

## MUNICIPAL YEAR 2009/2010 REPORT NO. 84

**MEETING TITLE AND DATE:**  
Council 23<sup>rd</sup> September  
2009

**REPORT OF:**  
Director of Environment &  
Street Scene

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**Agenda – Part:1**

**Item: 10**

**Subject:** Environment and Street Scene  
Additional Capital and Revenue Allocations

**Wards: All**

**Cabinet Member consulted:** Councillor  
**Terrence Neville**

### 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report proposes the release of additional capital and one off revenue funding to allow improvements to services identified by residents and officers as priority areas.

### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Council release the capital and one off revenue funding to the sum of £1.5million to undertake improvements to services as detailed in paragraph 3.7 of this report.
- 2.2 That delegated authority is given to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Street Scene to agree specific highways and borough gateway schemes up to the value of £800k.

### **3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Environment and Street Scene Department (ESS) are responsible for the provision of many key public realm related services provided by the Council.
- 3.2 The Council undertakes regular resident surveys to assess the performance of the Council in relation to its services and uses this information to manage performance, improve customer service and target resources.
- 3.3 Recent survey results have shown that residents would support further investment in the following services:-
- The borough's road network
  - Management of litter and fly-tipping
  - Greening of the highway network
- 3.4 In addition to these areas officers have identified a number of other improvements and budget pressures including further gateway and highway improvements. Specific schemes will be finalised and agreed with the Cabinet Member.
- 3.5 Two further areas of work have also been identified by officers as requiring further investment; the first relates to the repair to a bridge structure, which was recently struck by an unidentified vehicle; The second is the need to complete a comprehensive survey of the council's tree stock. Over the past year, detailed information on our highway trees has been updated to ensure our management plans are effective. However, there is now a need to ensure all our remaining trees are surveyed and management plans are up to date.
- 3.6 Members are asked to approve the release of an additional £1.5million of capital and one off revenue resources to enable ESS to target specific projects to deliver improved services in the areas identified by residents as their priorities and other key projects identified by officers.
- 3.7 It is proposed that the additional funding identified above should be targeted in the following areas:
- Alley gating projects £170k
  - Installation of additional litter and recycling bins £180k
  - Additional highway tree planting £150k
  - Additional gateway and highway improvements £800k
  - Bridge structure repairs £100k
  - Surveying of non highway council owned trees £100k

#### **4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

The alternative option considered was to continue with the current level of expenditure, which would then not allow the Department to deliver the service improvements, outlined in paragraph 3 of this report.

#### **5. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

To enable ESS to deliver a higher level of service in areas that residents have identified as a high priority, continue to improve our public realm and to ensure effective management plans are in place for borough trees.

#### **6. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND CORPORATE RESOURCES AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS**

##### **6.1 Financial Implications**

Since the amount of additional capital expenditure proposed exceeds £500,000, the decision to add this to the Capital Programme will need to be made by Council. There are sufficient resources within the General Fund Capital Reserve to fund the proposed expenditure.

With the exception of the tree survey work, which is one off revenue, the additional funding requested is capital. Should the tree survey program identify further revenue requirements, these matters will be included within next year's MTFS process.

Any individual highways schemes will be subject to the usual prioritisation, evaluation, delegated authority reporting and procurement processes.

##### **6.2 Risk Management Implications**

There are no specific risk management implications other than the ability of services to deliver the agreed additional programme of work.

##### **6.3 Legal Implications**

Under the Local Government Act, every local authority has powers to do anything which they consider is likely to promote the economic, social or environmental well being of their area. The recommendations within this report are a correct use of these powers.

##### **6.4 Property Implications**

None

**7. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

The additional resources will enable ESS to provide additional services that residents, through resident surveys, have identified as priorities to improving resident perceptions of their local area.

**8. COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no specific community implications

**9. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

Corporate advice has been sought in regard to equalities and an agreement has been reached that, on this occasion, an equalities impact assessment is not necessary.

**10. PUTTING ENFIELD FIRST**

The additional resources will enable ESS to deliver priorities identified within the Putting Enfield First of a Cleaner, Greener, Sustainable Enfield,

**Background Papers**