

POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE
20 FEBRUARY 2020

LEGIONELLA COMPLIANCE WORKS

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To seek Policy & Finance Committee's approval for additional budget to undertake capital works to the Council's estate in response to Health and Safety Executive changes regarding legionella compliance.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1 Following changes to the HSE Approved Code of Practice (ACoP) L8 & HSG274 Legionnaires' disease: Technical Guidance there is now a requirement for the Council to undertake Legionella Risk Assessments in significantly more detail and to a greater risk mitigation level than was previously the case. The Council's Asset Management Team have completed an audit of all Council owned sites, and have identified a range of additional compliance works required across its asset portfolio. Some works (such as the Active 4 Today sites) have already been completed and others must be done as soon as practically possible. This paper seeks permission for the capital costs of works to be funded this financial year.

3.0 Proposals

- 3.1 Works have been identified to a total of 17 sites (including the 3 Active 4 Today sites already completed) where additional capital measures are required to ensure the Council complies with relevant HSE guidance. Works range from large-scale matters such as replacing boilers, to changing plumbing systems (and even taps), to water systems upgrading. Due to this, there will additionally be some ongoing revenue implications to maintain measures implemented to an appropriate standard.
- 3.2 As Members will be fully aware the Council is responsible for the health and safety of their buildings and need to take the right precautions to reduce the risks of exposure to legionella. To this end all works proposed will be completed within 6 months of award of contract. High priority works will be prioritised and will be completed within a 2-3 month window with medium and low priority works thereafter. During this period, weekly and monthly checks will continually be carried out and where any remedial works are necessary, these will be completed without delay.

4.0 Equalities Implications

- 4.1 There are no equalities implications.

5.0 Financial Implications (FIN19-20/126)

- 5.1 The budget required in the capital programme would need to be financed by borrowing. This would cost £2,701 in Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP), which would be the annual charge to the general fund revenue account over 50 years.

5.2 An additional £19,000 is required for ongoing maintenance works to ensure that the Council remains compliant with the HSE Approved Code of Practice as detailed at paragraph 2.1. This will need to be added to the base budget for 2020/21 onwards.

6.0 Community Plan – Alignment to Objectives

6.1 The works identified are necessary to ensure that the Council remains compliant with the HSE Approved Code of Practice, this will therefore meet a number of the priorities defined in the Council's Community Plan.

7.0 RECOMMENDATION(S):

That Members:

(a) Approve an increase to the Council's Capital Programme for 2019/2020 by £135,060 in order to allow compliance works to be implemented without delay;

(b) Increase the General Fund Revenue Budget for 2020/21 by £19,000 and include this within the base budget for years thereafter.

Reason for Recommendation(s)

Background Papers

The details of any background papers you have used in writing the report (note these would then become public documents available for inspection) or if none used write "Nil".

For further information please contact Steven Syddall on Ext 5385.

Sanjiv Kohli
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