

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

FROM: Head of Finance

REPORT NUMBER **G40**

TO: Strategy Committee

DATE OF MEETING: 28 June 2007

ALLOCATION OF 2006/07 FUNDS TO CORPORATE PRIORITIES

1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To consider and approve the allocation of funds, which are available as a result of lower net expenditure compared to budget in 2006/07, to a number of projects/areas that will help to deliver the council's corporate priorities.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That approval is given to the allocation of funds to the areas and projects outlined in the report and detailed in the Appendix.

The Committee is able to resolve the matter.

3. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 Net expenditure in 2006/07, after budget carry forward proposals, was £375,000 less than the approved budget. If the Committee approves the allocation of funds outlined in the report, reserves will still be £67,000 higher than previously anticipated.

4. **RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 4.1 This report links mainly to Significant Business Risk No 7 – Financial, Performance and Risk Management. Risks associated with the proposals are outlined below.

Risk Description	Likelihood	Seriousness or Impact	Mitigation Measures
Delivery of key projects and priority targets. Successful outcomes on the individual areas and projects will be more difficult if funds are not allocated	Low	Critical	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monitoring of progress on each area/project as appropriate• Regular reports to Members

5. **KEY INFORMATION**

5.1 There was a £375,000 underspend in 2006/07 on the General Fund compared to budget (after allowing for specific budget carry forward proposals). This is a similar position as in previous years and, and this amount would be added to reserves unless a specific decision is made to allocate some or all of it to meet the council's current Corporate Plan priorities.

5.2 A review of current and future spending needs in relation to a number of projects and areas has resulted in the following being identified. Further details for each proposal are contained in Appendix A.

Project/Area	Amount £000	Brief details
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chilton Woods 	100	Temporary staff for 18 months and consultancy studies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Building Control Partnership Manager 	18	Initial cost, with the aim that this is recouped by higher income achieved by the partnership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CRed (Suffolk Climate Change Carbon Reduction Partnership) 	10	To lever access to external resourcing and intelligence of climate change in Babergh - events/free materials for residents
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Affordable Housing Officer 	35	Temporary post for 12 months to deliver affordable homes target (note: +£5,000 on amount referred to in report to Council)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hadleigh Pool 	50	Fund for any essential repairs that might arise between now and any new pool being built
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Building remodelling 	70	Provision of joint facilities with SCC in Hadleigh, Sudbury and elsewhere for improved customer access and traffic management.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Election costs 2011 	25	SFP Member Group agreed money should be set aside for this.
Total	308	

5.3 Expenditure on most of the items will largely arise in the current and next financial year and will be incorporated in the Budget as appropriate based on the envisaged timing. Money for the Hadleigh Pool and election costs will be put into an earmarked reserve/provision.

6. **APPENDICES**

A – Details of projects/areas for allocation of funds.

7. **BACKGROUND PAPERS REFERRED TO:**

Corporate Plan priorities.

CONTACT: Barry Hunter, Head of Finance **DIRECT LINE:** 01473 825819