

Requests to Carry Forward 2010/11 Revenue Budgets

For consideration by Council 14 September 2011

General Fund

Number	Service	Budget	Carry Forward Request
Requests in line with original budget purpose			£
1	Community Engagement	Climate Change - vehicle telematics	16,500
2	Community Engagement	Salt Ayre Sports Centre - maintenance	30,000
3	Corporate	Revenue financing of capital schemes	26,500
4	Governance	Corporate Training	11,000
5	Regeneration & Policy	Local Development Framework - Special Burdens	12,700
6	Regeneration & Policy	Local Development Framework - Special Burdens	17,100
7	Regeneration & Policy	Morecambe Area Action Plan	37,400
8	Regeneration & Policy	Sea Defence Works - repair and maintenance	39,000
9	Regeneration & Policy	Lancaster Square Routes - BID feasibility study	40,000
10	Regeneration & Policy	Morecambe TH12 - BID feasibility study	40,000
Requests to change use of original budget underspend			
11	Environmental Services	Communal recycling facilities	34,000
12	Environmental Services	Replacement bins and boxes	60,000
13	Regeneration & Policy	New Cycle Paths & Bike It Project	34,200
			398,400

Housing Revenue Account

Requests in line with original budget purpose			
14	Health & Housing	Planned Maintenance	30,000
			30,000

Further details relating to each request are attached.....

2010/11 REQUESTS FOR CARRY FORWARD

SERVICE	Community Engagement – Partnerships
BUDGET HEADING	Climate Change
AMOUNT	£16,500

1

The reasons why the spend didn't occur during 2010/11 and why we are still committed to doing this work in 2011/12.

The funding is to install vehicle telematics for our commercial fleet of small vans as part of the Climate Change Strategy and Energy Saving Trust Green Fleet Review. The project was planned in 2010/11 but the software was unable to be procured in that year due to the need to gather data from a trial system. In addition, there was further delay due to the YPO setting up a procurement framework for tendering the project, which will hopefully reduce the overall cost. The framework was only finalised in February 2011 and procurement was unable to take place before the end of the financial year.

We are still committed to the project as an action in our Climate Change Strategy and through the delivery of our corporate priority on climate change; to save energy and generate income.

What the implications for service delivery will be if the carry forward is not approved.

Without procuring telematics for our commercial fleet of small vans we will not be able to effectively monitor mileage, fuel use and journey efficiency. Without telematics, the Council would lose out on vital carbon, fuel and money savings in this area.

There is no scope to fund telematics from 2011/12 as the budget is already earmarked for delivery of other projects under the Climate Change Strategy.

Financial Services Comments

There was a total underspend of £19,600 during 2010/11 for this area for the reasons stated above. The request is only for £16,500 as a result of benefitting from YPO procurement. As the request is in excess of £10,000 then Full Council approval will be required.

2010/11 REQUESTS FOR CARRY FORWARD

SERVICE	Community Engagement
BUDGET HEADING	Wellbeing (Salt Ayre Sports Centre) Equipment and Maintenance
AMOUNT	£30,000

2

The reasons why the spend didn't occur during 2010/11 and why we are still committed to doing this work in 2011/12.

As a result of the ongoing savings requirement for 2010/11 and the additional £22,700 savings roll forward from the previous year, spending in these areas was held to an absolute minimum.

The rolling programme of planned maintenance was suspended pending the savings outcome. Equipment that would have been routinely replaced last year was held over in case of a shortfall in the savings required. Expenditure on routine maintenance such as painting and decorating, replacement of worn flooring and repairs to the fabric of the building were all held back in order to ensure the savings target would be met.

What the implications for service delivery will be if the carry forward is not approved.

There is now a backlog of general maintenance works. The carry forward request is to ensure the general maintenance can be brought back up to date and replacement equipment can be purchased. This avoids a negative 'knock on' impact to the current year's plan.

If this request is refused, it will have a detrimental effect on the customer experience. In order to secure future income, the sports centre must be well maintained and well equipped.

Costs are likely to escalate further if this carry forward is not approved. Scheduled repairs in the annual maintenance plan that were postponed will cause a further slip into future budgets. This delay will also accelerate the downward spiral of decline which will be more expensive to address if not carried out in a timely manner.

In the current economic climate contractors are willing to respond well and price competitively for this type of work.

