

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL DECISION
REPORT TO POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No 12

meeting date: 29 JANUARY 2013
 title: PROPOSED CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013/16
 submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
 principal author: LAWSON ODDIE

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To approve the proposed future three-year capital programme (2013/14-2015/16) for this committee.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 This report will review the draft programme of schemes to be carried out in the following three years (2013/14 to 2015/16) based on the bids that have been received from Heads of Service.

2.2 Schemes were previously requested at this time last year for the 2013/14 and 2014/15 financial years. However, no bids have previously been requested for the 2015/16 financial year. No schemes have previously been approved for this committee for the 2013/16 period.

2.3 In the same manner as last financial year, all Heads of Service were asked to submit capital bids, bearing in mind the limited financial resources that are available to finance the capital programme. Heads of Service were asked to put forward schemes that were the absolute basic requirement to keep the council's services running.

3 DRAFT PROGRAMME 2013/14 TO 2015/16

3.1 Heads of Service were asked to review the current programme and submit any new scheme bids for consideration. Annex 1 shows in detail the two scheme bids that have been submitted for this Committee, together with how they link to the Council's ambitions.

3.2 It should be noted that at this stage these are only potential bids that will also require further consideration by the Budget Working Group and by the future Special Policy and Finance Committee where they will need to be assured that the capital programme in total is affordable, both in capital and revenue terms.

3.3 Members should therefore consider the forward programme as attached and put forward any amendments you may wish to make at this stage.

3.4 A summary of the proposed three-year programme for Policy and Finance committee, based on the bids that have been received, is shown below:

Schemes	2013/14 £	2014/15 £	2015/16 £	TOTAL £
Storage Area Network		40,000		40,000
Clitheroe Townscape Scheme			115,000	115,000
	0	40,000	115,000	155,000

- 3.5 There is external funding and internal revenue contributions (£67,000) associated with the Clitheroe Townscape bid that has been submitted. The balance of the funding for the schemes at paragraph 3.4 would need to be funded internally, as shown in the table below.

Funding	2013/14 £	2014/15 £	2015/16 £	TOTAL £
Total of all Bids	0	40,000	115,000	155,000
External Funding	0	0	-67,000	-67,000
Balance to be Internally Funded	0	40,000	48,000	88,000

- 3.6 The level of the council's capital resources available to fund those bids that are not supported by external funding is currently low.
- 3.7 It must also be noted that the bids shown here represent only what has been submitted with regard to this committee's services. Other committees have received similar reports, and all bids will finally be considered alongside each other by the Budget Working Group and at the future Special Policy and Finance Committee in relation to the limited internal funding available.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

- 4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications

- Resources – The proposals as submitted in the bid forms would require funding from council resources of £88,000.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – None
- Political – None
- Reputation – Sound financial planning for known capital commitments safeguards the reputation of the council
- Equality and Diversity – Equality and Diversity issues are examined as part of the capital bid appraisal process.

5 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 Bids were initially invited for the 2015/16 financial year, however a bid has also been submitted for the 2014/15 financial years for this committee. The Clitheroe Townscape scheme has £67,000 of external funding associated with it. The Council's existing capital resources available for the unfunded balance of the schemes are currently low.

6 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

- 6.1 Consider the future three-year programme for 2013/14 to 2015/16 as shown at paragraph 3.4 and agree any amendments you wish to make.
- 6.2 Recommend to the future special Policy and Finance Committee meeting a future three-year capital programme for this committee's services.

HEAD OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

PF10-13/LO/AC
21 January 2013

**Policy and Finance Committee
New Capital Bid Submissions**

BID 1: Storage Area Network

Service Area: IT Services

Head of Service: Lawson Oddie

Brief Description:

To implement a central storage area network that will allow for the consolidation of data storage, more resilient server infrastructure and move towards high availability of server resources.

Overriding aim/ambition that the scheme meets:

To be a well-managed council.

Government or other imperatives to the undertaking of this scheme:

The implementation of a Storage Area Network would carry a number of benefits for the council, these include:

- Better disk utilisation - ability to manage everything as a single entity. It offers a more cost effective method of assigning storage to those servers that need it.
- A good disaster recovery solution in that the risk to the council of extended system downtime is greatly reduced.
- Increased data stability, which avoids systems failing.
- Faster backup process

Improving service performance, efficiency and value for money:

Enable the use of technologies that allow seamless business continuity and high availability of server resources.

Consultation:

None

Start Date, duration and key milestones:

April 2014 – implementation would take 12 months

Financial Implications – CAPITAL:

Breakdown	2013/14 £	2014/15 £	2015/16 £
Equipment/Materials	-	40,000	-

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Financial Implications – ANNUAL REVENUE:

Breakdown		£
Existing Service – no change		-

Useful economic life:

5-7 years

Additional supporting information:

A Storage Area Network (SAN) is a collection of storage devices and computers connected together over a dedicated high-speed optical network to create a centralised storage repository. A Storage Area Network can be used to store anything from documents to virtual machines images.

