



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL CABINET
14 MARCH 2006

ITEM 18

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:
- Sports and Leisure Funding Officer.
- 1.2 Subject to any issues raised at the meeting, I support the following recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To approve the establishment of a funding officer post for the Sports and Leisure Section on a fixed term two year contract, funding by an appropriation of £63,000 from corporate revenue reserves to the Environmental Services Department for this specific purpose.



Contract and Financial Procedure Matters Report

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1. Sports and Leisure Funding Officer

- 1.1 The need for major capital investment in the Council's sports and leisure facilities has been acknowledged in the report on the 2006/7 to 2008/9 capital budget taken to Cabinet on 21 February 2006. That report included the statement that, in addition to the programme then put forward for approval

"A further report will need to be brought back to Cabinet that seeks to prioritise and address other competing future funding needs. Options for future investment are:

- the investment implications of the current review of existing sports facilities
- etc"

- 1.2 The further report to the additional Council Cabinet and to Council on 1 March 2006 has subsequently set out a detailed programme for investing an additional £2m in 2006/7 and 2007/8 on the Council's key buildings. Much of this will be directed to meeting the immediate investment needs of sports, leisure and community centres, necessary to keep those buildings operational. However, it is clear that a more substantial investment could not be achieved without a substantial injection of external funding.
- 1.3 The Corporate Director for Environmental Services considers that a opportunities exist to secure a significant input of external funding, provided that additional staffing resources are made available to support bids.
- 1.4 In 2002 the Parks Service established a post of Funding Officer which has managed to attract over £1m per year from external funds that are being invested in parks and other facilities. This is considered to be a successful precedent.
- 1.5 The proposal is to establish a new Funding Officer post for the Sports and Leisure Section on a fixed term two year contract, at an estimated total cost of £63,000 over two years from the commencement of the appointment. This will require a commitment of additional corporate resources as a one-off measure. The time-limited nature of the post and the funding commitment reflects the finite nature of the funding opportunities identified.

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Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

- 1.1 The balance of unallocated corporate revenue reserves will reduce £63,000 in total by the end of 2007/8 due to this appointment.
- 1.2 Cabinet on 21 February 2006 confirmed that bids for external investment funding require Cabinet approval where they cannot be fully supported by resources already earmarked within the approved capital programme. Consequently, bids to be put forward as a consequence of the proposed appointment will be subject to such further Cabinet approval, unless they can be fully funded within existing approved budgets.

Legal

2. None

Personnel

3. None

Equalities impact

4. None

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

5. This recommendation reflects the Council's priority of securing value for money by leveraging in external funding, in support of a priority funding need clearly identified in the capital programme.