

Question from Councillor Charlie Edwards to Councillor David Smith

Could you please provide Council with a full breakdown of the amount of money spent on the maintenance, construction, staffing, marketing and other related costs to Happy Mount Park in the years 2014/2015, 2015/2016 and proposed for the 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 budgetary periods?

Councillor Smith handed Councillor Edwards the following table with breakdown and said that he would forward the table to all Councillors after the meeting.

2014/15 Actual	2015/16 Revised	Happy Mount Park	2016/17 Estimate	2017/18 Forecast	2018/19 Forecast	2019/20 Forecast	Notes
39,239	60,200	Employees	62,100	63,300	64,200	66,300	Includes HMP attendant, 3 seasonal splash park attendants plus 50% of resort parks team
35,000	35,000	Grounds Maintenance	35,700	36,400	37,100	37,800	GM costs held within Parks & Open Spaces
27,275	28,700	Utilities	13,500	13,900	14,200	14,400	Water and electricity charges
47,006	11,600	Repairs & Maintenance	22,600	10,000	15,600	10,300	Mainly splash park renewals and maintenance
3,619	4,200	Vehicles	3,300	3,400	3,600	3,700	Vehicle charges for 50% of resort park team
3,487	3,500	Supplies & Services	49,700	3,400	3,400	3,500	Miscellaneous expenditure plus 16/17 splash park charging installation costs
155,627	143,200	Total Expenditure	186,900	130,400	138,100	136,000	
0	0	Income (Splash Park)	-50,000	-60,100	-61,500	-63,000	Income from concessions plus predicted income for splash park
-28,677	-34,400	Income (Concessions)	-34,900	-35,500	-36,200	-36,900	Income from concessions (mainly café)
-28,677	-34,400	Total Income	-84,900	-95,600	-97,700	-99,900	
126,950	108,800	Net Expenditure	102,000	34,800	40,400	36,100	

Question from Councillor Roger Mace to Councillor Darren Clifford

George Osborne appears to have recognised the importance of local museums offering free entry to the public by extending in his 2016 budget the museum VAT refund eligibility to any museum or gallery that offers free entry and has slightly offset the "the fundamental problem of diminishing local authority funding" in this respect.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/vat-refunds-for-museums-and-galleries>

The refund scheme, which allows organisations to "claim back VAT incurred on most goods and services purchased in order to grant free rights of admission to collections", has previously only been available to national and university museums and galleries.

Please estimate the expenditure on our district's museums subject to VAT and thus estimate the potential refund in the event that the City's museums qualified for the extended VAT refund eligibility, which appears unlikely - as they are not in purpose built buildings.

Councillor Clifford replied:

There are no calculations to be done or refund due as the City Council (and the County Council) already recover VAT back for museums. The scheme referred to does not relate to such local authorities. I guess the scheme's more to do with

organisations that wouldn't generally have 'turnover' as they don't charge, so they wouldn't normally be VAT registered.

Councillor Mace asked a supplementary question:

Would you join with me in drawing attention that our museums are not purpose built and write to the Chancellor and Minister, copying in Cat Smith MP to ask for support for museums which are listed buildings to help them stay open.

Councillor Clifford replied:

I'm more than happy to join with you and write to MPs.