

**RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL** DECISION  
**REPORT TO PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Agenda Item No 7

meeting date: 16 JANUARY 2014  
 title: PROPOSED CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2014/17  
 submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES  
 principal author: AMY JOHNSON

**1 PURPOSE**

1.1 To approve the proposed future three-year capital programme (2014/15-2016/17) 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 (2014/15 to 2016/17) 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 2014/15 and 2015/16 financial years. However, no bids have previously been requested for the 2016/17 financial year. No schemes have previously been submitted or approved for this committee for the 2014/15 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 2014/15 TO 2016/17**

3.1 Heads of Service were asked to review the current programme and submit any new scheme bids for consideration. Annex 1 shows the scheme bids for this Committee in detail and how each particular scheme links 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 Policy and Finance Committee who will want to make sure that it 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 Planning and Development Committee, based on the bids received, is shown below:

Schemes	2014/15 £	2015/16 £	2016/17 £	TOTAL £
New Bid – Site Allocation Work Software	26,300			<b>26,300</b>
New Bid – Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Consultancy Work		110,000		<b>110,000</b>
<b>Total of all Bids</b>	<b>26,300</b>	<b>110,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>136,300</b>

3.5 As the capital programme has already been approved for 2014/15 and 2015/16 last year, we would not normally anticipate new bids for these years unless new funding has been identified or there were circumstances unforeseen at this time last year. However, for this committee all of the of the bids received relate to 2014/15 and 2015/16, with no bids received for 2016/17.

3.5 None of the bids submitted for this committee are supported by external funding. The level of the council's capital resources available to fund these bids is currently low.

3.7 It must also be noted that the bids shown here represent only those that have been submitted with regard to this committee's services. Other committees will be receiving similar reports, and all bids will finally be considered alongside each other by the Budget Working Group and 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 a substantial level of funding from council resources of £136,300.
- 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 2016/17 financial year, however bids have been submitted for the 2014/15 and 2015/16 financial years only for this committee. None of the schemes submitted have any associated external funding. The Council's existing capital resources to fund such schemes are currently low.

#### 6 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

6.1 Consider the future three-year programme for 2014/15 to 2016/17 as shown at paragraph 3.4 and agree any amendments you wish to make.

6.2 Recommend to Policy and Finance Committee a future three-year capital programme for this committee's services.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

PD4-13AJ/AC  
19 December 2013

For further background information please ask for Amy Johnson extension 4498.

BACKGROUND PAPERS – None

**Planning and Development Committee  
New Capital Bid Submissions**

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## **BID 1 : Site Allocation Work Software**

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**Service Area:** Planning Services

**Head of Service:** John Macholc

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**Brief Description:**

Software and licence to enable plans to be accessed on the web for the site allocation document. The software would allow maps of the borough to be shown on the website and would be of benefit to both Planning Services and Engineering Services. With regards planning, the software will improve the general public access to consultation documents. The software will also allow the Council's assets to be shown on the maps (eg buildings, bush shelters, litter bins etc) which will help to improve identification. This will be of benefit to the engineering section, refuse collection and general works.

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

To be a well managed council.

**Government or other imperatives to the undertaking of this scheme:**

There is no legal obligation to have plans accessible on the web but failure to do would prevent reasonable access to the general public and could be seen as limiting access to consultation documents.

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

By making the plans available on the web it should reduce the need for visiting public to inspect plans and the cost of printing plans.

**Consultation:**

No comment made.

**Start date, duration and key milestones:**

Prior to implementing the scheme, work would have to be carried on the document in relation to site allocations. This is dependent on the success of the Core Strategy which would need to be found as sound before any significant work takes place. It would then depend on the production of the relevant maps. The software and Licence would need to be in place in advance of the production of any document.

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**Financial Implications – CAPITAL:**

Breakdown	2014/15 £	2015/16 £	2016/17 £
Contractors	5,000	-	-
Equipment/Materials	16,390	-	-
Other (Licenses)	4,910	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26,300</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

**Financial Implications – ANNUAL REVENUE:**

Breakdown	£
Licence Cost	5,250

**Useful economic life:**

No comment made.

**Additional supporting information:**

Site allocations is the next critical phase after the adoption of the Core Strategy and to enable plans to be made available on line and to be consistent with how other districts have hosted the plans it is essential to obtain the necessary software and appropriate licence.

**Impact on the environment:**

N/A.

**Risk:**

- **Political:** *No comment made.*
- **Economic:** *No comment made.*
- **Sociological:** *No comment made.*
- **Technological:** *No comment made.*
- **Legal:** *No comment made.*
- **Environmental:** *No comment made.*

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## BID 2: CIL Consultancy Work

Service Area: Planning Services

Head of Service: John Macholc

### Brief Description:

Production of document and report for a Community Infrastructure Levy evidence base to support the Council in the adoption of a CIL.

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

To sustain a strong and prosperous Ribble Valley.

### Government or other imperatives to the undertaking of this scheme:

The failure to produce a CIL would make it more difficult to obtain planning contributions for a range of services and ultimately lead to substandard infrastructure provisions throughout the Borough. However, the timing of a CIL would be dependent on having a site allocation plan and an infrastructure plan so it may well be considered to delay work until 2015/16 as the government guidance also fluctuates.

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

The eventual adoption of a CIL would make the system more transparent for developers and be a more efficient way of achieving financial contributions and assist in the determination of decisions on planning applications due to the less likely need for detailed 106 Agreements.

### Consultation:

None.

### Start date, duration and key milestones:

No comment made.

### Financial Implications – CAPITAL:

Breakdown	2014/15 £	2015/16 £	2016/17 £
Fees (External)	-	100,000	-
Internal Staff Salaries	-	10,000	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>110,000</b>	-

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**Financial Implications – ANNUAL REVENUE:**

Breakdown		£
Existing Service – no change		-

**Useful economic life:**

No comment made.

**Additional supporting information:**

No comment made.

**Impact on the environment:**

N/A.

**Risk:**

- **Political:** *Political pressure exists in that there is often an argument that inadequate infrastructure exists to support new development and so the creation of a levy would be subject to strict scrutiny.*
- **Economic:** *The economic situation has led to developers challenging the requests for financial contributions and any scheme would be challenged and would need to be robustly tested through any EIP. Any levy would also need to be applied and modified to reflect a changing economic situation.*
- **Sociological:** *No comment made.*
- **Technological:** *No comment made.*
- **Legal:** *Any changes in legislation including boundary alterations could impact on the need for CIL.*
- **Environmental:** *No comment made.*