The cost of replacement equipment rises every year so the delay in replacing equipment causes a double negative. On the one hand service deteriorates and on the other renewal costs increase each year. Both factors ultimately influence income negatively.

Financial Services Comments

The combined underspend on equipment and maintenance budgets at outturn was £47,100 which covers this carry forward request.

A full breakdown of routine and planned maintenance and R&M for SASC can be provided if required.

As the request is in excess of £10,000 then Full Council approval will be required.

2010/11 REQUESTS FOR CARRY FORWARD

SERVICE	Corporate
BUDGET HEADING	Direct Revenue Financing
AMOUNT	£26,500

3

The reasons why the spend didn't occur during 2010/11 and why we are still committed to doing this work in 2011/12.

The carry forward request relates to the revenue financing of two capital schemes which have been completed:

Performance Management system - £17,000

Hala playground - £8,500

Officers are currently in the process of selecting a performance management system, although no procurement has yet taken place, whereas the Hala playground works are currently ongoing.

What the implications for service delivery will be if the carry forward is not approved.

If the carry forward of funding for performance management system was not approved then it is likely the purchase of the new system would not go ahead as there are no other funds identified. This would mean the council would not benefit from the streamlining of processes and reporting in respect of programme management and operational performance management that a new system could bring.

In terms of Hala playground other funding would need to be identified from within Environmental Services budgets as the scheme is currently underway.

Financial Services Comments

The carry forward request is for the full underspend on the revenue financing budget and relates to specific schemes within the capital programme.

As the request is in excess of £10,000 then Full Council approval will be required.

2010/11 REQUESTS FOR CARRY FORWARD

SERVICE	Human Resources - Governance
BUDGET HEADING	Corporate Training
AMOUNT	£11,000

4

The reasons why the spend didn't occur during 2010/11 and why we are still committed to doing this work in 2011/12.

The spend did not occur in 2010/11 due to three main factors:-

1. Due to the availability of the Management Team towards the end 2010 and the early part of 2011, the development programme and coaching support commenced later than expected. Therefore there is a slippage in the events into 2011/12.
2. A set of Health & Safety (H&S) training events were delayed due to the availability of staff and the training provider. The corporate programme has therefore been reprogrammed in 2011/12 to ensure we meet our statutory obligation in relation to H&S Management.
3. The management training for operational managers has been re-defined, however the pilot programme was delayed to ensure staff identified for the training could attend all three phases. The post programme review was therefore delayed which has led to elements of the training, that would have taken place in 2010/11, being moved into 2011/12. This programme of "Management Essentials" is critical in the development of core competencies/behaviours across various levels of management. This action is seen as a key component in the objective to lever change in management practice across the organisation.

What the implications for service delivery will be if the carry forward is not approved.

The objectives within the three areas above will have to be changed, with a lower level of outcome being achieved.

Each of the above activities is seen as real catalyst for change. Failure to address these areas within 2011 will leave the Council short of its desired outcomes in relation to H & S competence and general management knowledge/practice.

Financial Services Comments

The Corporate Training budget for 2010/11 was increased as part of the budget process to include an additional £9,000 towards Management Development training taking the budget to £41,000. Due to the reasons listed above there was an underspend of £11,000 and it is requested that this balance is carried forward to 2011/12. As the request is in excess of £10,000 then Full Council approval will be required.

2010/11 REQUESTS FOR CARRY FORWARD

SERVICE	Regeneration & Policy Service
BUDGET HEADING	Local Development Framework – Special Burdens Grant
AMOUNT	£12,700

5

The reasons why the spend didn't occur during 2010/11 and why we are still committed to doing this work in 2011/12.

Spending has been delayed due to progress on LDF being behind schedule. We now have a new Local Development Scheme and are on track to complete most of the work during 2011/12 with a smaller element of work due in 2012/13.

The main call on money is formal sustainability appraisal and habitats regulations screening of LDF documents, most of which will take place in 2011/12. Therefore, the budget needs to be slipped into 2011/12.

The request is to carry forward the grant monies received and use them to fund consultancy work on the LDF which will need to be split between the years 2011/12 and 2012/13 at half year budget revision to reflect the current LDF programme.

What the implications for service delivery will be if the carry forward is not approved.

The work covered by the money is mandatory given the European nature designations in the area. If the money is not rolled forward, it will still have to be paid from mainstream budgets.

