

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE CABINET MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 21ST JULY 2004 AT 6.00PM

COMMITTEE ROOM, THE COUNCIL HOUSE, BROMSGROVE

MEMBERS: Councillors D. C. Norton (Executive Leader), Mrs. M. M. T. Taylor (Deputy Executive Leader), B. L. Fuller, C.B.E.,Q.F.S.M., Mrs. J. M. L. A. Griffiths, R. Hollingworth and P. J. Whittaker.

AGENDA

Council Agendas and Minutes are available on our web site at
www.bromsgrove.gov.uk/meetings

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. Declarations of Interest
3. To confirm the Minutes of the Executive Cabinet held on 7th July 2004
4. Public Questions
5. Issues arising from Overview and Scrutiny Committees
 - (a) Comments of the Housing and Planning Policy Scrutiny Committee on Wheelie Bin Planning Guidance
6. Revised Capital Programme 2004/05
7. Grant applications
8. Address Formats - Lickey Area
9. To consider any other business, details of which have been notified to the Head of Administrative Services prior to the commencement of the meeting and which the Chairman, by reason of special circumstances, considers to be of so urgent a nature that it cannot wait until the next meeting

S. NIXON
Chief Executive

The Council House,
Burcot Lane,
BROMSGROVE
Worcs.
B60 1AA

12th July 2004

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE CABINET

Wednesday, 7th July 2004 at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors D. C. Norton (Executive Leader), B. L. Fuller C.B.E., Q.F.S.M., Mrs. J. M. L. A. Griffiths, R. Hollingworth and P. J. Whittaker.

Observer: Councillor S. R. Peters

38/04 **APOLOGIES**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mrs. M. M. T. Taylor.

39/04 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Cabinet held on 23rd June 2004 were submitted.

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting be approved and confirmed as a correct record.

40/04 **GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE COUNCIL'S REQUEST FOR VOLUNTARY ENGAGEMENT**

Consideration was given to the report on the Government's response to the Council's request for voluntary engagement together with the principles and the initial steps expected in the first stage of this engagement. Following discussion it was

RESOLVED:

- (a) that the Government's acceptance of the Council's request for Voluntary Engagement and the deferral in the District CPA schedules for September 2004 be welcomed;
- (b) that the appointment of the nominated Minister, Lead Official and Assistant Lead Official as part of the Voluntary Engagement process be noted;
- (c) that the next steps to be undertaken by the Lead Official and the Council as set out in the Report be noted and that their support be ensured and contribution welcomed at each stage.

41/04 **LEISURE SERVICES SUMMER PROGRAMME**

Consideration was given to the Report on the various programmes organised or co-ordinated by Leisure Services taking place during the Summer period. Following discussion it was

RESOLVED: that the information in the Report be noted.

42/04 **PRESENTATION ON PHASE 2 OF THE MODERNISATION OF THE REFUSE/RECYCLING SERVICE**

The Director of Environmental Services gave a presentation on phase 2 of the modernisation of the refuse/recycling service. Following discussion it was

RESOLVED: that the contents of the presentation be noted.

The Meeting closed at 6.50 p.m.

Chairman

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE CABINET

21ST JULY 2004

**COMMENTS OF THE HOUSING AND PLANNING POLICY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
ON WHEELIE BIN PLANNING GUIDANCE**

Responsible Portfolio Holder	Councillor Mrs M Taylor
Responsible Head of Service	Malcolm Griffiths, Director of Planning Services

