

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL DECISION
REPORT TO POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No 15

meeting date: 23 MARCH 2010
title: REFERENCE FROM COMMITTEES
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
principal author: NEIL SANDIFORD

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To consider a request from Community Services Committee to amend the five year capital programme.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 This Committee has recently considered and approved the Councils five year capital expenditure plan for 2010/15. You will recall the cost of bids put forward far exceeded the available resources. Therefore around £1.8m worth of schemes was deleted from the draft programme and in addition some scaling back of bids took place.
- 2.2 This applied to some of the schemes submitted by Community Services. One such scheme is Children's Play Areas which was reduced from a bid of £55k per annum over the five years to £20k for each of the three years 2010/11, 2011/12 and 2012/13 and £50k for 2013/14 and 2014/15.
- 2.3 This scheme has been recognised as a rolling programme of £50k per annum for a number of years in the capital programme. In 2008 the budget was increased from £34,500 to £50,000 per annum to include maintenance of play equipment.

3 COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE 9 MARCH 2010

- 3.1 In November 2007 members endorsed the production of a play strategy for the Borough. Within this three projects were put forward under the Big Lottery's Play Initiative, one of which was the Longridge Adventure Play Facility scheme.
- 3.2 The total cost of this scheme is estimated at £93,500 of which Big Lottery funding is £78,500. The intention was for £15,000 to be allocated from within the Children's Play Areas budget as match funding to complete the scheme.
- 3.3 It is anticipated that from the revised allocation for Children's Play Areas of £20,000, £15,000 is needed to continue to maintain the current standard of existing play areas leaving the remainder (£5,000) for improvements/replacements.
- 3.4 The reduction in the available resource for improvements is insufficient to complete the Longridge scheme, which could jeopardise funding from Big Lottery for delaying the scheme until 2013/14 when capital funds become available, is outside the external funding timescale.
- 3.5 The request is therefore to bring forward from 2013/14, £10,000 of the available programme for that year to 2010/11.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Other than to transfer budgets between years there will be no impact on the overall cost of the five year capital expenditure plan.

5 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

- 5.1 Consider the request from Community Committee for a transfer of capital resources from 2013/14 to 2010/11 of £10,000.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

PF21-10/NS/AC
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