

2020/2021 CARRY FORWARD BALANCE REQUESTS

Social Services

£0.076m The carry forward request is to be able to provide additional Trainee Social Worker qualifications over the next three financial years (21/22 to 23/24). By providing the additional qualifications there will likely be greater staff retention which reduces the amount of recruitment required, which saves time and money, as well as providing greater stability for the service.

This will be funded from not having to contribute to the Regional North Wales Collaboration Fund this financial year. We usually make an annual contribution of £122k to the Regional Collaboration Fund, however due to a build-up of funds it has not been necessary to contribute this year resulting in an in-year saving of £122k. This saving has been reported in full throughout the year within budget monitoring.

Flintshire Crèche Service; £0.121m - This service has generated surplus income this year. The Crèche service is to be remodelled in 2021/22 and the surplus income is requested to be carried forward to fund the remodelled service. The remodelled service is expected to be funded by Welsh Government Grants and income generated from private placements. The income from private places is not guaranteed and the carried forward funding is to be used to offset any initial income shortfalls and setting up costs.

Flintshire Community Parents; £0.078m – There is a commitment to delivering the voluntary parenting programme in full for 2021/22 and have a national Agreement in place. Unfortunately, the Early Years Pathfinder monies has been significantly reduced from £0.250m to £0.137m for next year. It is requested that the Community Parents surplus income generated is carried forward to continue to pilot this significant work for a further 2 years.

Flintshire Parenting Strategy; £0.043m - Income is received from a variety of sources which usually funds the majority of the Parent Strategy Work, this is mainly generated through national work that Flintshire officers are involved with and been able to charge to providers e.g. Big Lottery Funding, conference speaking. Due to COVID-19, this work has been put on hold during 2020/21 although a similar level of funding was received. It is anticipated this funding will need to be used during the recovery stage in 2021/22 to undertake additional parenting strategy work.

Planning, Environment & Economy

£0.090m Local Development Plan (LDP) at this stage of the process both the Inspectorate and Programme Officer for preparing for the Examination are being paid on a monthly basis and the Examination itself will not begin until 13th April thus the requirement to carry over into the new financial year on that basis. The cost to the Council in paying the Inspectorate continues until they provide their report for adoption which at best estimate will be late 2021 at the earliest.

£0.015m Regeneration EU Settled Status (EUSS) Grant WLGA Grant claimed by the 30/05/20 – to raise awareness, increase and support the number of people applying for EUSS. **£0.015m** Regeneration Export Health Certificate WLGA Grant – work is on-going and UKG deadlines for both these grants have moved delayed to July, 2021.

£0.037m Heritage Lottery Fund 'OFF FLINT' agreed extension into 21/22 due to delays caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

£0.060m Town Centre Regeneration carried forward from 2019/20, difficulty in recruitment had delayed any progress on the project and delivering the outcomes. A robust staff team are now in place and work is ongoing into 2021.

£0.058m During various points in the second half of 2020/21 we have received a number of WG administration grants to support the Business Grants work. Resources have been diverted over the past eight months from several areas in the Business Development service to support this emergency response work, much to the cost of other work in the service. None of these administration grants have been used in year however there will be a significant volume of 'catch up' work to undertake in 2021/22 on the economic recovery work programme to deliver business support projects.

£0.185m Countryside Welsh Government Green Recovery Funding Grant. Grant Allocation received March, 2021 to support the post COVID response and green recovery in Wales. The purpose of the funding is to support public bodies to take action reduce carbon emissions and increase resilience to the impacts of climate change, reverse the decline in biodiversity and connect people and nature. The WLGA have agreed flexibility in the timeline into the 2021/22 financial year.

Governance

£0.096m WG Electoral Reform Grant was received during 2020/21 its purpose was to assist electoral teams with the pressures associated with the extension of the franchise, canvass and electoral reforms in particular registering newly enfranchised individuals. Plans were put in place during 2020/21 but due to the pandemic were ultimately delayed. Works will resume during 2021/22 with an expected completion by March, 2022.