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 To consider the comments of the Housing and Planning Policy Scrutiny Committee.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 Members are asked to consider the Council producing informal guidance, prior to the possible incorporation of guidance on this matter through the Local Development Framework.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At its Meeting held on 24th June 2004 the Housing and Planning Policy Scrutiny Committee considered a report entitled 'Wheelie Bin Planning Guidance Update' relating to the potential for the Council to produce planning guidance on wheelie bin storage for new residential properties in the District.
- 3.2 The recent introduction of the Council's recycling scheme, including the changeover to wheelie bin collections from the kerb side, has meant that households are now required to store two wheelie bins and two recycling boxes on their property and be able to place the bins at kerb side on collection days.
- 3.3 Many new housing schemes in the district make no allowance for the extra outside storage needed to accommodate wheelie bins.
- 3.4 Guidance could be incorporated into a Residential Design Guide. A new version of the existing Guide (currently adopted as Supplementary Guidance) will be produced as part of the Local Development Framework. However, due to the changing legislation the earliest that a new guide could be produced would be 2005.
- 3.5 The Committee resolved, therefore, that the Executive Cabinet be requested to consider the option of the Council producing informal guidance prior to the possible incorporation of guidance on this matter through the Local Development Framework. This could then be circulated amongst developers to make them aware of the new wheelie bin collection service and the impact it will have on the design and layout of new residential housing proposals.

3.6 While informal guidance would not be binding it would be in the developers interest to provide storage as it could be a selling point.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

Background Papers

None

Contact officer

Name: Della McCarthy, Administrative Officer
E Mail: d.mccarthy@bromsgrove.gov.uk
Tel: (01527) 881407

Name: Graham Brookfield, Principle Planning Officer
E Mail: g.brookfield@bromsgrove.gov.uk
Tel: (01527) 881477

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE CABINET

21ST JULY 2004

REVISED CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2004-05

Responsible Portfolio Holder	Councillor Roger Hollingworth
Responsible Head of Service	Corporate Director (Resources)

1. SUMMARY

1.1. The purpose of this report is to present the revised Capital Programme for 2004/05 for approval.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that:

2.1.1. the revised Capital Programme for 2004/05 totalling £10.556m, as shown in Appendix I, be approved;

2.1.2. slippage of £295,000 from 2004/05 to 2005/06, in respect of Affordable Housing, be approved; and that

2.1.3. all schemes included in the revised Capital Programme for 2004/05, be allowed to proceed subject to a detailed report on the proposals and costs involved being submitted to Executive Cabinet and any further conditions listed in paragraph 7 being met.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 On 9th June 2004 Executive Cabinet approved the Capital Outturn for 2003/04 and scheme slippage of £2.685m relating to ongoing committed capital schemes.

3.2 Additional budget slippage of £0.561m., relating to un-committed capital schemes, was also approved for inclusion in the revised Capital Programme for 2004/05, however it was agreed that commencement of these schemes would be deferred until a review of the capital budget for 2004/05 was completed. The reasons for the review were as follows:

3.2.1 concern that if the capital programme continued at its predicted level through to 2006/7 the council's capital resources would be severely depleted and would reduce the council's ability to undertake capital projects in the future;

3.2.2 concerns over the deliverability of such a large capital programme within 2004/05.

- 3.3 It was further agreed at Executive Cabinet on 9th June 2004 that all schemes in the original capital programme for 2004/05, where work had not been started, be placed on hold until such time as the review referred to above was completed.
- 3.4 The review of capital programme for 2004/05 (including all slippage) was undertaken at a special joint meeting of Cabinet Members, Directors and Heads of Service on 30th June 2004. This report outlines the results of that review.
- 3.5 All schemes were reviewed on the following criteria:
- 3.5.1 was the scheme revenue in nature;
- 3.5.2 did the outcome of the scheme justify the costs anticipated; and
- 3.5.3 was the scheme in line with the Council's priorities.

