

REPORT

SUBJECT: Adjustments to the Capital budget during 2015/16

MEETING: Council

DATE: 17th December 2015

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: Abergavenny, Monmouth, Rogiet

1. PURPOSE

For Council to receive recommendations from Cabinet and if thought fit to approve adjustments to the capital budget in 2015/16.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council approve the following recommendations arising from Cabinet decisions taken on the 2nd December 2015:

2.1 That Council approve the creation of a capital budget of £1,050,000 in 2015/16 for improvements to the public realm in Abergavenny Town Centre, the budget to be taken from the £3,433,000 capital released when the decision was taken not to build a new library in Abergavenny (Council, 26th February 2015). The funding of which is proposed to be capital receipts.

2.2 That Council approve the creation of a capital budget of £275,000 in 2015/16 for the development of a car park off Rockfield Road, Monmouth. The budget to be created by prudential borrowing funded from car park income over a period of 10 or 20 years – to be agreed with finance colleagues.

2.3 That Council approve the creation of a capital budget of £45,000 in 2015/16 for the development of a car park at Rogiet Playing field (adjacent to Severn Tunnel Junction. The budget to be created by prudential borrowing funded from car park income over a period of 10 or 20 years – to be agreed with finance colleagues.

3. KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 on the 2nd December Cabinet considered recommendations to create capital budgets in support of various projects:

Detail surrounding each project may be found in the Cabinet report (see link below).

<http://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/documents/g238/Public%20reports%20pack%2002nd-Dec-2015%2014.00%20Cabinet.pdf?T=10>

In summary the schemes are:

3.2 Works to improve the public realm in Abergavenny Town centre and for this work to commence in January 2016 to allow completion prior to the Eisteddfod in July 2016.

3.3 The development of a new car park off Rockfield Road Monmouth (adjacent to the skate park) in response to the need for additional car parking within the town.

3.4 The development of additional car parking on Rogiet Playing Field (predominantly to assist parking congestion created by rail users at Severn Tunnel Junction). The scheme to be developed jointly with Rogiet CC and prior to the road bridge crossing the rails at Severn Tunnel Junction being replaced (commencing sometime in 2016).

Note: The Cabinet report contained a further recommendation to create a capital budget to undertake works at the Usk HQ site to create additional office accommodation. This recommendation was withdrawn in order that officers might provide a report to a future Cabinet meeting giving further information and options surrounding office accommodation and budget implications.

4. REASONS

4.1 The three projects summarised above represent amendments to the Council's approved capital budget. To approve additional capital expenditure and hence a change to the capital budget, requires a decision of council.

Cabinet is recommending to Council that the budget adjustments be made.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 The capital budget for the Abergavenny Public realm project (£1,050,000) is taken from the budget released when the decision was taken in February 2015 to no longer build a new library in Abergavenny (£3,433,000). The expenditure will be split over 2015/16 and 2016/17 at this time officers estimate that the split of funding between these years is £450,000 and £600,000 respectively.

5.2 The funding assessments for both the Wyebridge street car park and Rockfield Road car park were included within the report to Cabinet in September 2014 (see link below to the relevant appendix)

<http://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/Data/Cabinet/20140903/Agenda/Full%20Cabinet%20Agenda.pdf>

However the costs need to be revised from £250,000 (as reported in September 2014) to £275,000 for the Rockfield Road development (based upon the detailed design and estimates). The higher capital budget remains affordable by extending the prudential borrowing period (say from 10 years

to 15 years) or by absorbing the increased revenue spend from the assumed increased surplus of £37,788 (as reported in September 2014).

The expenditure will be incurred in 2015/16 assuming progress with the new car park order.

5.3 The Rogiet Playing field car park can be developed for £45,000. It will generate income estimated at £22,000 per annum. Whilst custom will be affected when the bridge is replaced the cost of parking at Rogiet playing field coupled with the growing number of passengers travelling by rail from Severn Tunnel Junction suggests that custom levels will remain sufficient to fund the investment and thereafter offer revenue sufficient to justify the car park being created.

The £45,000 budget will be funded by prudential borrowing although the period of borrowing (and hence revenue implication) will be ascertained by accountancy staff.

It is anticipated that all works will be completed in 2015/16 assuming no delay in relation to authority to proceed and the adoption of the new car park order.

6. FUTURE GENERATIONS and EQUALITY ASSESSMENT
As described in the FGEA attached to the Cabinet report.

Link below:

<http://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/documents/g238/Public%20reports%20pack%2002nd-Dec-2015%2014.00%20Cabinet.pdf?T=10>

SAFEGUARDING ASSESSMENT:

There are no safeguarding implications associated with the recommendations within this report.

7. CONSULTEES:

SLT

Cabinet members

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS: Report to cabinet on the 2nd December 2015 titled 'Adjustments to the Capital budget within 2015/16'

Link provided above.

9. AUTHORS

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