

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

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date: 18 March 2019

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Dear Councillor

The next meeting of the **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE** is at **6.30pm** on **THURSDAY, 28 MARCH 2019** at the **TOWN HALL, CHURCH STREET, CLITHEROE.**

I do hope you can be there.

Yours sincerely

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

To: Committee Members (copy for information to all other Members of the Council)
Directors
Press

AGENDA

Part I – items of business to be discussed in public

1. Apologies for absence.
- ✓ 2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 24 January 2019 – copy enclosed.
3. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests (if any).
4. Public Participation (if any).

DECISION ITEMS

None.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- ✓ 5. Ribble Valley Economic Partnership – report of Director of Economic Development and Planning – copy enclosed.

- ✓ 6. Capital Programme 2019/20 – report of Director of Resources – copy enclosed.
- ✓ 7. Revenue Monitoring 2018/19 – report of Director of Resources – copy enclosed.
- 8. Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies (if any).

Part II - items of business **not** to be discussed in public

None.

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No. 5

Meeting date: THURSDAY, 21 MARCH 2019
Title: RIBBLE VALLEY ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP
Submitted by: DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING
Principal author: COLIN HIRST HEAD OF REGENERATION AND HOUSING

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To update Committee on the Ribble Valley Economic Partnership and Development of the Council's Economic Plan.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives – To deliver a sustainable local economy.
- Corporate Priorities – To undertake relevant economic activities to secure economic growth and to maintain a healthy local economy.
- Other Considerations – The work will support the delivery of economic activity and provide an opportunity to demonstrate the Council is a well-managed authority.

2 INFORMATION

2.1 At the Economic Development Committee meeting held on 15 November 2018, it was agreed that the Council would lead on the establishment of a strategic forum to consider local economic issues. See Minute 455.

2.2 It was proposed that the forum would provide a valuable platform to help develop the Council's Economic Strategy and get stakeholder input. This will help align a number of partnership groups into an umbrella forum to help joint working.

2.3 The launch event took place on 27 February and was well attended by members of the local business community. The round table discussions generated some lively debate on the key themes, namely; People, Places, Business Support & Growth, Connectivity and Tourism.

2.4 All feedback has been collated and is being reviewed to aid the development of the Economic Plan to its first stage before consideration by this committee. Whilst work continues to draw together the outputs to feed into the draft Economic Plan an initial review has identified some common issues across the themes that can be highlighted as follows:

- Development of digital.
- Develop efficient and accessible transport links.
- Training and employment skills (including links with schools and further education).
- Improve awareness of Business support.
- Availability of Land/Premises.
- Making best use of all Ribble Valley strengths.
- Measures to support and accommodate growth (rather than growth becoming a hindrance in itself).

- 2.5 Attendees provides some very positive feedback about the Council's event, and a response that supports the creation of the Partnership with an appetite from attendees to participate in future events.
- 2.6 One of the issues that has been identified from the event was the need to attract more manufacturing business to participate and to encourage some of the boroughs larger employers to become involved. The land economy was also under represented. As an immediate response, a simple mailshot has been used with the issue of business rate letters in order to reach out to a wider spread of businesses and generate interest in the Partnership. Larger employers will be specifically approached on an individual basis to help build relations between the council and their organisations. Measures to build relations with the land economy will also be explored.
- 2.7 As previously indicated it is anticipated that further meetings of the partnership will take place on a triannual basis or in response to key issues of relevance that may arise. The next meeting is likely to be in June to take into account the forthcoming Local Government elections and this committee having opportunity to consider the draft Economic Plan. It is intended that the next partnership meeting will provide the initial consultation on the draft Economic Plan.



COLIN HIRST
HEAD OF REGENERATION AND HOUSING

NICOLA HOPKINS
DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

For further information please ask for Colin Hirst. Ext. 4503

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No 6

meeting date: 28 MARCH 2019
title: CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2019/20
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
principal author: ANDREW COOK

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To inform members of the schemes which have been approved for inclusion in this Committee's 2019/20 capital programme.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 As members will be aware, this Committee proposed a five year capital programme for 2019/20 to 2023/24 at its meeting on 15 November 2018. As it stood at that time the draft capital programme across all the committees was unaffordable. The proposals have since been reviewed by Budget Working Group and Corporate Management Team in order to arrive at an affordable programme for 2019/20 to 2023/24.
- 2.2 Following recommendation by Special Policy and Finance Committee on 5 February 2019, Full Council approved the five year capital programme for 2019/20 to 2023/24 on 5 March 2019.
- 2.3 The Council's overall capital programme for the five year period 2019/20 to 2023/24 totals £8,123,530 for all committees. The total for this Committee is £20,000 over the five year life of the programme. All of the £20,000 relates to the 2019/20 financial year.