4. SCHEMES TO BE DELETED FROM CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2004/05

- 4.1. Following the completion of the review it is recommended that schemes totalling £0.579m be deleted from the 2004-05 Capital Programme shown at Table 1 below:

TABLE 1

SCHEMES TO BE DELETED	£ '000
Minor Schemes:	
Secure car parks award (Parkside)	25
Bus shelters/litter bins/signs	30
Museum/Tourist Centre – DDA	30
Small business grants	15
IT upgrade (Admin Services)	6
IT upgrades (Audit & BV)	3
Football pitches	40
Play areas	50
Other Recreation Grounds improvements.	20
The Strand – Environmental Improvements	40
Canal side Schemes	18
Uncommitted Schemes:	
Council House Parking/C.C.T.V./Frontage – Revised Scheme	140
C.C.T.V. Control Room Extension	100
Recreation Ground Landscaping (b/f from 02/03)	10
Grants for Community Use	20
Corporate IT Equipment & Upgrades:	
- Depot IT - GIS Provision/New Systems/IT Link Upgrade (E H)	13
Homeless Hostels:	
- Other improvements	5
Dolphin Centre:	
- Sports Hall Cleaning Machine	4
Unapproved slippage:	
- Housing – vandalism	10
TOTAL (ALL FUNDED FROM CAPITAL RECEIPTS)	579

- 4.2. Although these schemes have been deleted from the capital programme for 2004/05 they can be re-submitted when the Capital Programme for 2005-08 is considered, as part of the formulation of the three year budget strategy.
- 4.3. In future, in order to ensure that all schemes meet corporate priorities a Service Improvement proposal form will be required which will outline and support the business case. The business case will include a risk analysis on all elements of the proposed scheme, explore alternative methods of finance, the timescales for the project from inception to completion as well as detailing how the projects will contribute to the Council's priorities. This is in order that greater control of the capital programme is exercised in future.
- 4.4. All schemes in the original approved 2004/05 capital budget had been placed on hold, where work had not started, until such time as the review of the capital budget was completed. Approval is therefore now required to commence all schemes included in the revised capital budget for 2004/05, subject to the conditions set out in paragraph 7 below being met. It is therefore recommended that this approval is now given.

5. OTHER CHANGES TO THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME FOR 2004/05

- 5.1. The Head of Strategic Housing has reviewed and revised the profiling of the capital schemes for Affordable Housing for the years 2004/05 and 2005/06, based on the latest information available. These schemes are funded from Section 106 receipts.
- 5.2. It is difficult to profile these schemes accurately because of the long lead times in developing such schemes and the involvement of external agencies. There is therefore still the possibility of slippage occurring on schemes included in the revised capital budget for 2004/05.
- 5.3. It is recommended that slippage of £295,000 from 2004/05 to 2005/06 in relation to Affordable Housing schemes be approved.

6. REVISED CAPITAL PROGRAMME FOR 2004/05

- 6.1. Subject to approval of the above changes the revised Capital Programme for 2004/05 would total £10.556m. A summary is shown at Table 2 below, with Table 3 showing an analysis of financing, with full details included in Appendix I.

TABLE 2

	Revised Budget 2004/05 £'000	<i>Original Budget 2004/05 £'000</i>
Policy & Strategy	1,221	1,142
Housing & Planning Policy	3,849	2,545
Health & Leisure	5,486	4,206
TOTAL PROGRAMME	10,556	7,893

TABLE3

	Revised Budget 2004/05	<i>Original Budget 2004/05</i>
Financing:	£'000	<i>£'000</i>
Capital Receipts	6,034	<i>4,930</i>
Capital Receipts (Environmental Enhancements Scheme)	42	<i>42</i>
Section 106 Agreements	2,654	<i>1,504</i>
Other External Contributions	78	<i>0</i>
Government Grants	1,748	<i>1,417</i>
TOTAL PROGRAMME	10,556	<i>7,893</i>

The amount included in the table above for use of Section 106 monies includes £2.594m for affordable housing schemes and £60,000 for Mill Lane Town Centre Improvements (now recommended to be looked at in conjunction with the Shopmobility project. At present there are no schemes proposed that can utilise the Section 106 monies received towards leisure provision – this is because the requirements of the agreements are not fulfilled by the schemes proposed.

