

Cambridge City Council

Item

To: Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources:

Councillor George Owers

Report by: Chief Executive, Director of Customer and Community

Services, Director of Business Transformation, Director of

Environment and Head of Finance

Relevant scrutiny

Strategy and Resources

committee:

Scrutiny Committee

19 January 2015

Wards affected: All Wards

Strategy and Resources – Finance and Resources Portfolio Revenue and Capital Budget Proposals for 2014/15 to 2018/19

Key Decision

1. Executive summary

Revenue and Capital Budgets

1.1 The following report details the budget proposals relating to this portfolio that are included in the Budget-Setting Report (BSR) 2015/16 which will be considered at the following meetings:

Date	Committee	Comments
19 January 2015	Strategy & Resources	Consider proposals / recommendations from all Scrutiny Committees in relation to their portfolios
22 January 2015	The Executive	Budget amendment may be presented
13 February 2015	Strategy & Resources	Consider any further amendments including opposition proposals
26 February 2015	Council	Approves General Fund Budget and sets Council Tax

1.2 The report also includes consideration of any recommendations concerning the review of charges and project appraisals for schemes in the capital plan for this portfolio.

2. Recommendations

The Executive Councillor is recommended to:

Review of Charges:

a) Approve the proposed charges for this portfolio's services and facilities, as shown in Appendix A to this report.

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Revenue:

b) Consider the revenue budget proposals as shown in Appendix B.

Capital:

- c) Consider the capital budget proposals as shown in Appendix C.
- d) Delete some schemes from the Capital Plan as shown in Appendix C.
- e) Adjust capital funding for items 2 (c) to 2 (d) as appropriate.

3. Background

- 3.1 At its meeting on 6 November 2014, Council gave initial consideration to the budget prospects for the General Fund for 2015/16 and future years in the Mid-Year Financial Review (MFR) 2014.
- 3.2 The overall Budget-Setting Report (BSR) to Strategy & Resources Scrutiny Committee on 19 January 2015 will include a review of all the factors relating to the overall financial strategy that were included in the MFR.
- 3.3 The report to The Executive on 22 January 2015 may include details of the Government's Final Settlement for 2015/16. The announcement is likely to be made shortly after the conclusion of the consultation period, which ends in January 2015.
- 3.4 Further work may be required on detailed budgets so delegation to the Head of Finance will be sought from Council for authority to finalise changes relating for example to the reallocation of departmental administration, support service and central costs, in accordance with the CIPFA Service Reporting Code of Practice for Local Authorities (SeRCOP).

Budget 2015/16 - Overall Revenue Budget Position

3.5 The budget proposals for this portfolio, as summarised in table 1, will be considered by the Executive at its meeting on 22 January 2015.

Table 1: Overall Revenue Proposals (see Appendix B)

Savings and Bids	2014/15 Budget £	2015/16 Budget £	2016/17 Forecast £
Savings:			
Increased Income	-	(406,090)	(686,000)
Programme Office	-	-	-
Savings	-	(115,000)	(115,000)
Total	-	(521,090)	(801,000)
Bids:			
Unavoidable Revenue Pressures	-	-	-
Reduced Income	-	37,000	169,000
Total	-	37,000	169,000
Net (savings)/bids	-	(484,090)	(632,000)
External Bids	-	54,000	14,000
Priority Policy Fund (PPF) Bids		34,500	34,500
1 Hority I Olloy I alia (i 1 1) Dias		34,300	J-1,300
Non-Cash Limit Items	-	6,500,000	1,000,000

Capital

- 3.6 The 2014 Mid-Year Financial Review proposed a review of the capital plan to address its size and complexity. A number of concerns were identified, including:
 - Capacity to deliver projects to time, cost and quality;
 - Dependency on revenue funding; and
 - Inclusion of items, such as unallocated funds, projects at an early stage of development, and items more properly treated as small enhancements or maintenance spend.
- 3.7 Phase 1 of the review examined the current plan in order to release internal funding (e.g. DRF, R&R, capital receipts, etc), by identifying projects that are not yet ready for delivery, are no longer required, or are not true capital projects. This will make the plan more deliverable.
- 3.8 The funding identified will be released into General Fund reserves where it will be available for use on current priorities.

