## **General Fund**

Number	Service	Budget	Carry Forward Request
Requests in	n line with original budge	t purpose	£
1	<b>Environmental Services</b>	Bins, Boxes Leasing	35,800
2	Regeneration & Planning	Morecambe Area Action Plan	12,800
3	Regeneration & Planning	Morecambe Feasibility Study	20,300
4	Regeneration & Planning	Local Development Framework - General Services	17,400
		Total General Fund Carry Forward Requests	86,300

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

SERVICE	Environmental Services
BUDGET HEADING	Three Stream Waste Collection –
	Equipment Operating Leases (Bins & Boxes)
AMOUNT	£35,800

1

# The reasons why the spend didn't occur during 2012/13 and why we still have a commitment for it in 2013/14.

As part of the Pilot Scheme (Phase 1 of the Waste Strategy), which started in September 2002, the Council entered into a 10 year leasing agreement to finance the purchase of 8,000 bins and 15,600 boxes with lids.

The annual lease was £19,791.09 per annum. This agreement ended on 28 March 2013 at which point the Council had 3 options available :-

- purchase the bins and boxes at a price of £35,800
- return the bins and boxes
- extend the leasing agreement.

The first option was deemed most appropriate sufficient budgetary provision was included in the 2012/13 revised revenue budget. However, the transaction could not be completed before the end of the financial year and there is insufficient budget in the current year to cover the additional cost.

#### **Financial Services Comments**

The exact accounting treatment of the 2013/14 transaction, in terms of whether it is revenue or capital, has still to be determined and therefore in due course, this may result in the carry forward being classed as direct revenue financing if approved (with a corresponding entry in the Capital Programme).

SERVICE	Regeneration & Planning
<b>BUDGET HEADING</b>	Morecambe Area Action Plan – Services
	General
AMOUNT	£12,800

2

# The reasons why the spend didn't occur during 2012/13 and why we still have a commitment for it in 2013/14.

This budget relates to the development of the Morecambe Area Action Plan part of the Local Plan for the district. The Area Action Plan is at an advanced stage and was expected to be published in the summer and examined before the end of 2013/14.

The budget carry forward is required to finance the consultancy inputs necessary including final sustainability appraisal and to assure regulatory compliance and also provide for the costs of facilitating public examination by the planning inspectorate, including any legal costs.

#### **Financial Services Comments**

The amount requested is the full value of the underspent Morecambe Area Action Plan budget, and is the third year a carry forward has been requested on this budget. That said, this will be the last year that carry forward can apply to this budget, and lessons have been learned to improve budgeting for such initiatives in future.

### 3

### 2012/13 REQUESTS FOR CARRY FORWARD

SERVICE	Regeneration & Planning
<b>BUDGET HEADING</b>	Morecambe Feasibility Study – Services
	Consultants
AMOUNT	£20,300

# The reasons why the spend didn't occur during 2012/13 and why we still have a commitment for it in 2013/14.

This budget relates to the balance of funding from the Morecambe Neighbourhood Management schemes in the West End and Poulton. The money is to be used to fund feasibility studies that inform regeneration activity in the town and support funding bids in line with the implementation of the Town Area Action Plan and West End Masterplan. Commissioning of feasibility work was on hold pending the outcome of the Urban Splash planning application for the Central Promenade site. The planning application was refused by committee in January and the draft Morecambe Area Action Plan, identifying short and medium term actions, ended its consultation period soon after.

Regeneration and Planning are now reviewing and progressing opportunities via external funding sources (such as Coastal Communities Fund) to deliver stated actions in line with Corporate and MAAP policy and will be contracting work over the summer to utilise the funding. Without this resource it will not be possible to deliver worked up schemes to progress with initial funding applications and undertake further work to deliver "contract ready" schemes. The availability and synergy of external funding schemes with corporate priorities cannot be predicted with any great certainty and the availability of a flexible resource is essential in order to deliver against council's corporate priorities.

#### **Financial Services Comments**

The amount requested is the full value of the underspent Morecambe Feasibility Study Services General budget. (See also the comments on the previous MAAP request).

It should be noted that since reporting to Cabinet on 23 July, the Coastal Communities Fund Round 2 bid proved unsuccessful. It was previously highlighted that an estimated £10K of this carry forward was needed in order to develop projects to the standard required to inform that particular bid. Nonetheless, the service still requests the full £20,300 to be carried forward. If the carry forward is approved, it would be used to develop bids only where their full resource implications can be met from approved budgets. It would not be used to generate potential new growth commitments for the City Council.

SERVICE	Regeneration & Planning
<b>BUDGET HEADING</b>	Local Development Framework – Services
	General
AMOUNT	£17,400

#### 4

# The reasons why the spend didn't occur during 2012/13 and why we still have a commitment for it in 2013/14.

This budget relates to the development of the Local Plan for the district. Both the Development Management (DM) and Land Allocations DPD are at an advanced stage with the DM DPD expected to be taken to full Council to seek authority to publish in September, with examination, and possibly adoption before the end of financial year 2013/14.

The preparation of Development Plan Documents is a highly complex task that is greatly influenced by both changing circumstances and revisions on the approach on a national basis. The Land Allocations DPD will be brought forward separately and will be the subject of further consultation before publication is considered. Publication may be in the next financial year. The budget is required to be carried forward to match the revised timetable for the Development Plan Documents, including necessary monitoring works and costs of public examination by the planning inspectorate.

#### **Financial Services Comments**

This is the fourth year a carry forward on this budget has been requested. In addition, there is a budget of over £60K in 2013/14 and future years and clarification was being sought on whether these budgets can cover the costs relating to this carry forward. This has not yet been gained. Any further information will be fed into the meeting. In any event, the budgeting arrangements and profiling will be reviewed in the forthcoming budget, to improve their robustness.

The amount requested is the full value of the unspent LDF Services General budget.