7. CONDITIONS ON CERTAIN SCHEMES

7.1. In order to ensure that the Council has greater control of its capital programme, before any scheme can start a report will need to be brought to Executive Cabinet providing a more detailed analysis of the proposal and the costs involved. This will be reviewed as part of the budget strategy where the business case will need to be proven before any scheme is included in the capital programme. In addition the following capital schemes have been included in the revised Capital Programme for 2004/05 subject to the following conditions being met:

- (i) ***Home Improvement Grants £150k***
The Head of Strategic Housing is to report on the process for giving these discretionary grants.
- (ii) ***Football pitches £40k, Play areas £50k and Other rec. improvements £20k.***
The Director of Leisure Services is to produce a district wide strategy on the above areas. A business case should also be provided to detail the methods used to refurbish/improve these areas in the most cost effective way, as well as identifying where these schemes are. Until such time as the strategy is accepted then no further schemes will be approved in future years.
- (iii) ***Museum £30k***
The Director of Leisure Services is to produce a report on the implications of transferring the contents of the museum to a site at Avoncroft to enable a better and fuller display.
- (iv) ***Dolphin Centre – inflatable £8k***
The Director of Leisure Services is to produce a report to prove the business case before this project is implemented.

- (v) **Waseley Hills School £25k**
This scheme is approved at £25k, but the Community Centre scheme is not to proceed.
- (vi) **Revenue schemes £84k**
The following schemes are regarded as revenue expenditure and will only proceed on that basis. Either revenue bids will be made for 2005-06 onwards or the budget Virement Rules will apply as regards any spending in 2004-05:
- Bus shelters/litter bins/signs £30k
 - Small business grants £15k
 - Homeless Hostels improvements £5k
 - Dolphin Centre - Cleaning machine £4k
 - Grants for community use £20k
 - Housing vandalism £10k
- (vii) **Mill Lane Town Centre improvement £160k**
Shopmobility £75k
The Head of Community Safety and Engineering is to prepare a report on a more cost effective revised scheme to provide a building for shopmobility before schemes can progress to tender stage. The above two schemes are seen as being interdependent and need to progress together.
- (viii) **Vehicles and plant £500k**
The Head of Depot Services is to provide a comprehensive renewal schedule before any further work on procurement is undertaken.

6. **Financial Implications**

6.1 As above

7. **Legal Implications**

7.1 None.

8. **Other Sub Headings**

8.1 None

Personnel Implications
Governance/Performance Management Considerations
Community Safety Considerations
Risk Management Considerations
Policy Considerations
Environmental Considerations
Equalities Implications

Background Papers

Report to Executive Cabinet 9th June 2004 – Capital Outturn 2003/04.

Contact officer

Name: Ken Whitehouse, Principal Accountant (Capital)

E Mail: k.whitehouse@bromsgrove.gov.uk

Tel: (01527 881467)

REVISED GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2004/05**HOUSING & PLANNING POLICY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