Financial Services Comments

A carry forward of £28,200 into 2010/11 for special burdens was approved as part of the 2009/10 outturn, of which £24,300 has subsequently been reprofiled into 2011/12 as part of the recent budget process. The request is for an element of the third and final allocation of £16,800, which was received in March 2011, to be carried forward on the basis of £5,100 for 2011/12 and £7,600 for 2012/13.

It should be noted that the planning for climate change grant is not a ringfenced grant.

As the request is in excess of £10,000 then Full Council approval will be required.

2010/11 REQUESTS FOR CARRY FORWARD

SERVICE	Regeneration & Policy Service
BUDGET HEADING	Local Development Framework - General Services
AMOUNT	£17,100

6

The reasons why the spend didn't occur during 2010/11 and why we are still committed to doing this work in 2011/12.

The budget relates to work on monitoring and preparing the policies for the Districts Local Development Framework. The Council is currently preparing three Development Plan Documents (DPD), along with undertaking to monitor the various areas the Framework covers such as Housing Need and preparing and producing formal Proposal Maps. These three documents are:

- Land Allocations,
- Development Management Policies
- Morecambe Area Action Plan

The budget needs to be carried forward to align with the current timetable for the development and adoption of these DPDs as per the revised Local Development Scheme.

What the implications for service delivery will be if the carry forward is not approved.

The Service would not be able to produce sound Development Plan Documents or undertake the statutory steps to maintain the Local Development Framework.

Financial Services Comments

There was a total underspend of £20,500 on this budget at the year end which covers this carry forward request.

As the request is in excess of £10,000 then Full Council approval will be required.

2010/11 REQUESTS FOR CARRY FORWARD

SERVICE	Regeneration & Policy Service
BUDGET HEADING	Morecambe Area Action Plan
AMOUNT	£37,400

7

The reasons why the spend didn't occur during 2010/11 and why we are still committed to doing this work in 2011/12.

The budget relates to the preparation of the Development Plan Documents (DPD) Area Action Plan for the Centre of Morecambe, associated feasibility work and any engagement the council might undertake separately as land owner with the development industry. The plan is being developed in tandem with other DPD's as per the revised Local Development Scheme.

Plan Making Budget Carry Forward £19,100

Officers have been involved in extensive community engagement as part of the issues and options stage work. Due to the iterative nature of this work it is difficult to programme. The main focus has been to engage fully and thoroughly with the community which has taken longer than anticipated. Work is now at an advanced stage with officers preparing a report to outline preferred options for public consultation in the autumn. The budget needs to be carried forward to align with the current timetable for the development and adoption of the DPD as per the revised Local Development Scheme.

Developer Engagement Carry Forward £10,000

This budget relates to the separate activity of engagement and potential procurement of development partner(s) to deliver the Area Action Plan. The plan making timetable has seen some delays in the spending for this area.. Once the plan reaches a position where the council can engage with the development industry, the budget will be required to procure the necessary legal and technical advice to assist the council in the engagement process. The carried forward will align with budgets with the current timetable.

Feasibility Studies Carry Forward £8,300

Spend in 2010/11 related solely to the undertaking of a feasibility study into the potential for a marina in the area. As plans for other areas develop and options for other sites are considered further feasibility studies for other forms of development will need to be undertaken. The carry forward will align with budgets with the current timetable.

What the implications for service delivery will be if the carry forward is not approved.

The Service would not be able to undertake the necessary work to ensure a viable, sustainable and sound DPD was prepared for public examination.

Financial Services Comments

The carry forward requests are for the full value of the underspends in all three areas at 2010/11 outturn. Whilst they could be taken individually all three elements are integral to the delivery of the Morecambe Area Action Plan and have therefore been combined into one request.

As the request is in excess of £10,000 then Full Council approval will be required.

2010/11 REQUESTS FOR CARRY FORWARD

SERVICE	Regeneration & Policy Service
BUDGET HEADING	Sea Defence Works : Repair & Maintenance
AMOUNT	£39,000

8

The reasons why the spend didn't occur during 2010/11 and why we are still committed to doing this work in 2011/12.

The City Council has a duty of care to users of Morecambe Promenade to provide a safe pedestrian and cycling environment. The promenade seafront railings are in some areas over 100 years old and have over the years deteriorated beyond their serviceable life and now fall short of current safety standards in respect of the spacing and height of rails and are therefore in need of wholesale replacement.

