



**REPORT of
DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES**

to
STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
15 JULY 2021

MID-YEAR GROWTH BIDS

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To consider the proposed mid-year growth bids.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the revenue and capital growth bids at **APPENDICES 1** and **2** respectively are approved.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 During the 2021 / 22 budget setting process a number of growth bids came forward. Due to the financial uncertainty caused by the pandemic only those that were deemed to be absolutely essential at the time were put forward for approval. This was on the understanding that during 2021 / 22 when the financial position and need for the other growth items were clearer, mid-year growth bids would come forward.

3.1.2 The in-year growth that is recommended for 2021 / 22 has been identified. This was presented to the Finance Working Group on 17 June 2021 to provide an opportunity for challenge and detailed questions to be asked. Subsequently all those bids that were presented to the working group have come forward to Committee.

3.2 Revenue Growth BIDS

3.2.1 A summary of the proposed revenue growth bids is provided in the following table, with detail around the needs for these growths in **APPENDIX 1**. The 2021 / 22 costs assume the post are recruited to in December, allowing for the recruitment process to be carried out.

Table 1 – Summary of Revenue Growth Bids

Revenue Growth Item	Growth 21/22 £000	Growth 22/23 £000	Growth 23/24 £000	Total £000
Operations Manager for Commercial Services (Grade I)	19	58	62	139
Planning Enforcement Specialist L2	15	47	49	111

Revenue Growth Item	Growth 21/22 £000	Growth 22/23 £000	Growth 23/24 £000	Total £000
Planning Enforcement L1 Caseworker	9	28	29	66
Total	43	133	140	316

3.2.2 The impact on the budget gap and general fund balance of these growths is shown in the following table. The recommended minimum General Fund Balance is £2.6m

Table 2 – Impact of Growths on the General Fund Balance

	21/22 £000	22/23 £000	23/24 £000
Opening General Fund Balance	5,800*	5,757	4,822
Budget Surplus / (Gap)	0	-802	-1,178
Growth Bids	-43	-133	-140
Closing General Fund Balance	5,757	4,822	3,504

* Provisional figure, subject to audit

3.3 Capital Growth Bids

3.3.1 A summary of the proposed capital growth bids is provided in the following table, with detail around the needs for these growths in **APPENDIX 2**.

Table 3 - Summary of Capital Growth Bids

Capital Item	£000
Replacement Ride on Mower	24
Gym expansion at Dengie 100 Sports Centre	30
Total	54

3.3.2 Capital growth will be funded from the capital receipts reserve and can be replenished from the savings where they are generated. Currently £363,000 uncommitted from the reserve over the life of the capital programme.

4. CONCLUSION

4.1 The justification for the growths is set out in the report and it is recommended they are approved.

5. IMPACT ON STRATEGIC THEMES

5.1 The growths are necessary to provided services to the intended standards, facilitate delivery of strategic priorities and provide costs savings.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – Improved planning enforcement service.
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – None.
- (iii) **Impact on Risk** – None.
- (iv) **Impact on Resources (financial)** – These are outlined in the report.
- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – These will be managed within the existing Human Resources (HR) processes and resources.
- (vi) **Impact on the Environment** – None.
- (vii) **Impact on Strengthening Communities** – None.

Background Papers: None.

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