	July Revised Budget 2004-05 £	<i>Original Budget 2004-05 £</i>	Method of Financing 2004/05 (See Key)
Technical Services			
Car Parks: New Sites Initiatives (2003/04 Scheme)	43,000	0	1
Car Parks: Secure Car Parks Award (Parkside)	0	25,000	1
Bus Shelters/Highways Furniture (District Wide)/Litter Bins/Signs (District Wide)/Miscellaneous Street Lighting (District Wide)	0	30,000	1
Crown Close Lights (2003/04 Scheme)	25,000	0	1
Green Lane Drainage Phase II (2003/04 Scheme)	6,000	0	1
Shopmobility - Provision & Equipment	75,000	75,000	1
Mill Lane Town Centre Access Improvement (Pending feasibility study)	160,000	160,000	1 = £100k 3 = £60k
Strategic & Enabling Housing Schemes			
Supported Housing Scheme for 16/17 yr olds	59,000	59,000	3
4 Houses on garage sites (Grafton, Foxwalks) (includes 2003/04 slippage)	160,000	35,000	3
5 Houses on garage sites (Ryfield) (includes 2003/04 slippage)			3
Purchase and Repair Scheme (2003/04 Projects)	400,000	0	3
345/347 Birmingham Road - Refurbishment/5 Year Lease (2003/04 Scheme)	40,000	0	3
New Affordable Schemes:-			
DIY - Low Cost Scheme	250,000	500,000	3
Grants to RSL's - New Build (Proposed future schemes)	0	500,000	3
Grants to RSL - York Rd, & Hollywood La/Houndsfield Cl	390,000		3
Grants to RSL - 38-42 Broad St (includes 2003/04 slippage)	600,000		3
Grants to RSL - Flat over shops High St. (includes 2003/04 slippage)	120,000		3
Grants to RSL - Villiers Rd (includes 2003/04 slippage)			3
Grants to RSL - Maple Rd (includes 2003/04 slippage)			3
Grants to RSL's - Purchase & Repair Scheme (includes 2003/04 slippage)	575,000	250,000	3
Grant to purchase empty house	0	100,000	3
Retained Housing Works:-			
Houndsfield Lane Caravan Site:			
- Door & window replacements - amenity blocks	16,000	16,000	1
Homeless Hostels:			
- Other improvements	0	5,000	1
Private Sector Renewal			
Mandatory Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG's) (includes 2003/04 slippage)	650,000	600,000	1=£485k 7=£165k SCG
Discretionary Home Repair Assistance & Housing Renewal Grants (includes 2003/04 slippage)	217,000	150,000	1
Planning Services			
GIS/Digital Mapping	20,000	0	1
Historic Building Refurbishment (2003/04 Scheme)	12,000	0	1
Geographical Information System (2003/04 Scheme)	1,000	0	1

REVISED GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2004/05**HOUSING & PLANNING POLICY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

	July Revised Budget 2004-05 £	<i>Original Budget 2004-05 £</i>	Method of Financing 2004/05 (See Key)
The Strand - Environmental Improvements	0	<i>40,000</i>	1
Housing Programme			
Central Heating - contract retentions from prior years.	8,000	<i>0</i>	1
Window Replacements - contract retentions from prior	7,000	<i>0</i>	1
Door Replacements - contract retentions from prior years.	5,000	<i>0</i>	1
Contingency for various old contract retentions from prior years.	10,000	<i>0</i>	1
HOUSING & PLANNING POLICY TOTAL	3,849,000	<i>2,545,000</i>	

Financing:

Capital Receipts	1,030,000	<i>681,000</i>
Capital Receipts (Environmental Enhancements Scheme)	0	<i>0</i>
Section 106 Agreements	2,654,000	<i>1,504,000</i>
Other External Contributions (WCC)	0	<i>0</i>
Government Grants	165,000	<i>360,000</i>
Total	3,849,000	<i>2,545,000</i>

Key for Financing:

- 1 = Capital Receipts
- 2 = Government Capital Grants
- 3 = Section 106
- 4 = Environmental Enhancements Scheme - Capital Receipts
- 5 = Operational Leasing
- 6 = Revenue
- 7 = Other (as specified)

REVISED GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2004/05**HEALTH & LEISURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

