Budget Carry Forward Request 2019/20

Chief Officer: Adrian Rowbotham

Budget description : Corporate Management

Type of expenditure: Revenue

Cost Centre & Account code : CXCRPMG 92200 5030

Budget forecast to be unspent at 31/3/20: £100,000

Amount requested for carry forward: Up to £100,000

Reason for request, including the benefits of this expenditure, why the budget was not spent in 2019/20 and timescales for expenditure in 2020/21: Grant funding received for EU Exit not fully utilised this financial year.

Implications of not carrying forward this budget (e.g. impact on achievement of performance targets, etc): Shortfall of funding for emerging Brexit related costs which are not included in the 2020/21 budget.

R1

Chief Officer: Adrian Rowbotham

Budget description: Internal audit

Type of expenditure: Revenue

Cost Centre & Account code: 20100 YPAA

Budget forecast to be unspent at 31/3/20: £ 66,000

Amount requested for carry forward: £ 31,000 (up to)

Reason for request, including the benefits of this expenditure, why the budget was not spent in 2019/20 and timescales for expenditure in 2020/21:

There is an underspend on the staffing budget in 2019/20 due to the vacant posts being held prior to the new staffing structure being implemented. The implementation took place late in the year, and the team was unable to deliver the audit plan in full. It is proposed to carry forward part of the staffing budget underspend to fund the delivery of the outstanding audits by contractors.

Implications of not carrying forward this budget (e.g. impact on achievement of performance targets, etc):

Due to the team being fully staffed next year, no funds will be available for contractors. In order to deliver the outstanding audits from this year and the audit plan for the next year, the scope will need to be reduced.

Chief Officer: Richard Morris

Budget description: Building Control

Type of expenditure: Revenue

Cost Centre & Account code: DVBCFEE 94300

Budget forecast to be unspent at 31/3/20: £ 31,000

Amount requested for carry forward: £ 31,000

Reason for request, including the benefits of this expenditure, why the budget was not spent in 2019/20 and timescales for expenditure in 2020/21:

The service achieved income above its targets and costs incurred. The department requires upgrading of its IT equipment to facilitate the provision of services at the required level.

Implications of not carrying forward this budget (e.g. impact on achievement of performance targets, etc):

The legislation requires local authorities to charge for carrying out their building regulations chargeable service as nearly as possible equally to the cost incurred. Local authorities are required to take account of surpluses and deficits made in early years and to offset these against projected future costs resulting in reduced or increased charges, as appropriate, and income received for that year and subsequent years so that over a reasonable period income matches costs.

The Council would not be compliant with a legislative requirement if this were not carried forward.

Chief Officer: Richard Morris

Budget description: EH Partnership

Type of expenditure: Revenue

Cost Centre & Account code: EHPROT/EHCOMM 60405

Budget forecast to be unspent at 31/3/20: £74,000

Amount requested for carry forward: £43,000 (up to)

Reason for request, including the benefits of this expenditure, why the budget was not spent in 2019/20 and timescales for expenditure in 2020/21:

To increase the efficiency of work of the partnership it is proposed to merge the databases of the two authorities. The sum has been earmarked for the project which is now in the process of evaluation.

Implications of not carrying forward this budget (e.g. impact on achievement of performance targets, etc):

Proposed improvements to IT systems would not be able to be delivered due to no budget being available in the future periods.

Chief Officer: Jim Carrington-West

Budget description: RBCF partnership

Type of expenditure: Revenue

Cost Centre & Account code: FSLTHSB, XBAF, FSCTADM

Budget forecast to be unspent at 31/3/20: £ 90,000

Amount requested for carry forward: £ 90,000 (up to)

Reason for request, including the benefits of this expenditure, why the budget was not spent in 2019/20 and timescales for expenditure in 2020/21:

The following grants were received in 2019/20:

- KCC Counter Fraud work to Council Tax £46,490
- KCC Council Tax Support £106,000
- KCC Incentive Fund £8,361
- DWP Local Authority Data Sharing £10,596
- DWP Verify Earnings and Pensions Alerts Service £30,288

With welfare reform changes continuing to occur following the Local Council Tax Support Scheme replacing Council Tax Benefit from 2013/14, several grants have been received.

The largest item above is from Kent County Council for fraud work. As the largest recipient of Council Tax, it is in their best interests for as much Council Tax to be collected as possible and therefore they have provided funding for the Counter Fraud Team to help achieve this. Sevenoaks and Dartford (as a shared service) were the first council's in Kent to get this agreement in place and to start to receive this extra funding.

A restructure of Revenues and Benefits took place in 2018. Improvements and efficiencies have already taken place which have used some of the above grants but more work is planned to improve the service further.

The costs of Revenues and Benefits are shared with Dartford BC. Some of the above funding has already been spent but when the partnership accounts for the year are confirmed between the two partners, it is expected that some of the above funding will not have been used in the year.

Implications of not carrying forward this budget (e.g. impact on achievement of performance targets, etc):

It will reduce the funding available to deliver the improvements and efficiencies planned for the service.

Chief Officer: Adrian Rowbotham

Budget description: Vehicle Purchase Programme

Type of expenditure: Capital

Cost Centre & Account code: YLLP 40000

Budget forecast to be unspent at 31/3/20: £134,000

Amount requested for carry forward: Up to £134,000

Reason for request, including the benefits of this expenditure, why the budget was not spent in 2019/20 and timescales for expenditure in 2020/21: Delay in vehicles purchased.

Implications of not carrying forward this budget (e.g. impact on achievement of performance targets, etc):

Inability to replace the vehicles as per the plan would have an adverse effect on service delivery at the depot.