The Environmental Management team has been replacing the posts and rails, either as part of major coastal defence projects or through the R&M budget, on a phased programme of work in order to spread the cost over a number of years. Works due to be carried out in 2010/11 between Thornton Road and Broadway were delayed, initially in part to staff shortages through prolonged sickness absence, other priorities and due to an unexpected lengthy lead in time for the manufacture and supply of the posts which has led to the works moving into 2011/12.

The outstanding posts are currently on order with delivery expected soon, works to install the posts and rails will commence shortly thereafter.

The request is to carry forward £39,000 to pay for the supply of posts for the next phase of promenade railing replacement.

What the implications for service delivery will be if the carry forward is not approved.

Failure to comply with current design standards and meet expectations in terms of providing a safe environment.

A further final phase of railing replacement, between Scalestones point and Teal Bay, is due to be carried out alongside that which has been delayed during 2011/12 - this would be compromised and further delayed, with potentially increased costs, should the carry forward be refused.

Other commitments throughout 2011/12 may also be compromised.

Financial Services Comments

Long term sickness in the Environmental Management Team greatly affected the teams ability to complete all intended works during 2010/11, resulting in underspends across several different areas. In addition to this the manufacturing problems mentioned above created further delays with the sea defence works.

If the carry forward request is not approved the purchase of the remaining posts and rails can be funded from the 2011/12 budget but the resulting delays to other works planned for 2011/12, and subsequently future years works, could increase costs if defences deteriorate further or prices increase. The total underspend on this budget was £76,400 in 2010/11 but only £39,000 of this would need to be carried forward to complete the outstanding works.

As the request is greater than £10,000 then Full Council approval will be required.

2010/11 REQUESTS FOR CARRY FORWARD

SERVICE	Regeneration & Policy Service
BUDGET HEADING	Lancaster Square Routes
AMOUNT	£40,000

9

The reasons why the spend didn't occur during 2010/11 and why we are still committed to doing this work in 2011/12.

October 2010 Cabinet approved £40,000 to investigate the feasibility and, if appropriate, subsequent development of a BID for Lancaster. Officers are in discussion with the Lancaster Chamber of Trade and Commerce on the arrangements for leading the work. This will probably involve using support from the North West Lancashire Chamber of Commerce who were responsible for the BID proposal development, ballot administration and service delivery for the Preston BID.

The Council will draw up a Service Level Agreement with the Chamber to enable them to access the money and for the Council to ensure that the budget is spent in a proper and timely manner.

A BID is governed by statutory procedure and the initial BID proposal development will require considerable work to be undertaken in the 2011/2012 financial year. Therefore it is requested that this budget to be carried forward to reflect the current workplan and timetable.

What the implications for service delivery will be if the carry forward is not approved.

Work into the feasibility of a Business Improvement District in Lancaster would not be able to be undertaken. This would create reputational damage for the council given its commitment to support BIDs. It was not possible to spend the money in the 2010/11 financial year but the majority of funds allocated will be spent in 2011/12.

Financial Services Comments

Delays have meant that this budget could not be spent in 2010/11. There is no further budget for the BID Feasibility Study in 2011/12, therefore if this carry forward request is not approved the study will not take place.

A separate carry forwards request has been submitted for the Morecambe BID.

As the request is in excess of £10,000 then Full Council approval will be required.

2010/11 REQUESTS FOR CARRY FORWARD

SERVICE	Regeneration & Policy Service
BUDGET HEADING	Morecambe Townscape Heritage Initiative 2
AMOUNT	£40,000

10

The reasons why the spend didn't occur during 2010/11 and why we are still committed to doing this work in 2011/12.

October 2010 Cabinet approved £40,000 to investigate the feasibility and, if appropriate, subsequent development of a BID for Morecambe. The discussion into the development of a Business Improvement District Proposal in Morecambe is on-going between the Lancaster District Chamber and the local Morecambe trade associations.

Once agreement has been reached on who will lead the work a Service Level Agreement will be entered into between the Council and the BID proposer (the lead body who will carry out the work) to ensure that the budget is utilised in a proper and timely manner.

A BID is governed by statutory procedure and the initial BID proposal development will require considerable work to be undertaken in the 2011/12 financial year. Therefore it is requested that this budget be carried forward to reflect the current workplan timetable.