	July Revised Budget 2004-05 £	<i>Original Budget 2004-05 £</i>	Method of Financing 2004/05 (See Key)
Environmental Health			
Contaminated Land - Urgent Measures (2003/04 Scheme)	1,000	0	1
Environmental Health - Refuse Collection & Waste Management			
4 x Refuse Freighters - Sidepress X524 Hawkchange (BDC Funded) (2003/04 Scheme)	505,000	0	1
Green Wheelie Bins - Balance 31,900 (DEFRA Grant & BDC Funded)	687,000	675,000	2=£624k 7=£63k WCC
Grey Wheelie Bins - Balance 30,700 (BDC Funded)	662,000	704,000	1
Red Lidded Boxes - Balance 32,300 (DEFRA Funded)	80,000	82,000	2
Blue Unlidded Boxes - Balance 32,300 (DEFRA Funded)	68,000	70,000	2
7 x Second-hand Refuse Freighters	115,000	0	1
Multi-lift - 6x4 Demount Slave Vehicle	0	62,000	1
Multi-lift - Bodies	0	10,000	1
Trade Waste Freighter (replacing R705 CAC)	0	100,000	1
Environmental Health - Depot			
Vehicles and General Plant (includes 2003/04 slippage)	500,000	0	1
Depot Facility - Multi Purpose Loader (replacing N142 YOG)	0	22,000	1
Garage Facility - General Equipment	0	2,000	1
Garage Facility - Exhaust Emission Equipment	0	7,000	1
Derby Body Vehicle for Cleansing (replacing X931 LOC)	0	18,000	1
Compressor (Plant)	0	14,000	1
Roller (Plant)	0	12,000	1
General Plant	0	3,000	1
Tipper Vehicle - 3.5 tonne (replacing N612 VOF)	0	18,000	1
Tipper Vehicle - 3.5 tonne (replacing N613 VOF)	0	17,000	1
Ride On Mowers	0	24,000	1
Rotary Mowers	0	5,000	1
Mower for Cemetery	0	10,000	1
Plant for Cemetery	0	3,000	1
ENVIRONMENTAL & HEALTH SUB-TOTAL	2,618,000	1,858,000	

Financing:

Capital Receipts	1,783,000	1,031,000
Capital Receipts (Environmental Enhancements Scheme)	0	0
Section 106 Agreements	0	0
Other External Contributions (WCC)	63,000	0
Government Grants	772,000	827,000
Total	2,618,000	1,858,000

Key for Financing:

- 1 = Capital Receipts
- 2 = Government Capital Grants
- 3 = Section 106
- 4 = Environmental Enhancements Scheme - Capital Receipts
- 5 = Operational Leasing
- 6 = Revenue
- 7 = Other (as specified)

REVISED GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2004/05**HEALTH & LEISURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (CONTINUED)**

	July Revised Budget 2004-05 £	<i>Original Budget 2004-05 £</i>	Method of Financing 2004/05 (See Key)
Leisure Services			
Arts Centre (Joint With College) (includes 2003/04 slippage)	1,477,000	1,341,000	1
Catshill Community Project (b/f from 02/03)	35,000	35,000	1
Community Grant - Waseley Hills School (2003/04 Scheme)	25,000	0	1
Canalside Schemes	0	18,000	1
Dolphin Centre:			
- Upgrade (b/f from 2002/03) (includes 2003/04 slippage)	773,000	590,000	1
- Replace Main Pool tiling	50,000	50,000	1
- Renew/repair roof coverings (as per Condition Survey)	42,000	42,000	1
- New CHP Unit & Heating Controls in Pool Areas	80,000	80,000	1
- Sports Hall Inflatable	8,000	8,000	1
- Sports Hall Cleaning Machine	0	4,000	1
Football Pitches General	0	40,000	1
Play Areas refurbishment (inc equipment & bark)	0	50,000	1
Recreation Ground Landscaping (b/f from 02/03)	0	10,000	1
Landscaping Recreation Grounds (inc ASDA & slippage from 2002/03)	15,000	0	1
Sanders Park Improvements	0	30,000	1
Improvements to Sanders Park (Funded from Government Liveability Fund & BDC)	155,000	0	1=£30k 2=£125k
Improvements to Rubery Park (Funded from Government Liveability Fund)	160,000	0	2
New park at Barnsley Hall (Funded from Government Liveability Fund & BDC)	25,000	0	1=£10k 2=£15k
Regeneration of two allotment sites (Funded from Government Liveability Fund)	16,000	0	2
Other Recreation Ground Improvements (District Wide)	0	20,000	1
Tree Survey (Scheme b/f 2002/03)	7,000	0	1
Museum / Tourist Info Centre - DDA Requirement	0	30,000	1
LEISURE SUB-TOTAL	2,868,000	2,348,000	
HEALTH & LEISURE TOTAL	5,486,000	4,206,000	

