

Committee: Finance Committee	Date: 23 July 2019
Subject: Report of Action Taken – Public Decisions taken under Delegated Authority/Urgency procedures since the last meeting of the Committee	Public
Report of: Town Clerk	For Information
Report author: John Cater, Town Clerk's Department	

Summary

This report advises Members of urgent and/or delegated public action taken by the Town Clerk since the last meeting of the Committee, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, in accordance with Standing Orders No. 41(a) and 41(b).

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the report.

Main report

1. Subject: Capital Funding (Urgency)

Background

This report follows on from the main capital prioritisation paper agreed at P&R and RA Sub in April. It proposes the release of funding for six schemes previously agreed for progression outside of the fundamental review and also considers the case for one new scheme, Walbrook Wharf M&E replacement, to be allowed to progress outside of the fundamental review.

The urgent need for the new scheme has recently arisen following a survey that identified health and safety and regulatory compliance issues. The total cost is estimated at £1m - £1.6m and a bid for £138k of central resources to reach the next gateway is now being submitted.

Table 1 (below) summarises the 7 funding bids amounting to £8.863m. Should they be agreed for progression, Corporate Priorities Board recommends the following sources of funding:

- £8.463m to be drawn down from the general reserves of the three main funds, including £5.5m for the City Police schemes as a supplement to the police cash limited budget. Since no existing approved financial provision exists for the £8.463m, this will also require agreement of the Finance Committee and Court of Common Council.

- £400k to be drawn from the balances currently available in the On-Street Parking Reserve.

In May, Members agreed the details of the proposed annual bid process. Due to the need to commence the preparation of this year's annual bids in advance of new prioritisation criteria being developed via the Fundamental Review, bids will be initially assessed against the existing criteria as set out in the attached Report.

To note, this proposal was considered and approved by both the RASC and P&R on 4th July.

Table 1: Project Funding Requests	City Fund (excluding Police)	City Fund Police	City's Cash	Bridge House Estates	Total Funding now requested
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
General Reserves					
Corporate IT Service Contract - outsourcing transition and	924	700	392	84	2,100
Police IT Modernisations					
Managed Desktop (including Office 365, Desktop refresh		3,800			3,800
Security Zone		750			750
Police Intranet/Sharepoint		250			250
Electrical Supply at Walbrook Wharf for electric vehicle charging	1,425				1,425
Walbrook Wharf urgent M&E	138				138
	2,487	5,500	392	84	8,463
On Street Parking Reserve					
Bank on Safety (residual funds to complete interim scheme)	400				400
TOTAL FUNDING NOW REQUESTED	2,887	5,500	392	84	8,863

Reason for urgency:

Officers were keen to ensure that this paper was submitted for full scrutiny by Court of Common Council on 18th July. Finance Committee meets on the following Tuesday. Therefore, approval from Finance was required before this is considered by Court.

Not taking this to the next Court will delay consideration until 12 September 2019

RESOLVED – That approval was given to:

- I. An allocation of up to £8.463m from the reserves of the relevant funds (as outlined in the table above) to allow the seven identified schemes to progress
- II. Note that this year's capital funding bids will be initially assessed against the existing prioritisation criteria pending new criteria to be developed via the Fundamental Review.

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