing Clerk (L28) – Budget for post duplicated
Individual Electoral Registration – Government Grant	0	(15,650)	(15,650)	Per Cabinet Office Notification – 19 June 2018
Sale of Wheeled Bins	(16,000)	(29,750)	(13,750)	Aligning 2018/19 budget to 2017/18 outturn
Members Allowances	263,500	250,550	(12,950)	Aligning 2018/19 budget to 2017/18 outturn
Cashiers - Employees	10,750	0	(10,750)	Budget no longer required
Chauffeur Services	25,000	14,600	(10,400)	Aligning 2018/19 budget to 2017/18 outturn
Economic Development - Partnerships	10,000	0	(10,000)	Will utilise £10,000 carried forward from 2017/18
Car Parking – Permit Income	(3,000)	(12,550)	(9,550)	Aligning 2018/19 budget to 2017/18 outturn
Replacement of Wheeled Bins	67,000	88,850	21,350	Aligning 2018/19 budget to 2017/18 outturn
Apprenticeship Levy	16,000	37,000	21,000	Aligning 2018/19 budget to 2017/18 outturn
Cost of Collection – Court Costs	50,000	70,800	20,800	Aligning 2018/19 budget to 2017/18 outturn
Individual Electoral Registration	0	15,650	15,650	Utilising Government grant as above
Land Charges – Fees (No VAT)	(38,000)	(30,100)	7,900	Aligning 2018/19 budget to 2017/18 outturn
Total	1,538,500	1,048,050	(490,450)	