



**REPORT of
CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**

**to
STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
13 JUNE 2024**

URGENT ITEM OF BUSINESS

**APPROVAL TO CARRY FORWARD CAPITAL FUNDING FOR THE GALLEON
REPLACEMENT FROM 2023 / 24**

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To seek Member approval to carry forward the previously agreed capital budget of £226,000 from 2023 / 24 to 2024 / 25, to enable delivery of the Galleon play equipment replacement project to proceed at pace.
- 1.2 This matter is brought forward as an urgent item for consideration with the agreement of the Chairperson, as the full list of 2023 / 24 carry-forwards is not due to be considered by this Committee until 25 July 2024; however in order to deliver this project within the planned timescale of 18 October 2024 it is necessary to place an order with the contractor by Monday 17 June 2024.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That Members agree the 2023 / 24 capital funding of £226,000 allocated for the delivery of the Galleon Project be carried forward to 2024 / 25.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 The current play Galleon is a highly valued, well used and much loved piece of play equipment in Promenade Park. After 18 years it has reached its economic end of life and requires complete replacement. The replacement play ship and adjoining lighthouse will increase the current play offer by a capacity of 40% and also increase the accessibility / inclusivity of the play offer to allow further community engagement.
- 3.2 Replacement of the Galleon was approved as part of the 2023 / 24 capital programme, however it was not possible to complete this during 2023 / 24 due to the size and scale of the scheme of works requiring full planning permission. It is now planned to install the new equipment by 18 October 2024 with the intention of it being ready for use during the October half term 2024.
- 3.3 In order to ensure the project can be completed within these timescales it is necessary to place a formal order with the contractors by Monday 17 June 2024.
- 3.4 Any further delays would result in the project having to be delivered during the autumn / winter with increased risk of adverse weather conditions.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 In order to keep the Galleon replacement project on target for delivery in time for October half term, it is important that an order is placed by Monday 17 June 2024.
- 4.2 As the capital budget was agreed for 2023 / 24 financial year, approval is sought to carry forward this commitment into 2024 / 25.
- 4.3 All other carry-forward requests will come forward to the next Strategy and Resources Committee on 25 July 2024.

5. IMPACT ON PRIORITIES AS SET OUT IN THE CORPORATE PLAN 2023 - 2027

5.1 Supporting our communities

- 5.1.1 The delivery of the replacement Galleon project will ensure this facility remains available for residents and visitors to enjoy and will offer improved accessibility and sensory features.

5.2 Enhancing and connecting our place

- 5.2.1 The Galleon has been a key visitor attraction, and the enhanced accessibility and sensory features will provide a great enhancement to the Promenade Park.

5.3 Helping the economy to thrive

- 5.3.1 The new Galleon will attract new visitors, and will support the local economy, both within the Promenade Park and the local area .

5.4 Smarter finances

- 5.4.1 Combining this project with the delivery of the replacement sensory play equipment in the Promenade Park has delivered financial savings through the contractor being able to co-ordinate the delivery of the two projects, creating efficiencies and cost savings on mobilisation, plant and manpower.

5.5 Provide good quality services.

- 5.5.1 This project supports the continued investment in the Promenade Park, ensuring the provision of good quality, free facilities for residents and visitors.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – Delivery of the project will provide enhanced experience for our residents and visitors to enjoy, including increased accessibility and sensory elements,
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – The new play equipment will include enhanced accessibility and sensory facilities, therefore will increase equality of access and ease of use.
- (iii) **Impact on Risk (including Fraud implications)** – Approval of this report will minimise delivery risks for this project.

- (iv) **Impact on Resources (financial)** – None - funding has already been approved within the 2023/24 capital programme.
- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – None – resources have been allocated to deliver this project.

Background Papers: None.

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