

**MEDIUM TERM PLAN
REQUESTS FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS**

(Report by the Head of Financial Services)

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to allow Cabinet to decide whether to release funds for the MTP schemes detailed in the attached annexes.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council considered the draft budget and MTP report at its December meeting and agreed *that, having regard to the implications for future spending and Council Tax levels, Directors review with appropriate Executive Councillors the need for schemes/projects included in the MTP but not yet started and that specific prior approval be sought and obtained from the Cabinet before such schemes/projects are implemented.*

- 2.2 Officers have considered which schemes have wholly or partly started with reference to the following definitions:

STARTED

- The staff have been appointed and/or a legally binding contract is in place for all aspects.
- Some of the staff have been appointed or a legally binding contract is in place for **part** of the scheme **and there is no sensible option to avoid or defer those elements that are not yet legally committed.**
- The scheme is based on a partnership and **all** constituent projects have been agreed with those partners and they have reserved funding for them in the current year.

PARTIAL START

- Some of the staff have been appointed or a legally binding contract is in place for part of the expenditure and there is a practical cost-effective option to not carry out the full scheme at this time.
- The scheme is based on a partnership and **some** individual projects have been agreed with those partners and they have reserved funding for them in the current year.

- 2.3 Officers have subsequently identified which schemes that they wish Cabinet to consider releasing further funding for and have discussed them with the relevant Executive Councillor.

- 2.4 Annex A summarises and the following Annexes detail the schemes where release of funds is now requested.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Cabinet is recommended to delegate authority to release the budget, shown in Annex B, to the Director of Operational Services following consultation with the Leader of the Council in the light of the Government's decision on whether to cap the Council's spending this year.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT 1985

None

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SUMMARY		Net Revenue Impact £000						Net Capital £000					
		2004/ 2005	2005/ 2006	2006/ 2007	2007/ 2008	2008/ 2009	2009/ 2010	2004/ 2005	2005/ 2006	2006/ 2007	2007/ 2008	2008/ 2009	2009/ 2010
Annex B	St Neots Bar/Kitchen/Creche Extension		0	1	1	1	1		10				
Total amount for which release now requested			0	1	1	1	1		10				

333 St Neots Bar/Kitchen/Creche Extension

Simon Bell

Financial Impact	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital							
	2003/ 2004 £000	2004/ 2005 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2003/ 2004 £000	2004/ 2005 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000
Approved Budget			-7	-21	-14	-14	-14			286				
Already released			0							0				
Amount for which release now requested			0	1	1	1	1			10				

Justification for Release

Over the last two years, the Centre has been aware of the progressive deterioration of the bar air conditioning units. These units were scheduled for replacement as part of the bar, kitchen and crèche redevelopment works scheduled for summer 2003, and subsequently postponed. Since this time a costly programme of repair works have kept the system operating until recent times however, further system breakdowns have resulted in the production of a report from the Centre's heating and ventilation maintainers stating that they are no longer able to obtain spare parts for the air conditioning units due to the age of the equipment.

This currently leaves the Centre's busy bar area without reliable air conditioning and it is feared that this will have a detrimental impact upon customer comfort over the summer months and therefore result in loss of trade.

Predicted costs

£10,000

Total requested

£10,000