3 CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2019/20 – APPROVED SCHEME

- 3.1 For this Committee there is one approved scheme in the 2019/20 capital programme, the Gateway Signs for Whalley, Longridge and Clitheroe scheme, totalling £20,000.
- 3.2 This scheme was initially included as a new bid for 2023/24 with a budget of £24,400, but it has been brought forward to 2019/20 as requested by this Committee. Bringing forward the scheme has reduced the budget from £24,400 to £20,000 and Budget Working Group and Corporate Management Team recommended that an external quote be sought for this work, including installation.
- 3.3 Further information for this scheme is shown in **Annex 1**.
- 3.4 During the closure of our capital accounts there may be some slippage on schemes in the current year, 2018/19. One of the tasks of the Budget Working Group will be to review any requests for slippage on capital schemes within the 2018/19 capital programme. A report will be brought to this Committee at a future meeting, giving details of any slippage.
- 3.5 Responsible officers will complete and update capital monitoring sheets for each scheme, which will be reported regularly to members to give an indication of progress.

4 CONCLUSION

4.1 This Committee has a 2019/20 capital programme of one scheme, totalling £20,000.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

ED4-19/AC/AC
14 March 2019

For further background information please ask for Andrew Cook.
BACKGROUND PAPERS – None

Gateway Signs for Whalley, Longridge and Clitheroe

Service Area: Tourism and Events

Submitted by: Mark Beveridge

Brief Description of the Scheme:

The Economic Development Committee has requested that a bid be submitted for gateway signs to be erected on the major roads into the three settlements. These signs are approx 1.5m high x 1m wide, they can have an iconic image which represents an area plus a tag line, such as "Welcome To..". The exact number of signs would need to be determined following a site visit by an approved contractor. The signs have to meet Highway Authority regulations which mean that some smaller roads would not be suitable for these large signs. Costs include the cost of the signs, fitting of the signs, foundations work, making good the ground and traffic management.

The £20,000 budget will be used to fund as many signs as can be accommodated within budget. Budget Working Group and Corporate Management Team recommended that an external quote be sought for this work, including installation.

Revenue Implications:

These signs would be RVBC responsibility and cleaning and maintenance would fall to the Council, approx £1,000 per annum broad estimate.

Timescale for Completion:

2019/20.

Any Risks to Completion:

The County Council would have to provide permission for location and installation as they are the Highway Authority.

Capital Cost:

2019/20 £
20,000

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No 7

meeting date: 28 MARCH 2019
 title: REVENUE MONITORING 2018/19
 submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
 principal author: LAWSON ODDIE

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To let you know the position for the period April 2018 to February 2019 of this year's revised revenue budget as far as this committee is concerned.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives – none identified
- Corporate Priorities - to continue to be a well managed council providing efficient services based on identified customer need. To meet the objective within this priority, of maintaining critical financial management controls, ensuring the authority provides council tax payers with value for money.
- Other Considerations – none identified.

2 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

2.1 Shown below, by cost centre, is a comparison between actual expenditure and the revised estimate for the period to the end of February. You will see an overall overspend of £1,165 on the net cost of services. Please note that underspends are denoted by figures with a minus symbol.

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name	Net Budget for the Full Year	Net Budget to the end of period	Actual including Commitments to the end of the period	Variance	
ALBNM	Albion Mill	-210	2,141	5,927	3,786	A
INDDV	Economic Development	170,500	20,048	18,988	-1,060	G
TURSM	Tourism and Events	105,050	25,602	24,041	-1,561	G
	Total	275,340	47,791	48,956	1,165	

2.2 The variations between budget and actuals have been split into groups of red, amber and green variance. The red variances highlight specific areas of high concern, for which budget holders are required to have an action plan. Amber variances are potential areas of high concern and green variances are areas, which currently do not present any significant concern.

Key to Variance shading	
Variance of more than £5,000 (Red)	R
Variance between £2,000 and £4,999 (Amber)	A
Variance less than £2,000 (Green)	G

2.3 For this committee, there are no variations which fall in the red shaded cost centre for the period April 2018 to February 2019.

2.4 The amber variances are shown at Annex 1.

3 CONCLUSION

3.1 The comparison between actual and budgeted expenditure shows an overspend of £1,165 for the period April 2018 to February 2019.

3.2 Three amber variations have been flagged for reporting, with all other variations being of low value. Assurances can be given that there are no areas of spend that present any significant concern.

HEAD OF FIANNCIAL SERVICES

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

ED5-19/LO/AC
18 March 2019

Economic Development Committee Budget Monitoring – Amber Variances

Ledger Code	Ledger Code Name	Budget for the Full Year	Budget to the end of the period	Actual including Commitments to the end of the period	Variance	Indicator	Reason for Variance
ALBNM/ 8805I	Albion Mill/Land Rents	-35,000	-35,000	-30,913	4,087	A	The variance is as a result of a period of vacancies and also an element of first year rent reduction.
TURSM/ 2958	Tourism and events/Visitor's Guide	22,330	22,330	20,231	-2,099	A	The final costs for the production of the Visitor Guide were lower than the revised estimate. There are other costs associated with the overall production of the guide which are slightly over budget, but these are minimal, and are more than offset by the underspend shown here.