

COUNCIL CABINET 3 JULY 2007

ITEM 15

Cabinet Member for Corporate Policy

Contract and Financial Procedure Matters Report

SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report deals with the following items that require reporting to and approval by Council Cabinet under contract and financial procedure rules:
 - Revenue budget 2007/8 transfers between Environmental Services department and Corporate Adult Services and Regeneration and Community departments, following transfer of operational responsibilities.
 - A school budget deficit 2007/8 at Grampian Primary School.
 - Corporate reserve of £52k to be earmarked for revenue costs of further work to progress the Accommodation Strategy.
- 1.2 Subject to any issues raised at the meeting, I support the following recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To approve the £40,000 revenue budget transfer from Environmental Services, Sport and Leisure to Corporate and Adult Services, Property Services for day to day repairs of the Leisure Centres.
- 2.2 To approve the £3,000 revenue budget transfer from Environmental Services, Parks to Regeneration and Community, Leisure Events for litter clear up costs after events.
- 2.3 To approve the £406,898 revenue budget transfer from Corporate Adult Services, Property Services to Environmental Services for the cleaning of ex County properties.
- 2.4 To approve the £27,130 revenue budget transfer from Regeneration and Community to Environmental Services for accommodation costs associated with the Waste Client staff moving from Saxon House to Stores Road.
- 2.5 To approve a school budget deficit of £21,103 for 2007/8 for Grampian Primary School.
- 2.6 To approved the earmarking of £52k from corporate reserves for the Accommodation Strategy revenue implementations costs.



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Report of the Acting Corporate Director – Resources

Contract and Financial Procedure Matters Report

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1. Revenue Budget Transfers 2007/8 between Departments

- 1.1. The following revenue budget transfers between departments are required, in line with transfers of operational responsibilities ...
 - Leisure centres currently manage small value day to day repair budgets outside
 of the Council Repair and Maintenance budget managed by Property Services. It
 is proposed to transfer these budgets to Property Services so that the
 responsibility for this type of repair is managed in line with the rest of the
 Councils building portfolio. A revenue budget of £40,000 will be transferred.
 - Within the Parks budget is £3,000 to contribute towards the clear up costs from litter after certain events on parks. It is proposed to transfer this budget to the Leisure Events budget in Regeneration and Community, so that the responsibility for all clear up costs from litter can be organised from one source.
 - The budget for the cleaning of ex County properties is currently held by Property Services. It has been agreed that this moves to Environmental Services from April 2007 in line with a transfer of operational responsibilities. The 2007/08 budget to be transferred is £406,898.
 - Following the merging of Client and Contractor operations for Waste in 2006/07 in Environmental Services, the planned transfer of Client staff from Saxon House to Stores Road depot has now been completed. The associated accommodation budget of £27,130 requires transferring from Regeneration and Community to Environmental Services.

2. School Budget Deficits

2.1 Approval is sought for a budget deficit of £21,103 2007/8 at Grampian Primary School in line with school budget plans submitted. Grampian Primary School has had unapproved deficits of £30,849 and £44,137 at the end of the 2005/06 and 2006/07 financial years respectively. This has largely been as a result of significant staff absence throughout the school, resulting in overspends on supply budgets. The school is now working more closely with officers to recover the position and has submitted a request for a licensed deficit of £21,103 (3.1% of its budget) at the end of 2007/08. The budget would then come back into balance in 2008/09.

3. Accommodation Strategy

- 3.1 One-off revenue implementation costs will be incurred in 2007/8 to progress the Accommodation Strategy, including the appointment of consultants to carry out a detailed study.
- 3.2 Although capital budget provision has been made towards the future scheme, there is no specific revenue budget provision for one-off implementation costs.
- 3.3 Corporate reserves include £52k returned to reserves at 2005/6 year end, being the balance unused from a £500k corporate allocation to the building maintenance budget in 2005/6. It is proposed to earmark this balance for the Accommodation Strategy.

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Background papers: None

List of appendices: Appendix 1 – Implications

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. As detailed in the report.

Legal

2. None.

Personnel

3. None.

Equalities impact

4. None.

Corporate priorities

5. These recommendations, where relevant, are in line with approved budgets which accord with the Council's corporate priorities.