£0.042m ICT this is to support resources:

1. Information Governance: - Temporary Position to run from 01/07/21 – 31/03/2022 at Grade G2, SCP5 £18,990 incl. on-costs.
A trainee who the service have invested significant time and effort in to training in the Information Governance team. This is a very niche area and the trainee has undertaken a range of funded courses in this discipline. The trainee has already 'acted up' to this level whilst a member of the team was seconded to TTP. An extremely experienced member of the team is due to retire in March 2022. In order to ensure service continuity and to support succession planning, the carry forward funding would support a temporary contract ensuring continuation of required skills and capacity to replace the current team member and retention of skills that have been developed. It will also allow for further skills transfer during this period.
2. Digital Solutions:- Temporary Position to run from 01/07/21 – 31/03/2022 at Grade G4, SCP15 £23,403 incl. on-costs
A higher level/graduate trainee within the team who is due to complete a traineeship this year. Working within a team which underpins the delivery of the digital strategy and has already contributed significantly in his time with the authority demonstrating skill and commitment to producing high quality output in a timely manner. As the team have been diverted to developing solutions to support COVID response, the trainee has successfully managed a project to ensure aspects of our website achieved a required accessibility standard. The carry forward would allow an offer of a temporary digital solutions technician contract which would provide additional

capacity to support delivery of key digital projects. The service would then look to submit a bid to the MTFS to consider this becoming a permanent role from 2022/23 onwards. A method statement has previously been submitted for this role (03/08/2020) which will be forwarded for inclusion following Digital Strategy discussions and future operations with Chief Officer and Finance colleagues.

Strategic Programmes

£0.105m The CERA (Capital Expenditure Revenue Account) funding for the 20/21 Play Area Schemes will not be used this year and has been postponed until 2021/22. It has been requested that £0.105m funding is split and carried forward to be utilised over the next two years.

Education and Youth

£0.074 Inclusion and Progression:

Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

£0.031m to cover the full costs of the Early Years Additional Learning Needs Lead Officer (ALNLO). This post was identified as a cost pressure within the Budget Method Statement and a contribution was made for the financial year 2021/21. This was based on the post being recruited to in September 2021. The internal arrangements which allowed a delayed appointment became unsustainable and an officer has now been recruited to this statutory post.

Counselling Service

£0.023m to cover the increased salary cost pressure within the Counselling Service. The recent restructure within the Counselling Service led to a re-evaluation of the Counsellor post salary grade which created a budget pressure. A Budget Method Statement was submitted but rejected due to being below £0.025m. This service has a key role in supporting pupils as a result of the pandemic and the carry forward would sustain the current level of delivery.

EOTAS (Education Other Than At School)

£0.020m to add capacity to the team overseeing children and young people who are EOTAS and on the Fresh Start Register. These are pupils who may have been excluded or require a bespoke provision and will need additional monitoring and support to re-engage with educational packages as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Streetscene and Transportation

£0.010m The Streetscene training service has not been able to deliver all of the Streetscene training plan in year 20/21 and there is a requirement to complete this in 21/22, in addition to all mandatory training provision required for that year as well. Training centres have been closed under COVID-19 regulations for large proportions of the year meaning Health & safety training to front line staff (in particular in high risk Streetscene roles) has only been completed where operationally they had to undertake specific tasks in their bubble areas. Moving into 21/22 there will be an increased pressure on the training budget to provide all of these additional training requirements.

£0.350m As a result of Welsh Government funding for Energy Trust Fund – Electric Recycling Vehicles being confirmed in mid-March, an immediate contractual commitment was required to be made to purchase the vehicles, which also involved a match funding contribution from the Council. Unfortunately, due to the lead in time, the vehicles won't be delivered until September 2021, but by proposing this carry forward request, the necessary funding requirement is being provided towards the vehicles, that would otherwise fall on the 2021/22 service budget as a contribution to overall project costs.

Chief Executives

£0.030m. The contract for a Performance Management software with CAMMS is due to expire 30th April. Procurement of a new supplier is nearing completion however initial costs for the first year will include implementation, training, data migration and an Annual Licence Fee totalling £0.056m. The carry forward will augment the existing Annual budget allocation for the Licence fee and minimise any additional pressure on the budget.

Housing & Assets

£0.130m. The net impact of slippage on approved maintenance programmes (condition surveys, fire risk assessments and legionella monitoring/testing) due to COVID-19 access restrictions, which is being requested to be carried forward for use in 2021/22.