What the implications for service delivery will be if the carry forward is not approved.

Work into the feasibility of a Business Improvement District in Morecambe would not be able to be undertaken. This would create reputational damage for the council given its commitment to support BIDs. It was not possible to spend the money in the 2010/11 financial year but the majority of funds allocated will be spent in 2011/12.

Financial Services Comments

Delays have meant that this budget could not be spent in 2010/11. There is no further budget for the BID Feasibility Study in 2011/12, therefore if this carry forward request is not approved the study will not take place.

A separate carry forwards request has been submitted for the Lancaster BID.

As the request is in excess of £10,000 then Full Council approval will be required.

2010/11 REQUESTS FOR CARRY FORWARD

SERVICE	Environmental Services
GENERAL UNDERSPENDING ON	Three Stream Waste Collection
PROPOSED USE	Communal Recycling Facilities
AMOUNT	£34,000

11

The reasons why the spend didn't occur during 2010/11 and why we are still committed to doing this work in 2011/12.

The Corporate Plan states that on the next 3 years we will 'deliver the objectives of the Lancashire Waste Strategy 2008-2020...'

In practical terms our aim is to provide an efficient waste collection / recycling service throughout our district. We are continually exploring options and methods of how we operate and deliver our collection services in the most efficient, effective and economic ways.

This policy of continual improvement has allowed us to significantly reorganise our operational practices (eg co-mingling, food waste collection). In turn the Council has benefitted by making significant ongoing financial savings in waste collection these have been built into the Council's budget. Furthermore they have been delivered ahead of schedule and this is reflected in the 2010/11 outturn position for waste collection.

This request seeks how to meet 100% coverage of our waste collection scheme-which on an ongoing basis is financially advantageous to the Council because of the County Council's cost sharing arrangement.

What the implications for service delivery will be if the carry forward is not approved.

Whilst 97% of the district is covered by kerbside recycling we need to maintain an upward momentum in line with our strategy aim to provide kerbside recycling to 100% of the district.

There are inconsistencies in frequency and method of collection throughout the district with some areas being harder to reach than others. To ensure that services are accessible to all residents' individual arrangements for properties some requiring communal recycling are being negotiated. For areas such as Mainway, communal recycling has been identified as a suitable option ensuring accessibility for all residents. This type of collection method is more expensive than the normal kerbside collection because of the containers type and hard standing required. The costs for supplying containers, communciation and associated works would be approximately £34,000.

In order to reach our targets we need to maximise the amount of waste that is recycled and composted, including food waste.

Lancashire County Council provides financial support in the form of cost sharing. Continuing our programme of kerbside recycling will provide us with £11,022 per annum of additional income. This one off request should therefore be seen as an

2010/11 REQUESTS FOR CARRY FORWARD

invest to save initiative.

By providing Mainway with recycling facilities we will reduce the frequency of residual collection from 4 to 3 times a fortnight. Achieve a minimum of 12% recycling rate for dry recyclables. Achieve a minimum 10% reduction of residual waste helping us to achieve our NI 192 Household Waste Reuse/ Recycle / Compost target of 48% for 2011/12.

Financial Services Comments

In 2010/11 the waste collection service was underspent by £145,000 through efficiency savings and unforeseeable windfalls. As detailed in the report, £34,000 is required for extending the scheme to include hard to reach areas, including Mainway. By doing this work, the grant we receive from Lancashire County Council in respect of cost sharing arrangements is estimated to increase by £11,000. Therefore, by investing in this scheme, the payback period of the initial outlay is 3 years and 2 months.

However, it should be noted that the request is not in respect of a specific budget commitment but seeks to apply an element of the underspend for a new scheme.

As the request is in excess of £10,000 then Full Council approval will be required.

2010/11 REQUESTS FOR CARRY FORWARD

SERVICE	Environmental Services
GENERAL UNDERSPENDING ON	Three Stream Waste Collection
PROPOSED USE	Replacement Bins and Boxes
AMOUNT	£60,000

12

The reasons why the spend didn't occur during 2010/11 and why we are still committed to doing this work in 2011/12.

The Corporate Plan states that on the next 3 years we will 'deliver the objectives of the Lancashire Waste Strategy 2008-2020...'

In practical terms our aim is to provide an efficient waste collection / recycling service throughout our district. We are continually exploring options and methods of how we operate and deliver our collection services in the most efficient, effective and economic ways.