- 3.9 The review has also piloted a method of prioritising capital spending. Table 2 summarises, and Appendix C sets out in detail, any schemes for this portfolio that are recommended for closure, deletion or require further development, and the funding released as a result.
- 3.10 The Council now maintains two lists of projects which may become capital proposals in due course. The hold list contains projects that have been approved in principle but are awaiting funding. A new list, the projects under development list, has been set up following Phase 1 of the capital plan review. It lists projects which are subject to feasibility studies and outline project planning, including timescales, milestones and indicative costings. When ready, these projects will be proposed for funding and approval in line with revised capital processes and procedures.

Table 2: Overall Capital Proposals (see Appendix C)

	2014/15 £	2015/16 £	2016/17 £	2017/18 £	2018/19 £
Capital Deletions	(153,000)	(661,000)	(254,000)	(194,000)	0
Capital Bids	0	8,515,000	0	0	0
Net Capital Bids	(153,000)	7,854,000	(254,000)	(194,000)	0

Public Consultation

- 3.11 The 2014 Budget Consultation was undertaken by MEL Research Ltd on behalf of Cambridge City Council in September 2014 and published in November 2014. The main method of collecting information was through an interactive online programme "YouChoose".
- 3.12 Details of the results of the survey will be published on the Council's website.

4. Implications

All budget proposals have a number of implications. A decision not to approve a revenue bid will impact on managers' ability to deliver the service or scheme in question and could have staffing, equal opportunities, environmental and/or community safety implications. A decision not to approve a capital or external bid will impact on managers' ability to deliver the developments desired in the service areas.

(a) Financial Implications

Financial implications of budget proposals are summarised in the Budget-Setting Report 2015/16.

(b) Staffing Implications

See text above.

(c) Equality and Poverty Implications

A consolidated Equality Impact Assessment for the Council's Budget Setting Report will be submitted to the Executive at its meeting on 22 January 2015. Individual Equality Impact Assessments have been conducted to support this, and will be available on the Council's website.

(d) **Procurement Implications**

Any procurement implications will be outlined in the Budget Setting Report 2015/16.

(e) Environmental Implications

Where relevant, officers have considered the environmental impact of budget proposals which are annotated as follows:

- +H / +M / +L: to indicate that the proposal has a high, medium or low positive impact.
- Nil: to indicate that the proposal has no climate change impact.
- -H / -M / -L: to indicate that the proposal has a high, medium or low negative impact.

(f) Consultation and Communication Implications

As outlined in 3 above, budget proposals are based on the requirements of statutory and discretionary service provision. Public consultations are undertaken throughout the year and can be seen at:

https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/current-consultations

(g) Community Safety Implications

Any Community Safety Implications will be outlined in the Budget Setting Report 2015/16.

5. Background papers

These background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

- Budget Setting Report 2015/16
- Mid-Year Financial Review (MFR) 2014
- Budget Papers 2015/16
- Individual Equality Impact Assessments

6. Appendices

The following items, where applicable, are included for discussion:

Appendix	Proposal Type	Included
Α	Scale of Fees & Charges	✓
В	Revenue Budget Proposals for this portfolio	✓
С	Capital Budget Proposals for this portfolio	✓
D	Project Appraisal	Χ

7. Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact:

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Appendix A

Review of Charges

Conference/exhibition letting charges for Guildhall

DAILY LETS:-	Charges 2014/15 *	Charges 2015/16 *	% Increase
COMMITTEE ROOMS 1 AND 2:			
Morning or Afternoon (per session)	£124.76	£127.88	2.50%
Evening/Weekends/Bank Holidays (per hour)	£124.76	£127.88	2.50%
COUNCIL CHAMBER:			
Morning or Afternoon (per session)	£249.51	£255.75	2.50%
Evening/Weekends/Bank Holidays (per hour)	£149.70	£153.44	2.50%
EXHIBITION AREA (Outside Council Chamber):			
Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm (per day)	£124.76	£127.88	2.50%
Saturday/Sunday, 9am to 5pm (per hour) + day rate	£47.53	£48.72	2.50%
Evening, after 5pm (per hour) + day rate	£47.53	£48.72	2.50%

^{*} All charges are subject to VAT.