TOTAL PROGRAMME	#REF!	#REF!
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Financing:

Capital Receipts	2,552,000	2,348,000
Capital Receipts (Environmental Enhancements Scheme)	0	0
Section 106 Agreements	0	0
Other External Contributions (WCC)	0	0
Government Grants	316,000	0
Total	2,868,000	2,348,000

Key for Financing:

- 1 = Capital Receipts
- 2 = Government Capital Grants
- 3 = Section 106
- 4 = Environmental Enhancements Scheme - Capital Receipts
- 5 = Operational Leasing
- 6 = Revenue
- 7 = Other (as specified)

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE CABINET

21ST JULY 2004

GRANT APPLICATIONS

Responsible Portfolio Holder	Councillor Roger Hollingworth
Responsible Head of Service	Corporate Director (Resources)

1. SUMMARY

1.1 The purpose of this report is to present for members consideration a number of grant applications that have been received.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1. It is recommended that:

2.1.1. Members consider the applications and agree whether they wish to make a financial contribution towards the projects; and that

2.1.2. A review of all revenue grants made by the authority is undertaken (to include a review of the process by which they are agreed).

3. BUDGET

3.1. Within the approved revenue budget for 2004/05 is an amount for revenue grants of £100,000 – designated as “General Contingency Fund”. The costs of any grants made would be met from this fund.

3.2. The table below shows the grants that have already been approved this financial year, those that are expected to be made and the balance available.

	Amount	
	£	£
Budget for 2004/05		100,000
Spend to date		
Bromsgrove Festival	5,350	
Citizens Advice Bureau	30,175	
Court Leet	300	
WCC – Avoncroft picnic site	3,296	
Relate	7,210	
Bromsgrove Hospital Committee	380	
Mini Bus for the elderly	1,000	
Victim support Worcestershire	500	
Total		48,211

Balance Available		51,789
Grants expected		
Avoncroft Museum	2,850	
Citizens Advice Bureau	36,825	
The Samaritans	280	
Worcestershire Sexual Abuse Centre	<u>270</u>	
Total		40,225
Balance Available		11,564

4. APPLICATIONS

- 4.1. Grant application (No.1010) is a request for £1,000, payable to 'Age Concern Bromsgrove & District' – a charitable organisation whose purpose is to improve the quality of life of older people in the Bromsgrove District.

The grant is sought as a contribution towards the running costs of the information and advice centre. Financial assistance has been sought from three trusts, two of whom have given £5,000 each.

- 4.2. Grant application (No.1017) is a request for £8,333 payable to "Primrose Hospice and Cancer help centre".

The grant is sought to contribute towards the annual running costs for Primrose at the Princess. The hospice provides high quality, efficient and responsive specialist advisory and palliative care services (both clinical and supportive) to patients with cancer and other life threatening illnesses.

The amount requested (£8,333) represents one months running costs. £9,727 has already been pledged by companies and private individuals.

- 4.3. Grant application (No.1018) is a request for £645 payable to 'Bromsgrove & Redditch Advocacy Group'.

The grant is sought to contribute towards a new computer, computer peripherals and the design and production of a website for the organisation. The Bromsgrove and Redditch advocacy group promotes the rights and inclusion of vulnerable members of the community. It provides a totally independent advocacy service for the support of adults with learning disabilities, physical disabilities, mental health needs, older people over 65 and carers. The total cost of the project is £1,817 of which £1,172 has already been pledged.

47% of the people that benefits from the service provided by the Group reside within the Bromsgrove district.