This policy of continual improvement has allowed us to significantly reorganise our operational practices (eg co-mingling, food waste collection). In turn the Council has benefitted by making significant ongoing financial savings in waste collection these have been built into the Council's budget. Furthermore they have been delivered ahead of schedule and this is reflected in the 2010/11 outturn position for waste collection.

As part of the 2010/11 budget exercise we reported to Cabinet on the issue of charging for replacement bins and boxes. The report did highlight that Council spending on replacement bins and boxes was growing faster than the available budget. Cabinet requested further updates on this issue ahead of the 2011/12 budget. This request seeks to ensure that in 2011/12 there is sufficient budget for replacement bins and boxes.

What the implications for service delivery will be if the carry forward is not approved.

The current budget does not support the number of replacement bins and boxes required to operate the three stream waste collection scheme and there is no indication that there will be a reduction in the number of replacement containers this year. Since April 2011 to date we have had 2089 requests for replacement bins and boxes compared with 1803 request for the same period last year.

The prices of plastic polymers have increased by 7%, due to the rise in oil prices.

Based on last year's figures we expect that a further £80,000 will be required to meet demand for bins and boxes in 2011/12.

Introducing a system to ration demand is difficult without a charging mechanism.

It is proposed that a further report be brought to Cabinet as part of this year's budget process to establish how we deal with this growth in future years.

2010/11 REQUESTS FOR CARRY FORWARD

Financial Services Comments

When approving the various stages of the waste strategy, a 2% provision was included for the replacement of bins and boxes – in 2010/11 6,452 bins, 7,412 boxes and approximately 8,000 lids were issued as replacements which is far in excess of the 2% provision. In previous years there have been surplus bins and boxes from the rolling-out of the waste strategy but now stocks are running at low levels. Alongside the budget (albeit with a £2,300 overspend in 10/11) this has been sufficient to deal with demand in previous years.

The 2011/12 budget includes an amount of £81,700 for replacement bins, boxes and lids. Using the latest usage and costing information available it is likely that this will be exceeded by approximately £60,000.

In 2010/11 the waste collection service was underspent by £145,000 through efficiency savings and unforeseeable windfalls. By not approving the carry forward request of £60,000 and should policy not change to introduce charging then the service will find it difficult not to continue to spend at current levels resulting in an overspent budget. Therefore a base budget adjustment will be required within the forthcoming budget process to counter-act the additional expenditure.

It should also be noted that the request is not in respect of a specific outstanding budget commitment but seeks to apply an element of the underspend for an anticipated overspend in 2011/12.

As the request is in excess of £10,000 then Full Council approval will be required.

2010/11 REQUESTS FOR CARRY FORWARD

SERVICE	Regeneration & Policy Service
BUDGET HEADING	Public Realm Repair & Maintenance
PROPOSED USE	New Cycle Paths & Bike It Project
AMOUNT	£34,200

13

The reasons why the spend didn't occur during 2010/11 and why we are still committed to doing this work in 2011/12.

Expenditure throughout 2010/11 on the Public Realm R&M was significantly lower than expected, particularly on the TERN element of the budget - this was due in part to staff shortages through prolonged sickness absence and other priorities.

This request to carry the balance of £34,200 forward into 2011/12 is two fold.

1. The final outstanding balance of the Cycling Demonstration Town budget infrastructure element was to be spent by the end of 2010/11 - The only scheme of sufficient size to utilise the value of this funding was an extension of the cycle path along the river frontage of St Georges Quay/New Quay Road. The scheme cost however exceeded the available budget by approx £7,500 therefore this carry forward is required to defray this final expenditure, without compromising the 2011/12 R&M budget.

2. A report updating Members on the Cycling Initiatives in the Lancaster and Morecambe District is included as a separate item on the agenda including;
- i. The end of the Cycling Demonstration Town Project.
 - ii. Joint working with Lancashire County Council on future cycling initiatives.
 - iii. Success of a bid to Sustrans for funding for a cycling scheme from their Links to Schools budget.
 - iv. Partial success in a joint project with Sustrans and Devon County Council in a themed bid to the Department for Transport's Local Sustainable Transport Fund.
 - v. Proposals to extend the ongoing 'Bike It' project.

The report highlights two areas where funding from the public realm R&M budget would provide financial support to the success and delivery of two of these projects i.e.