Appendix A

Review of Charges

Standard letting charges for Guildhall

DAILY LETS:-	Charges 2014/15 *	Charges 2015/16 *	% Increase
COMMITTEE ROOMS 1 AND 2:			
Morning or Afternoon (per session)	£77.23	£79.16	2.50%
Evening/Weekends/Bank Holidays (per hour)	£77.23	£79.16	2.50%
COUNCIL CHAMBER:			
Morning or Afternoon (per session)	£124.76	£127.88	2.50%
Evening/Weekends/Bank Holidays (per hour)	£77.23	£79.16	2.50%
EXHIBITION AREA (Outside Council Chamber):			
Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm (per day)	£124.76	£127.88	2.50%
Saturday/Sunday, 9am to 5pm (per hour) + day rate	£47.53	£48.72	2.50%
Evening, after 5pm (per hour) + day rate	£47.53	£48.72	2.50%

^{*} All charges are subject to VAT.

						Apper	ndix [B
2015/	16 Budget - Gen	eral Fur	nd			Page 1 of 2	2
Reference	Item Description	2014/15 Budget £	2015/16 Budget £	2016/17 Budget £	2017/18 Budget £	2018/19 Budget £ Contact	Climate Effect Rating
Increase	ed Income						
Finance &	Resources						
II3527	Forecast additional net income reflecting expected rent reviews, lease renewals and lettings from existing portfolio	0	(30,000)	(30,000)	(30,000)	(30,000) Dave Prinse	ep Nil
	e in income expected reflect existing property portfolio.						
113548	Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) Payments for the solar thermal system at Abbey Pools	0	(6,000)	(6,000)	(6,000)	(6,000) David Kidston	Nil
heat water o	vo solar thermal units were ins at the pools. Under the Gove very kWh of heat generated	ernment's Ren	newable He	o provide o eat Incenti	a sustainal ve (RHI), tl	ole source of energy and council receives o	to an
113663	One off increase in DWP Housing Benefits and DCLG Council Tax Support Administration Subsidy grants	0	(120,090)	0	0	0 Alison Cole	e Nil
The provision financial yea	nal DWP Housing Benefits a ar 2015/16 are £120,090 higher	nd DCLG Co than forecas	ouncil Tax st.	Support A	Administrat	ion Subsidy Grants f	or
113665	Income from Commercial Property Acquisition Programme	0	0	(400,000)	(400,000)	(400,000) Dave Prinse	ep Nil
	me will allow the council to pontline services.	ourchase add	litional con	mmercial p	roperties to	o bring in more incom	ne
Anticipated	additional income following	the investm	ent in pro	nerty to ro	afocus tha	Council's commorci	al

Anticipated additional income following the investment in property to refocus the Council's commercial property portfolio, funded from reserves. [Linked to proposals C3664, RI3666 and NCL3691].

| Increase in investment | 0 (250,000) (250,000) (250,000) Stephen | Nil | Income | Nil |

(686,000)

Increase in investment income anticipated from placing £10m in CCLA Property Fund. This is the projected impact on General Fund (the HRA also receiving a benefit) based on an expectation of approximately 4.5% return compared to current average returns around 0.65%.

Total Increased Income in Finance & Resources	0	(406,090)	(686,000)	(686,000)
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Appendix [B]

2015/16 Budget - General Fund						Page 2 of	2	
Reference	Item Description	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19		Climate
		Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget		Effect
		£	£	£	£	£	Contact	Ratina

Increased Income

Total Increased Income	0	(406,090)	(686,000)	(686,000)	(686,000)
Report Total	0	(406,090)	(686,000)	(686,000)	(686,000)

