

Committee: Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee	Date: 31 January 2022
Subject: Report of Action Taken	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	See background paper
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	See background paper
If so, how much?	See background paper
What is the source of Funding?	See background paper
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	See background paper
Report of: The Town Clerk & Chief Executive	For Information
Report author: Ben Dunleavy, Committee & Members Services Officer	

Summary:

This report provides details of a decision taken under delegated authority since your last meeting in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, in accordance with Standing Order No. 41(b).

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the report.

Main Report

Request for Decision Under Urgency (Standing Order 41B) – 1. : CHL Revenue and Capital Budgets

1. At its meeting on 13 December 2021, the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee was presented with the annual submission of the revenue and capital budgets overseen by the Committee.
2. Due to the impact of the pandemic and the closure of the Monument to the Great Fire as a visitor attraction, the Committee was minded that the expenditure for the Monument and the income expectations in the presented budget needed further exploration, as the Monument was in a deficit position and would be unable to meet its pre-pandemic income targets. The resource envelope for 2022/23 also included the pre-pandemic income targets.
3. Members therefore requested that the Monument's budget position be further analysed in order to explore possibilities to ease the pressure on the budget, and agreed that authority to agree the next steps should be delegated to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chairman.

4. The Chamberlain provided the Chair and Deputy Chairman with a briefing note providing further information on the budget position and providing options for how to proceed.
5. After considering the note and discussing with the Chamberlain, Chair and Deputy Chair have indicated their support for the option to leave the current 2021/22 budgets as they are, accepting there will be a deficit position at the Monument which will be off-set in part by forecast underspends elsewhere and requesting that the Chamberlain not carry the final deficit into the next financial year, given it has arisen substantively due to Covid.
6. The Town Clerk therefore agreed, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of your Committee, the following:
 - For the 2021/22 Budget to remain as submitted to the Committee, i.e., leaving the current year budgets as they are and accepting that there will be a deficit position at the Monument. This deficit will be partly reduced by other forecasted underspends within Open Spaces City's Cash areas.
 - To request from the Chamberlain that the final deficit from 2021/22 not be carried into 2022/23 as it is Covid related.
 - For the 2022/23 Budget, to leave it as per the allocated envelope in the attached background report, accepting that there will again be a deficit position at the Monument at year end.
 - To request from the Chamberlain this deficit not be carried forward further as it is Covid related.
7. Background papers are available from the Committee Clerk on request.

Ben Dunleavy

Committee & Members Services Officer

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