- 4.4. Grant application (No.1019) is a request for any contribution payable to 'Bromsgrove Rovers FC Ltd'.

The grant is sought as a contribution towards community training facilities – all weather outdoor facility for football, rugby, hockey and tennis. Financial assistance hasn't been sought from other bodies.

- 4.5. Grant application (No 1020) is a request by Age Concern to waive the fee for the use of the Market Hall and parking for 24 vehicles in September 2004 (loss of income to Bromsgrove District Council of £200).

Age Concern on an annual basis participates in an exhibition for older people and their carers based in the Market Hall. The purpose of the exhibition is demonstrate to older people, their carers, existing service users, service purchasers and providers the vast range of resources which are available to them.

The waiving of the fees needs to be treated as a grant so that income to the service areas is not adversely affected.

5. REVIEW OF GRANTS

- 5.1. The Council give a number of revenue grants which are administered by different sections within the Council. This does aid consistency of treatment or ensure that grants aren't duplicated.

- 5.2. Grant applications that seek to access this budget are considered as and when they are received – this is not felt to be equitable as grant applications received towards the end of the financial year may have to be refused due to the budget already having been allocated.

- 5.3. It is as a result of the above that it is felt that a review of the revenue grants awarded by the Council, and indeed the process by which they are given, be undertaken. The aims of the review should be to ensure that there is no duplication of effort or of grant and that the process for giving grants is understandable, fair and consistent. It is recommended that members request officers to undertake such a review and report back to the Executive Cabinet.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. None.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1. None.

8. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 The report has also considered the following implications:-

Personnel Implications	None
Governance/Performance Management Considerations	None
Community Safety Considerations	None
Risk Management Considerations	None

Policy Considerations	None
Environmental Considerations	None
Equalities Implications	None

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The papers used in the preparation of the report are:

BDC Grant Application Form

Bromsgrove & Redditch Advocacy Group information pack and financial reports

Primrose Hospice information pack and financial reports

Bentley Village Hall information pack and financial reports

CONTACT OFFICER

Name: D. Pinnegar Financial Services

E Mail: d.pinnegar@bromsgrove.gov.uk

Tel: (01527) 881214

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE CABINET

21ST JULY 2004

ADDRESS FORMATS – LICKEY AREA

Responsible Portfolio Holder	Councillor D. C. Norton
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Administrative Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider a request from Lickey and Blackwell Parish Council that the Royal Mail be urged to include the word “Lickey” in the official postal address of properties in the Lickey area.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That before any decision is to support the change is made, the Parish Council is asked to indicate the extent of public support for the proposed change.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Lickey and Blackwell Parish Council have asked the Council to support their campaign to persuade the Royal Mail to include the word “Lickey” in the official addresses of properties in the Lickey area. At present, these addresses are concluded with either “Marlbrook, Bromsgrove” or “Rednal, Birmingham”. Lickey and Blackwell Parish Council’s arguments in favour of the change are set out in a paper prepared by one of their Councillors, attached as Appendix “1”.

However, such a change might be controversial locally and it needs to be firmly established that a majority of residents are in favour of such a change. Some residents and/or local businesses who are dissatisfied might attempt to make claims against the Council, the Parish Council and/or the Royal Mail for change of stationery, effect on trade etc. The potential for controversy was demonstrated a few years ago when this Council erected a sign indicating the boundary of the Parish of Lickey and then had to remove it again following representations from people who lived nearby and identified with Barnt Green.

The Cabinet is asked to decide whether representations in favour of such a change should be made.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 No direct costs, although an amount of officer time would have to be spent in modifying existing Council address databases if the change was made.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 None

Background Papers

Letter from Lickey and Blackwell Parish Council dated 26th June 2004

Contact Officer

Name V. Harrison, Head of Administrative Services

Email: v.harrison@bromsgrove.gov.uk

Tel: (01527) 881419