

**INFORMATION**

**RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**REPORT TO POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Agenda Item No 23

meeting date: 27 MARCH 2012  
title: CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2012/13  
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES  
principal author: LAWSON ODDIE

**1 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To inform members of the new schemes which have been approved for inclusion in the capital programme for this committee for the forthcoming financial year (2012/13).

**2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Budget Working Group/Capital Working Group was tasked with reviewing the Council's forward capital plans during 2011/12 in order to produce an achievable and affordable programme.
- 2.2 They asked Heads of Services to submit new bids based on thematic groupings with the remit that only essential schemes would be considered. They also agreed that the future programme should correspond with the life of the current Council.
- 2.3 The result of their deliberations is a capital programme for the years 2012/15 totalling £1,541,820 for all committees, which was approved at Full Council on 6 March 2012. The total for this committee is £125,000 over the three year life of the capital programme.

**3 SCHEMES APPROVED FOR 2012/13**

- 3.1 For this Committee there are 2 schemes that have been approved for the 2012/13 financial year, totalling £125,000. There are no budget transfers from 2011/12. Shown below are the two the schemes that make up this total.

2012/13	
Approved Budget £	
<u>IT Services</u>	
Server and Network Infrastructure	25,000
<u>Economic Development</u>	
Economic Development Initiatives	100,000
<b>TOTAL POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE</b>	<b>125,000</b>

- 3.2 Detailed information on the 2 new schemes shown above is provided at Annex 1.
- 3.3 During the closure of our capital accounts there will inevitably be some slippage on schemes in the current year (2011/12). One of the tasks of the Budget Working Group/Capital Working Group will be to review all requests for slippage on capital schemes within the 2011/12 capital programme. A report will be brought to this committee at a future meeting giving details of any approved slippage.

3.4 Responsible officers will complete and update capital monitoring sheets for each scheme, which will be reported quarterly to members to give an indication of progress.

#### 4 CONCLUSION

4.1 This is a smaller capital programme approved than in past years, particularly due to the request from the Budget Working Group/Capital Working Group to Heads of Service for only essential schemes to be put forward.

4.2 Further slippage on other schemes in the 2011/12 capital programme may be approved after the end of the 2011/12 financial year.

LAWSON ODDIE  
HEAD OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

PF14-12/NS/AC  
7 March 2012

**Policy and Finance Committee**  
**New Schemes Approved for the 2012/13 Capital Programme**

## Server and Network Infrastructure

Service Area: IT Services

Head of Service: Lawson Oddie

### Brief Description:

To consolidate and replace the Council's ageing servers and network switches. At the time of replacement, greener, more efficient and up to date technology will be taken full advantage of.

### Overriding aim/ambition that the scheme meets:

To be a well managed Council

### Improving service performance, efficiency and value for money:

The scheme looks to replace 7 physical servers that the council operate, with 3 greener, more efficient and up to date physical servers. As a consequence the energy consumption, and therefore revenue cost, would fall. Additionally there will be reduced energy consumption by the air conditioning system due to reduced heat output from the servers in the server room. Furthermore, the newer technology that will be used is greener, more efficient and has increased performance and reliability.

### Start Date, duration and key milestones:

April 2012:

### Financial Implications – CAPITAL:

Breakdown	2012/13 £
Equipment and Materials	25,000

### Financial Implications – ANNUAL REVENUE:

Breakdown	£
There will be some energy savings. However, it is difficult to quantify with any accuracy	-

### Useful economic life:

5 to 7 years

### Impact on the environment:

By using greener technology and reducing the number of physical servers, the effect on the environment from running IT systems at the council will be reduced.

Disposal of the existing servers will be through the company that the Council regularly use, and would abide by the WEEE Directive.

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# Economic Development Initiatives

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**Service Area: Regeneration**

**Head of Service: Colin Hirst**

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## **Brief Description:**

The project is to establish a general source of pump-priming and pre-investment funding to support the delivery of the Council's economic priorities. The scheme particularly seeks to support our high growth sectors in the provision of land and premises or tourism infrastructure where applicable. The Council needs to be able to develop and respond to initiatives that will support delivery of business growth. In order to develop schemes, this scheme will provide funding to be available to undertake works in areas such as valuation and feasibility assessments, due-diligence, initial planning and design work. Specific funding for land or premises would be the subject of separate bids as required.

Early projects include identifying options to deliver employment land, schemes to support high growth business opportunities and necessary infrastructure to support our rural business base including Tourism.

## **Overriding aim/ambition that the scheme meets:**

To sustain a strong and prosperous Ribble Valley

## **Improving service performance, efficiency and value for money:**

The funding will enable a range of potential projects to be brought forward to address the councils agreed aims and objectives. Specialist resources will be commissioned as necessary or to add to delivery capacity within the Council. In regard to sites it could be anticipated that either an asset would be realised with enhanced value if disposed or would generate an income stream for the Council depending upon the nature of the scheme.

## **Consultation:**

Specific schemes will be subject to member agreement and public consultation as appropriate. Schemes will be consistent with the Councils Economic Development Strategy and Town centre Action Plans that have been subject to consultation. The project will also support delivery of the adopted Community Strategy and the Local Development Framework both of which have the benefit of widespread community consultation.

## **Start Date, duration and key milestones:**

The project will be implemented from April 2012. Key milestones would depend upon the individual projects developed. It is anticipated that Committee would consider an initial report on employment land options by no later than June 2012.

## **Financial Implications – CAPITAL:**

Breakdown	2012/13 £
Total	100,000

## Financial Implications – ANNUAL REVENUE:

Breakdown	£
Unspecified - General revenue costs would be anticipated to be contained within existing budgets	-

### Useful economic life:

Dependent upon the nature of the project

### Impact on the environment:

Schemes would be expected to make a positive contribution to the environment to deliver Sustainable Development.