2015/1	6 Budget - Gene	eral Fun	d				Page 1 of	2
Reference	Item Description	2014/15 Budget £	2015/16 Budget £	2016/17 Budget £	2017/18 Budget £	2018/19 Budget £	Contact	Climate Effect Rating
Savings								
Finance & F	Resources							
\$3524	Legal Services. Saving on books and publications through joint purchasing arrangement	0	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,0	100) Simon Pu	gh Nil
	gh consortium purchasing of which the City Council's leg			reference	sources	set up b	y Public L	aw
\$3525	Legal Services: Deletion of unfilled post (0.4 fte)	0	(20,000)	(20,000)	(20,000)	(20,0	100) Simon Pu	gh Nil
The post-holo resources.	der left the Council in Febr	uary 2014. W	/e believe	e we can	absorb th	e work	within exist	ing
\$3543	Revenues and Benefits supplies and services efficiency savings	0	(19,000)	(19,000)	(19,000)	(19,0	000) Alison Co	ole Nil
Reduced sup	plies and services costs follow	ving efficiency	y review					
\$3549	Intranet Technical Support	0	(3,000)	(3,000)	(3,000)	(3,6)	000) James Nightingo	Nil ale
	a content management syst te, allowing a small saving.	em for Intrand	et has red	uced the re	equiremer	nt for tecl	nnical supp	oort
\$3550	Reduce IT consultancy spend	0	(20,000)	(20,000)	(20,000)	(20,0	000) James Nightingo	Nil ale
with the pote	small consultancy budget, we ential to unlock greater savects to fully utilise this, and so	ings elsewhe	re in the	Council. I	t has bee	irements en difficu	and solutic It to manc	ons, age
\$3553	Delete sustainable city projects budget	0	(4,080)	(4,080)	(4,080)	(4,0	980) David Kidston	Nil
promotional of	line was created to provice and other work. The sustaina ceased. The post was deleted get.	bility officer p	ost chanc	ged over tin	ne and the	e previou	s promotio	nal
\$3627	Savings from reduced costs for Head of Internal Audit	0	(2,500)	(2,500)	(2,500)	(2,5	500) Bridget Bishop	Nil

Slight reduction in costs of Head of Internal Audit following South Cambs District Council joining shared arrangements in July 2013.

Reference	Itom Description	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19		Climate
Kelelelice	Item Description	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget		Effect
		£	£	£	£	£	Contact	Rating
Savings								
\$3645	Printing Budget Reduction	0	(30,000)	(30,000)	(30,000)	(30,0	000) James Nightinga	+L le
Reduce the	amount spent on printing, and	d colour print	ing in partio	cular.				
S3647	Legal Services: Additional saving on staff costs	0	(11,420)	(11,420)	(11,420)	(11,4	20) Simon Puç	gh Nil
The salary b reached the element.	oudget makes allowance for top of their grade there is or	incremental nly a limited r	progressior need to allo	n. As most ow for this.	Legal Ser The saving	vices' em g represe	ployees ha nts the surp	ive Ilus
Total Savings	s in Finance & Resources	0	(115,000)	(115,000)	(115,000)	(115,0	000)	

0

0

Total Savings

Report Total

(115,000)

(115,000)

(115,000)

(115,000)

(115,000)

(115,000)

(115,000)

(115,000)

2015/1	l 6 Budget - Ge	eneral Fur	nd				Page 1 of	1
Reference	Item Description	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19		Climate
		Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget		Effect
		£	£	£	£	£	Contact	Rating

Reduced Income

Finance & Resources

RI3526 Clay Farm Commercial 0 0 80,000 0 0 Dave Prinsep Nil Units

The current budget forecast includes income from the planned Clay Farm Commercial Units from 2016/17. The units will not be completed until 2017/18 at the earliest and so the previous planned income will not be receivable until the 2017/18 financial year.

RI3569 Unavoidable loss of rental 0 37,000 37,000 37,000 0 Althea Nil income at Mill Road Depot

Following an assessment by Property Services of the potential for commercial letting at Mill Road Depot, it is unlikely that the budget for 2015/16 will be achieved. Significant lettable areas require some upgrading before they can be occupied and there are only limited other opportunities to create additional external income pending the outcome of the accommodation review and future occupancy of the Mill Road site. In the interim it is proposed that projected rental incomes be reduced to more realistic and achievable levels for the next 3 years.

