



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

**CORPORATE POLICY AND PERSONNEL,  
PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CABINET  
MEMBER'S MEETING  
11 JULY 2006**

# ITEM XX

Report of the Corporate Director -  
Resources and Housing and Corporate  
Director – Regeneration and Community

## **RELEASE OF REGENERATION AND COMMUNITY REVENUE RESERVE BALANCES**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 1.1 To approve the early release of £15,000 of the remaining Assembly Rooms revenue reserve balance to part fund the repairs to the Darwin Suite floor.
- 1.2 To approve the early release of the £20,000 revenue reserve balance to finance a consultants review on Transport Procurement.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 Under Financial Procedure Rules Cabinet is required to approve the use of remaining reserves. This approval is required in advance of the 1 August 2006 Cabinet due to the timescales. The Cabinet Member is therefore asked to approve these early releases.

### **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

#### **Assembly Rooms Infrastructure Reinvestment**

- 3.1 In order to reduce the impact of the Assembly Rooms annual programme of events and minimise the impact of income generation, infrastructure improvements are planned during the 'dark period' between July and September of each year.
- 3.2 A reserve of £44,000 for Assembly Rooms improvements was approved by Cabinet in August 2005. £33,000 of this reserve is still remaining. This was not used during 2005/06 due to the timescale for approvals and the proposals to fund the Darwin Floor works during 2006/07, which were originally estimated at £75,000.
- 3.3 The proposal is to use part of the remaining reserve towards the improvement works to the Darwin Suite floor. The floor is in a poor state of repair and cannot be re-sanded because it is now too thin. There have been instances where the grand piano has punctured the floor, as have the legs on the steel deck staging. This

represents a threat to both health and safety and to the business plan as in its present condition the floor is insufficient for the programme of events which it has to withstand.

- 3.4 Asset Management Group approved this scheme and Property Services received a valuation for £25,000 to complete the work during August 2006. £10,000 is being funded from the repairs and maintenance revenue budget with the remaining £15,000 to be met by the department.

### **Transport Procurement**

- 3.5 A longer term commitment has been made to identify a range of improvements in transport procurement. A Transport Procurement and Operations Group (TPOG) was created and a lead officer appointed. Progress has been relatively slow since the lead officer left the Council. In order to identify a future action plan, it is proposed to appoint a consultant to review the current situation, including requirements from the Best Value Review and the Audit Report, and develop a set of terms of reference for the TPOG, in particular dealing with issues of safety, efficiency and quality control
- 3.6 A corporate reserve to fund the TPOG manager post was approved in the 2005 to 2008 budget planning process and a £20,000 departmental reserve was approved in August 2005 to help fund this programme. The £20,000 departmental reserve is still available and it is proposed to use this to fund the consultant. Early release is requested so that the outcome of the consultants report can be incorporated into the report being presented as promised to the Audit & Accounts Committee in September 2006.

For more information contact:	Martyn Marples 01332 716597 e-mail <a href="mailto:Martyn.Marples@derby.gov.uk">Martyn.Marples@derby.gov.uk</a>
Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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**Financial**

1. These proposals can be funded from the remaining Assembly Rooms reserve of £33,000 and the remaining Transport Procurement reserve of £20,000 at 31 March 2006.

**Legal**

2. None

**Personnel**

3. None

**Equalities impact**

4. None

**Corporate priorities**

5. These recommendations are in line with approved budget plans which accord with the Council's corporate priorities.