# Budget Council 25 February 2021 Brighton & Hove City Council

# GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET, CAPITAL & TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2021/22

#### **BUDGET AMENDMENT**

### **Item 112**

# Composite All-Party amendment proposed by the Group Leaders

To reallocate a total of £1.250m from the Carbon Reduction Reserve (£1.000m) included in Table 4 on page 39; the Community Wealth Building (£0.100m) and Environmental Education Strategy (£0.150m) as shown in the Corporate Plan Investments Table 2 on page 33 and to redirect this as follows:

- £0.200m for creation of a Carbon Reduction Reserve in response to the Climate and Biodiversity Emergency declared by this Council in 2018 and to advance the 10-year Carbon Neutral programme;
- £0.025m investment in Community Wealth Building to promote ethical employment practices and ensure the use of the city's public sector spending power to procure goods and services locally for the benefit of our communities;
- £0.096m for investment in an Environmental Education Strategy for the City;
- Replacing the £0.124m recurrent funding for the Arts Sector Recovery Plan and future development of the sector included in the Corporate Plan Investment Table 2 on page 33 of the agenda, with funding over 3 years utilising £0.372m one off resources;

### Use the £0.124m recurrent for the following:

- £0.008m revenue to create additional capital investment of £0.104m for the Climate Assembly Action Plan investment fund.
- £0.020m revenue to create a capital pot of £0.360m for £0.030m investment in a disabled access ramp to the beach, £0.080m capital investment for the upgrade and refurbishment of seafront shelters, £0.250m capital investment for seafront railings refurbishment or replacement and investment in Beach Hut infrastructure and replacement.
- Provide £0.100m capital investment to put towards the purchase of a disabled access carriage for the Volks Railway. The balance to be match-funded from grant applications and alternative funding streams. This will require £0.006m recurrent funding for the financing costs.
- Provide a further £1.135m capital resources to support the Saltdean Lido renovation. This will require £0.040m recurrent funding for the financing costs.
- Provide a further £1.135m capital resources to fund future phases of the Madeira Terraces project incorporating the ambition to deliver a carbon neutral or low carbon refurbishment. This will require £0.040m recurrent funding for the financing costs.

- Provide £0.090m capital investment for:
  - A) tree planting around phone masts; replacement play equipment in Patcham parks; resurfacing of Knoll Park multipurpose play area; £0.020m replacement of the zip wire at Saltdean Oval Park and additional pothole repair funding.
  - B) £0.010m invest in open space sports infrastructure such as tennis court nets and basketball hoops. The open spaces to include Hangleton and Hove Park.
  - C) £0.010m capital investment in replacement bins in open spaces including Hove Park, Hove Recreation ground, Greenleas Park and Knoll Park.

This will require £0.007m recurrent funding for the financing costs.

 Provide £0.020m funding for capital investment and ongoing maintenance for a gateway welcome around Portslade train station. This will require £0.003m recurrent funding for the financing costs.

## Also, to propose the following:

- To take advantage of the lower interest rates available to the council and utilise the £0.200m recurrent funding set aside to finance borrowing to support the Madeira Terrace in 2021/22, increasing the borrowing from £4.3m to £5.6m.
- To capitalise the £0.074m recurrent funding for the Madeira Terrace Project Manager post included in the Corporate Plan Investment Table 2 on page 33 of the agenda, instead utilising the capital resources already identified for Madeira Terrace, and use the £0.074m recurrent funding to support a further £2.1m capital investment for the Madeira Terrace project.
- To provide £0.050m self-financing capital investment in 4 mobile cameras for the prevention of fly tipping. This will require £0.011m recurrent funding to support financing costs which will be met from the fine income these additional cameras generate.
- To redirect the £0.050m recurrent 'Support to Victims of Domestic Violence'
  provision in the Corporate Plan Investment Table 2 shown on page 33 as to
  support the recovery, wellbeing and resilience of early years children, young
  people and their mothers affected by domestic abuse in the city; the funding to
  be allocated as a grant through the council's Third Sector Investment
  programme.
- Further, to increase this grant by an additional £0.045m in the first year from one-off resources above, taking the total to £0.095m in 2021/22 to recognise the impact of the pandemic on women and children, and enhance community resilience.

# To allocate the remaining one-off resources as follows:

- £0.010m one-off resource to support a feasibility study for new beach huts;
- It is proposed to allocate £0.030m to reverse the saving from Adoption Allowances for 3 years as shown on page 87 of the agenda, and therefore allow inflationary increases;

- It is proposed to allocate funding of £0.168m to Establishing a Community Drug Impact Co-ordinator role for 3 years at £0.056m to address the impact of drug sales, drug use and cuckooing on our communities.
- £0.055m of one-off funding to establish a stalled sites delivery post to unlock
  the delivery of stalled housing sites with planning permission. Ongoing costs to
  be met through the delivery of additional units of housing within the city which
  increases the council tax base in future years therefore creating recurrent
  resources for this post;
- £0.010m one-off allocation to evaluate the creation of a city wide 'Carbon Partner' card incentive scheme to encourage residents to move to lower carbon living through Council and private sector support;
- £0.020m one-off allocation to fund a project to work alongside our city's bus services to innovate our communities bus services for the benefit of all users currently and in the future;
- £0.005m one-off allocation to establish a city-wide Community Drug summit to address the impact of drug sales, drug use and cuckooing on our communities;
- £0.060m one-off funding to establish a post-Covid Family Coaches project within the city Children's Centres to provide early intervention with families with babies and young children recovering from the impacts of Covid and other forms of disadvantage, to support future attainment;
- £0.028m one off funding to increase the recurrent £0.047m identified for monitoring carbon reduction in contracts to £0.061m for 2022/23 and 2023/24, in addition to the increase to £0.061m for 2021/22, in order to broaden the scope of the carbon reduction initiative to include maximisation of social value and community wealth-building through the procurement process;
- £0.075m funding to remove, for a period of 3 years, the £0.025m savings
  proposals in the Schools Standards and Achievements service as shown on
  page 85 of the agenda to support post Covid recovery and attainment in
  schools; and
- Provision of £0.017m for 3 years (a total of £0.051m) for the Safer Communities budget.

Proposed by: Cllr Mac Cafferty Seconded by: Cllr Gibson

Cllr Platts Cllr Yates
Cllr Bell Cllr Miller

# **Chief Finance Officer Comments:**

The proposed amendment redirects one-off funding of £1.250m, identified in the substantive budget proposals, to alternative uses. It returns £0.321m one-off resources to the Carbon Reduction Reserve, Environmental Education Strategy and Community Wealth Building, and proposes alternative allocation of the remaining one-off resources (£0.929m). Ultimately, it redirects sums of an equivalent value (£1.250m) and therefore is not introducing any new or additional funding requirements.

The proposal redirects 3 years' funding of £0.372m to the Arts Sector Recovery budget which enables the recurrent funding in the substantive budget proposals of £0.124m to be released and redirected to recurrent schemes as set out in the amendment.

Similarly, the recurrent £0.050m Domestic Violence funding is redirected for a specified Domestic Abuse purpose which does not utilise additional resources. However, the amendment also utilises £0.045m one-off funding from the £1.250m identified above to augment funding for this service to £0.095m for 2021/22 only.

The investment in enforcement cameras will require fines of £0.011m per annum to be levied in order to be self-financing which is considered to be achievable. The second part of the amendment redirects one-off resources already identified in the substantive budget proposals.

The proposed one-off allocation of £0.055m to bring forward stalled sites will require bringing forward the equivalent of 30 Band D properties each year to be self-sustaining in future years.