RI3666 Commercial property 0 0 52,000 52,000 Dave Prinsep Nil portfolio - loss of interest

The proposed investment in the Commercial Property Acquisition Programme will reduce the funds available for investment under our Treasury Management strategy resulting in a loss of interest on the amount invested. [Linked to proposals C3664, Il3665 and NCL3691].

Total Reduced Income in Finance & Resources	0	37,000	169,000	89,000	52,000
Total Reduced Income	0	37,000	169,000	89,000	52,000
Report Total	0	37,000	169,000	89,000	52,000

0

0

0

0

							Appe	ndix [B
2015/1	6 Budget - Gen	eral Fun	d				Page 1 of	1
Reference	Item Description	2014/15 Budget £	2015/16 Budget £	2016/17 Budget £	2017/18 Budget £	2018/19 Budget £	Contact	Climate Effect Rating
External	Bids							
Finance & I	Resources							
X3657	Citizen's Advice GP-based outreach pilot project	0	25,000	0	0		0 Andrew L	imb Nil
Practice for the practice. affect their was a second control of the second control of th	nvolves the placement of othere days per week to run are The GPs will offer the advice yell-being. This is a pilot project by the sector bodies such as the sector bodies of the sector bodies.	n advice session as part of the ect that, if suc	on for clier eir consultc ccessful, c	nts who have ations to pe ould be us	ve been re ople who ed to leve	eferred by present v erage fur	v GPs basec vith issues th ading in futo	tin nat ure
X3658	Digital skills in deprived areas	0	15,000	0	0		0 Andrew L	imb Nil
strategy (i.e.	the County Council, helping general digital access, inclu [Fund from Sharing Prosperity	ding to public	t the online c services)	e skills they but also to	need to s focus on	upport th job sear	e anti-pove ch and onli	erty ine
X3683	Rental Support for Cambridge City Foodbank	0	14,000	14,000	0		0 Dave Prin	sep Nil
their manage funded from Foodbank cu purely throug services and i	provide rental support of £14, ement capability and expar the Sharing Prosperity Fund urrently operates from Orwe h voluntary staff and public/ relieve financial pressure due naring Prosperity Fund, SPF]	nd their servion d for 2015/16 Il House/Furlo corporate do	ces locally and 2016 ong as its nations. Th	from their 6/17 after base with nis funding	Cambridg which it v 6 distribut will enable	ge base. will be re ion cent e them to	This is to eviewed. T res, operati	be he ing
Total External	Bids in Finance & Resources	0	54,000	14,000	0		0	

0

0

54,000

54,000

14,000

14,000

Total External Bids

Report Total

2015/	16 Budget - Ge	eneral Fur	nd				Page 1 of	1
Reference	Item Description	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19		Climate
		Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget		Effect
		£	£	£	£	£	Contact	Rating

PPF Bids

Finance & Resources

PPF3706 **Trade Union Facilities**

Agreement

34,500

34,500 34,500 34,500 Deborah Simpson

Nil

Trade Union branch secretaries do not currently have the time to fully contribute to the multiple transformation processes that are ongoing. This proposal will enhance the trade union facilities agreement by allowing additional support to HR and the council as staff face uncertainty and challenges arising from the transformation programme, will ease the transition and allow full participation, thereby ensuring the morale is maintained and the process takes account of input from staff.

Total PPF Bids in Finance & Resources	0	34,500	34,500	34,500	34,500
Total PPF Bids	0	34,500	34,500	34,500	34,500
Report Total	0	34,500	34,500	34,500	34,500

2015/16 Budget - General Fund							Page 1 of	1
Reference	Item Description	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19		Climate
		Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget		Effect
		£	£	£	£	£	Contact	Rating

Non-Cash Limit Items

Finance & Resources

NCL3696

Creation of an "Invest for Income" Fund

0 6,500,000

1,000,000

500,000

0 Caroline Ryba

Nil

In order to maximise the return from our capital, it is proposed to place funding released by the reviews of earmarked reserves and the capital plan into an earmarked reserve to fund income-generating investments. A formal 'Invest for Income' process will be set up to develop proposals, with the assumption that investments opportunities will make commercial returns of at least 5%. They may include investment in general fund residential property, energy generation, and other opportunities.

