Appropriations for 2013/14

Within the forecast outturn figure, there are a number of proposals for appropriations to and from earmarked reserves. The final value of these appropriations will be assessed at year-end and reported as part of the closedown reporting.

Appropriations to Reserves

1. £2,291,000 to the Capital Reserve

This is to support capital expenditure, given the uncertainties in the timing of capital receipts and grant income as a result of the prevailing economic conditions.

2. £1,500,000 to the Waste Management Reserve

This continues the process of building up budgetary resources for new waste disposal arrangements due to come on stream in 2015/16, to allow for smoothing of expenditure over life of the new arrangements. This sum therefore will be transferred to an earmarked reserve, to be released back at a later date.

3. £1,500,000 to the Business Rates Retention Reserve

In light of the heightened financial risks the Council carries in relation to business rates, this reserve has been created to smooth any in year fluctuations to income from this revenue stream.

4. £683,000 to the Business Transformation Reserve

Additional grant monies received in 2013/14 following the finalisation of settlement figures has been transferred to the Business Transformation Reserve in support of future years.

5. £731,000 to the New Homes Bonus Reserve

The Council is in receipt of a new grant (a replacement for the Planning Delivery Grant). Rather than rely on it to support the general base budget, it is proposed that the monies relating to 2013/14 be used to support one-off projects in future years.

6. £17,000 to the Scrutiny Reserve

To preserve the ability to fund one-off Scrutiny projects, it is proposed that the current underspend is taken to earmarked reserves.

7. £25,000 to the Repairs and Renewals Reserve

In keeping with the original 2013/14 budget proposals, £25,000 will be transferred to the repairs and renewals reserve to fund future small repair needs

8. £106,000 to the Elections Reserve

In keeping with normal policy, the usual budget for elections is being transferred to the elections reserve given 2013/14 is a fallow year, to be released back in future years.

9. £5,922,000 to the Pensions Reserve

In order to take advantage of the ability to prefund three years of pension deficit payments on 1 April 2014, and thereby secure a significant reduction in the amount otherwise payable over the new triennial review period, monies are being transferred into the pensions reserve to enable the prefunded to be paid without impacting on other elements of the budget

10. £429,000 to the Public Health Reserve

In keeping with its ring-fenced nature, underspends on the 2013/14 public health grant are being taken to an earmarked reserve to be released in support of future public health activity.

Total Appropriations to Reserves

£13,204,000

Appropriations from Reserves

11. £292,000 from the LPSA Reserve

This is required to finance projects agreed by the Local Strategic Partnership and the costs of the Partnership Team.

12. £22,000 from the Supporting People Reserve

Underspends from the Support People Grant in 2010/11 were held over in an earmarked reserve to assist the Supporting People service transition to a lower level of funding.

13. £48,000 from the LABGI Reserve

This is to fund costs of associated with the Maritime Festival and some initial capital investment towards securing the "pinch point" funding. These transfers exhaust this particular reserve.

14. £892,000 from the Capital Reserve

This is to fund the costs associated with a number of capital projects.

15. £4,322,000 from the Business Transformation Reserve

This transfer from the reserve is to fund initial investment needed to secure future years savings and also to provide the funds for the Pensions Reserve transfer referred to above.

16. £150,000 from the Agresso Reserve

Monies were set aside in previous years to ensure sufficient funds were available to support the continued implementation of the new Agresso ERP system. There is a consequential release this year to fund the investment undertaken.

17. £30,000 from the Internal Audit Reserve

As planned in the original 2013/14 budget, these monies have been released to support the audit programme. This transfer exhausts this reserve

18. £44,000 from the Grants to Voluntary Organisations Reserve

Monies carried forward from 2012/13 underspends has been released to fund grant commitments

19. £710,000 from the Welfare Reform Reserve

This is to fund the final settlement of the 2012/13 Housing Benefits Subsidy claim following completion of the audit.

Total Appropriations from Reserves

£6,515,000

Appropriations for 2014/15

The proposed appropriations to and from earmarked reserves are:

Appropriations to Reserves

1. £300,000 to the New Homes Bonus Reserve

The Council is again in receipt of New Homes Bonus Grant. Rather than rely on it to support the general base budget, it is proposed that a proportion of the monies be used to support one-off projects in future years.

Total Appropriations to Reserves

£300,000

Appropriations from Reserves

2. £277,000 from the LPSA Reserve

This is required to finance the costs of the Partnership Team.

3. £35,000 from the Elections Reserve

In line with the purpose that this reserve was set up, £35,000 will be released in 2014/15 in support of the costs of the Borough elections due.

4. £690,000 from the Business Transformation Reserve

To fund a number of one-off investments during 2014/15

5. £195,000 from the Agresso Reserve

To continue the process of investment in the ERP system, so as to secure the basis for more efficient back office functions

6. £411,000 from the Capital Reserve

This is to fund the costs associated with a number of capital projects

7. £200,000 from the Schools Improvement Reserve

To fund investment into Schools Improvement

8. £9,564,000 from the Pensions Reserve

To fund the prepayment of pension deficit contributions and thereby securing savings over the three year actuarial review period

9. £300,000 from the Welfare Reform Reserve

To fund on-going work around welfare reform and housing benefit subsidy

Total Appropriations from Reserves

£11,672,000