

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET AMENDMENTS 2019/201. Purpose of report

To seek approval for a number of amendments to the General Fund revenue budget for 2019/20 and for additional one-off budget allocations to address particular issues.

2. Background

Following the preparation of the 2019/20 budget and the production of the 2018/19 final accounts, a detailed review of all 2019/20 General Fund revenue budgets has been undertaken to determine that they are appropriate and in line with expectations. The following proposals have been identified:

(i) Civic Services

- Twinning and friendship visits to Germany (5-8 July 2019) and Poland (expected October 2019) costing an estimated £5,000.
- Provision of a chauffeur at each of the Mayor's official engagements at a cost of £8,000.

(ii) Additional Temporary ICT Staffing Resources

Given the importance of implementing two outstanding high-priority ICT infrastructure projects, within a challenging technology refresh programme, and the recruitment challenges faced in recruiting skilled IT staff (also experienced across other professional roles across the Council), there is a requirement for two temporary fixed term additional infrastructure specialists costing £53,000 to be recruited to ensure that the ICT infrastructure programme is delivered within technically critical timescales.

(iii) Specialist Legal Advice

As approved by Finance and Resources Committee on 13 December 2018, £25,000 should be included in the 2019/20 budget to cover specialist legal advice relating to an employment tribunal case.

(iv) Manor Farm Recreation Ground

As reported to Policy and Performance Committee on 3 July 2019, the Council will receive a one-off £10,000 payment from Western Power for granting them the right to lay an underground electricity cable under Manor Farm Recreation Ground. This will be spent on a range of environmental initiatives such that there is no overall impact upon the General Fund 2019/20 budget.

(v) Urgency powers

A report was submitted to Policy and performance on 3 July 2019 noting the use of the Chief Executive's urgency powers. All financial implications were met within existing budgets.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to RESOLVE that the amendments to the General Fund 2019/20 revenue budget as set out in the appendix be approved.

Background papers

Nil.

APPENDIX

Budget Heading	Current Budget (£)	Proposed Budget (£)	Budget Change (£)	Comment
Civic Services	0	13,000	13,000	One-off funded from General Fund balance
ICT Services - Employees	316,950	369,950	53,000	One-off funded from General Fund balance
Resources Miscellaneous - Specialist Legal Advice	0	25,000	25,000	One-off funded from General Fund balance with approximately 75% charged to HRA
Beeston Parks - Miscellaneous Income	0	(10,000)	(10,000)	Western Power underground electricity cable approval.
Beeston Parks - Miscellaneous Expenditure		10,000	10,000	Various environmental initiatives
Total	316,950	407,950	91,000	