Total Non-Cash Limit Items in Finance & Resources	0	6,500,000	1,000,000	500,000	0
Total Non-Cash Limit Items	0	6,500,000	1,000,000	500,000	0
Report Total	0	6,500,000	1,000,000	500,000	0

ZUI3/	16 Budget - Gene	eral Fun	d				Page 1 of	2
Reference	Item Description	2014/15 Budget £	2015/16 Budget £	2016/17 Budget £	2017/18 Budget £	2018/19 Budget £	Contact	Climate Effect Rating
Capital	Bids							
Finance &	Resources							
C3664	Commercial Property Acquisition Programme	0	8,000,000	0	0		0 Dave Prir	nsep Nil
This program to support fro	me will allow the council to pontline services.	urchase add	itional com	nmercial pr	operties to	o bring in	more inco	me
anticipated t	n property will refocus the Co that the Council will gain not on I. [Linked to proposals 113665, R	only a revenu	ue yield of a	at least 5%	tfolio, fund per annul	ded from m but als	reserves. o from cap	lt is ital
C3726	Localisation of Council Tax - Implementation costs [Close in Plan]	(9,000)	0	0	0		0 Alison Co	le Nil
Scheme com	npleted so funding returned to	reserves.						
C3727	Corporate Document Management (DIP & EDRM) [Close in Plan]	(144,000)	0	0	0		0 James Nightingo	Nil ale
Scheme com	npleted so funding returned to	reserves.						
C3733	ICT Infrastructure Programme PR020 [Transfer uncommitted from Capital Plan to Projects Under Development (PUD)] [R	0	(90,000)	(160,000)	(110,000)		0 James Nightingo	Nil ale

in oraer for this programme to be reviewed before bringing forward any items for inclusion on the capital programme it is proposed to place the programme on the 'Projects under development (PUD) list'. When plans are progressed sufficiently, they will be put back onto the Capital Plan. [Transfer releases Repairs and Renewals Funding back into reserves].

(138,000)

(74,000)

(62,000)

0 Will Barfield

Nil

Admin Buildings Asset Replacement Programme PR023 [Transfer uncommitted from Capital Plan to Projects Under Development (PUD)] [R and R]

C3734

In order for this programme to be reviewed before bringing forward any items for inclusion on the capital programme it is proposed to place the programme on the 'Projects under development (PUD) list'. When plans are progressed sufficiently, they will be put back onto the Capital Plan. [Transfer releases Repairs and Renewals Funding back into reserves].

2015/1	6 Budget - Gen	eral Fun	ıd				Page 2 of	2
Reference	Item Description	2014/15 Budget £	2015/16 Budget £	2016/17 Budget £	2017/18 Budget £	2018/19 Budget £	Contact	Climate Effect Rating
Capital I	Bids							
C3735	Commercial Properties Asset Replacement Programme PR024 [Transfer uncommitted from Capital Plan to Projects Under Development (PUD)] [R and R]	0	(433,000)	(20,000)	(22,000)		0 Will Barfiel	ld Nil
programme i	his programme to be review t is proposed to place the p gressed sufficiently, they will ading back into reserves].	programme d	n the 'Proj	jects undel	r developr	nent (PU	D) list'. Wh	en
C3737	Commercial Property Portfolio [Existing Capital Receipts]	0	515,000	0	0		0 Dave Prin	sep Nil
	tal receipts which were pre ided for from reserves [Linked			property i	nvestment	to be o	added to t	he

(153,000)

(153,000)

(153,000)

7,854,000

7,854,000

7,854,000

(254,000)

(254,000)

(254,000)

(194,000)

(194,000)

(194,000)

0

0

0

Total Capital Bids in Finance & Resources

Total Capital Bids

Report Total