The following benefits that would be realised by the introduction of a Storage Area Network

- Increased disk utilisation, more than one server can access the same physical disk, which allows better utilisation of free space on the disk.
- Decreased workload, allows easier management as the data is centralised
- Improved Disaster Recovery capabilities, SAN devices have the ability to mirror the data on the disks to another location.
- Improved overall availability, allows for multiple physical connections to disks from a single or multiple servers.
- Enable the move to high availability technology

Impact on the environment:

Would lessen the number of servers required to host the authority's data and facilitate the move a greener IT environment.

Risk:

- **Political:** *IT hardware failure could prevent reputational damage for the council if it impacts on a service area of high public profile. The method of implementation of the scheme would ensure minimal service disruption.*
- **Economic:** *None replacement of IT hardware presents the risk of major failure and consequential expenditure which would not be budgeted for. This would also impact on service delivery in other areas of the council.*
- **Sociological:** *None.*
- **Technological:** *IT hardware can rapidly become obsolete through technological advances. Care will be taken to ensure that the most up to date technology is taken advantage of.*
- **Legal:** *The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive (WEEE Directive) will be followed in the disposal of obsolete hardware. There is no danger of breaching EU legislation around procurement - Contract Procedure Rules will be followed.*
- **Environmental:** *With IT hardware soon becoming out-dated, disposal of old and obsolete hardware can be an issue. The Council use an external company in the disposal of its IT hardware and abide by the WEEE Directive.*

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BID 2: Clitheroe Townscape Scheme

Service Area: Regeneration Services

Head of Service: Colin Hirst & Terry Longden

Brief Description:

The bid is a council contribution to support the uplift of the Clitheroe Townscape, to include elements of the frontage of the buildings, the highway, and features of the public realm. This would be a multi-agency approach involving LCC as Highways Authority and RVBC as a co-ordinating body, with the potential to seek third party funding from the Heritage Lottery Funding and other external partners.

Overriding aim/ambition that the scheme meets:

To protect and enhance the existing environmental quality of our area.

Government or other imperatives to the undertaking of this scheme:

The council has an obligation under its conservation duties to keep under review and prepare schemes to enhance its conservation areas. This project will help deliver that duty. The scheme also serves to deliver key strands of the council's adopted Masterplan for Clitheroe.

Improving service performance, efficiency and value for money:

This scheme will enable the delivery of key outcomes for both service areas. It will act as part of the funding package drawing in targeted support from other agencies and acting as pump priming and potential match for other funding proposals to maximise the benefit of the Council's investment.

Consultation:

The masterplan was developed with widespread public participation. Discussions with the LCC team responsible for Clitheroe have been undertaken. The scheme has been developed across council service areas. There will be on-going opportunities to pursue other external sources of funding to either enhance or reduce the council's capital contribution.

Start Date, duration and key milestones:

Programme defined by October 2014.

Anticipated design work: April 2015.

Anticipated start on site: May 2015

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Financial Implications – CAPITAL:

Breakdown	2013/14 £	2014/15 £	2015/16 £
Contractors	-	-	100,000
Equipment/Materials	-	-	10,000
Internal Staff Salaries	-	-	5,000
Total Capital Costs	0	0	115,000
Sources of Funding			
LCC <i>(subject to confirmation)</i>	-	-	60,000
Regeneration Service <i>(contribution from revenue budget)</i>	-	-	5,000
Engineering Service <i>(contribution from revenue budget)</i>	-	-	1,000
Leisure Service <i>(contribution from revenue budget)</i>	-	-	1,000
Total External Funding	-	-	67,000
NET COST TO THE COUNCIL	-	-	48,000

Financial Implications – ANNUAL REVENUE:

Breakdown	£
Existing Service – no change	-

Useful economic life:

Not applicable

Additional supporting information:

The project is consistent with the LCC environment directorate commissioning plan for Ribble Valley. There will be on-going liaison with LCC over capital investment and amount of LCC funding together with other external sources of funding may change. This will be kept under review.

Impact on the environment:

The scheme is an environmental enhancement scheme. Contractors would be required to ensure sustainable methods of construction and sources of materials.

**Policy and Finance Committee
New Capital Bid Submissions**

Risk:

- **Political:** *The scheme would support the Council's corporate ambitions and priorities.*
- **Economic:** *The scheme would support the attractiveness of Clitheroe as a tourist destination and enhance the commercial attractiveness of the centre providing growth opportunities for local businesses.*
- **Sociological:** *People appreciate nice surroundings.*
- **Technological:** *Opportunities to utilise new technology in delivering the contracts.*
- **Legal:** *The scheme will support the Council's statutory duties.*
- **Environmental:** *The scheme will deliver environmental enhancements.*