

REPORT OF THE JOINT HEAD OF FINANCE, RIDGEWAY SSP  
TO THE EXECUTIVE  
3 APRIL 2009

**Revenue Budget Carry Forward Requests 2008/09**

1.0 Introduction and report summary

1.1 This report refers to a list of budgets requested to be carried forward from the 2008/09 revenue budget. The projected outturn position on the budget is for an overspend, consequently the carry forward requests made relate only to unspent grant allocations which would have to be returned if not spent and where there has been a late starting project which has meant that the profile of spend needs to be delayed.

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 *That Members consider the revenue budget carry forward requests and approve the budgets to be carried forward from 2008/09 to 2009/10 (Total £62,245)*

3.0 Value for the Vale – Corporate Plan 2009-12

3.1 The recommendation meets the strategic objectives and corporate priorities as set out in the Council's Corporate Plan 2009-12 in that it maximizes the use of partnership funding and scarce resource to:

- provide value for money services that meet the needs of our residents and service users; and
- helping to maintain a safe Vale.

4.0 Revenue Budget Carry Forward Requests

4.1 Members are requested to approve the carry forward of 2008/09 revenue budgets to 2009/10 for the reasons identified in the table below.

4.2 Members will recall that restrictions on expenditure have been maintained since January 2009 because of projected budget pressures in the Revenue budget. These budget pressures have been mainly as a consequence of the downturn in economic circumstances leading to a reduction in income to the Council.

4.3 Twelve requests have been received to carry forward budget to next year. Of these, six are partnership grants awarded for specific projects. Unspent grant money would need to be returned and in a number of cases the grant money has been committed and is awaiting payment.

4.4 Two requests relate to the Chair of the Council's budget which follows the Civic Year to the end of May not the financial year and should therefore be carried forward.

- 4.5 One request seeks to top up funding identified in other budgets for a one-off purchase of expensive equipment for the Faringdon pool.
- 4.6 One relates to the repair of the boundary wall of Abbey Gardens caused by car damage. Officers are seeking to claim costs from the car driver but in the meantime urgent repairs are required.
- 4.7 Of the remaining two requests, one relates to an ongoing project and the second to an allocation of contingency in 2008/09 to meet the cost of a pension on a recently retired member of staff.
- 4.8 A small amount of unallocated community grant funding will also be requested to be carried forward but at the time of writing this report the amount is still unknown.

#### 5.0 Revenue Budget Carry Forward Requests 2008/2009 to 2009/2010

Cost Centre Name	Agresso Cost Centre	Agresso Account	Amount of budget to transfer	Reason for carry forward requested
<b>Contracts &amp; Procurement</b>				
Sport & Recreation Operations	SR21	2000	£5,000	There is an acute and identified need to replace the air handling unit at Faringdon swimming pool. This is likely to be approximately £80k. Other sources of funding have been identified to the value of £75k from existing leisure, property and carbon management budgets and an underspend on the repairs and maintenance budget in 2008/09 has been maintained to fund the remaining £5k. The existing unit has reached the end of its useful life and as a result is constantly breaking down. These breakdowns are causing disruptions to customers and an unfair burden of repair costs to our contractor
Sports Development	SD01	9102	£3,450	Partnership grant from Sport England. Equipment for 'no limits' project needed to be adapted for disabilities and as a result has delayed the start of this project. If the grant is not carried forward and spent then it must be returned.

GO Active	SD02	100*/2001/ 4400	£5,260	The first installment of partnership grant from PCT and Sport England has been received in 2008/09. Expenditure on the Go Active project didn't start until December 2008 and is an on-going three year project. It is necessary to carry forward the unspent budgets in order to complete the project commitments.
Parks & Open Spaces	PA41	2006	£2,500	During late 2008 damage to the boundary wall of Abbey Gardens was caused by a vehicle damage. £2,500 was set aside in the repairs and maintenance budget to cover the cost of the repair whilst action was taken to recover the cost through the driver's insurance. This is still ongoing and the repair could not be done until the weather was better. Therefore it is requested that this set aside money be carried forward.
<b>Housing</b>				
Community Safety	CS21	4706	£1,000	This funding is committed Area Based Grant. This allocation has been allocated to the purchase and installation of "tri-signs" - warning information signs to be installed around the District carrying messages against crime and disorder.
Community Safety	CS21	4706	£3,000	This funding is committed Area Based Grant. The carry forward is to contribute towards expenditure that will be incurred by Property Services (PS31 Estate Management) for repairs and maintenance works at the Charter in Abingdon. Part of these works is the erection of railing at the premises and it is this portion of the costs that will be funded through the grant. The works in total have been

				commissioned but are unlikely to be complete by year end.
Community Safety	CS21	4706	£2,745	This funding is committed Area Based Grant. Community Safety are acting as third party funders to support an application the WREN to cover the costs of renovation of a play area. The application to WREN could not be made until matched funding had been secured, hence delay in incurring grant expenditure.
Homelessness	HM21	4705	£3,690	An approved grant allocation to Berkshire Women's Aid has not yet been claimed and therefore needs to be carried forward.
<b>Organisational Development &amp; Support</b>				
Organisational Change	CH11	4400	£11,890	Work on the DWP connection, compliant with Government Connect is on going, due for completion by end of September 2009
<b>Strategy (SB)</b>				
Unapportioned overheads	SB21	1301	£21,210	Pension past service costs. A budget was transferred from contingency to cover the full hidden cost of one early retirement. Only one year was required so the excess budget needs to be carried forward to meet next year's obligation whereupon the base budget will be amended in next year's budget setting process.
<b>Strategy (CE)</b>				
Civic Responsibilities	CE01	2201	£850	The Civic Year ends at the end of May which does not fit in with the financial year. An event is held at the end of each civic year with the money used to cover this being taken from the previous financial year's budget to avoid the new civic year budget from being affected. £1,000 is already being offered up as a saving from CE01 2201 in 2009/10. This allocation is for the hire of

				the room.
Civic Responsibilities	CE01	4600	£1,650	A carry forward requested from the Chair's allowance for the same reason as above.
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£62,245</b>	

ALICE BRANDER  
CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

WILLIAM JACOBS  
JOINT HEAD OF FINANCE