- iii. Success of a bid to Sustrans for funding for a cycling scheme from their Links to Schools budget.

A bid was put together and submitted to the Sustrans Links to Schools Fund for a cycle route scheme comprising conversion of footways on Westgate to shared use between the Globe Arena and Buckingham Road, upgrade of the existing footpath to the rear of Heysham High School to a shared use path and development and introduction of a signed on road cycle route between Heysham High School and Morecambe town centre and the Greenway. The scheme is to include the delivery of the already proposed section 106 funded scheme associated with the Globe Arena development.

A sum of £10,000 was identified from the public realm R&M budget to increase the amount of match funding that could be allocated against the project. Whilst the total match funding offered fell short of that which Sustrans normally expect, the proposed match demonstrated sufficient commitment to the aims and objectives of the project and therefore contributed to the success of the bid.

2010/11 REQUESTS FOR CARRY FORWARD

- vi. Proposals to extend the ongoing 'Bike It' project.

The Bike It project has been running alongside the Cycling Demonstration Town project since 2005 and currently employs two part time Bike It officers. The scheme has historically been part funded by Sustrans (who employ the BI officers) and external grants i.e. the CDT funding. The current round of Sustrans Bike It funding expires at the end of July 2011. Sustrans have expressed a desire and commitment to continue the Bike It project in Lancaster & Morecambe but only have sufficient funds to extend it to the end of March 2012. Sustrans have requested that Lancaster City Council provide funds equivalent to £16,700 in order to extend this period to the end of July 2012 after which it is anticipated the project will continue further with funding from the joint thematic bid to the Local Sustainable Transport fund referred to in iv. above.

The Bike It project works in up to 12 selected schools throughout the school year to promote and encourage cycling to and from the school, both staff and pupils, by delivering skills and maintenance training, carrying out events and activities and occasional financial support through grants for such things as secure cycle parking. The project has been hugely successful during the Cycling Demonstration Town project and made a considerable contribution to its success.

What the implications for service delivery will be if the carry forward is not approved.

1. The Additional funding required will have to be found from the 2011/12 R&M budget and may compromise other commitments during the year
2. By not identifying any financial commitment to either the Sustrans Links to Schools bid or the Sustrans Bike It project the offers of external grants may be withdrawn with a resultant loss in momentum in the delivery of cycling projects in the district. In the case of the Bike It project it would also result in the loss of two valued colleagues from the Service (although they are not directly employed).

Financial Services Comments

The Public Realm R&M budget covers TERN, River Lune Millennium Park and Cycle Track maintenance across the district. Long term staff sickness in the Environmental Management Team, along with less deterioration in infrastructure than anticipated, resulted in an underspend of £34,200 in 2010/11.

The majority of this carry forward request supports initiatives going forward in a Cabinet Report to build on the success of the Cycling Demonstration Town Initiative now that funding from the Dept of Transport has ended.

If the carry forwards request were not approved it is felt that the contributions of £10,000 in 2011/12 to the Links to Schools Project and £16,700 in 2012/13 could still be made but with increased pressure on the revenue budget. This could cause delays to work schedules and result in increased costs in the long term.

It should be noted that whilst it was planned for this budget to be used to support the above initiatives the request is not for repair and maintenance, for which the budget was established, and therefore this constitutes a change in use.

As the request is greater than £10,000 then Full Council approval will be required.

2010/11 REQUESTS FOR CARRY FORWARD

SERVICE	Health and Housing
BUDGET HEADING	HRA Planned Maintenance
AMOUNT	£30,000

14

The reasons why the spend didn't occur during 2010/11 and why we are still committed to doing this work in 2011/12.

Work was planned to be carried out toward the end of the financial year. However due to an increase in insurance works arising from the inclement weather conditions during the winter period the preparation of the specification for the concrete repair works was delayed. Therefore the works were unable to be carried out during 2010/11.

What the implications for service delivery will be if the carry forward is not approved.

Temporary repair work was carried out initially to prevent any health and safety implications arising. However if the work is not completed the concrete will deteriorate further and may become hazardous possibly resulting in claims against the Council for personal injuries.

Financial Services Comments

The overall net underspend on Planned Maintenance in 2010/11 was £73,000. The carry forward request can be accommodated within this.

As the request is in excess of £10,000 then full Council approval will be required.