

MTRP Proposal - 18/19 and Beyond - Business Case

Service Area	Regeneration, Investment & Housing
Unique Reference Number	RIH181905
Proposal Title	Housing and Maintenance Efficiencies
Version	20/12/2017
Proposal Summary Description	Housing and Assets – Efficient and improved ways of budget monitoring and processing to rates, response and carbon budget reductions. Carbon, rates and vacant properties response budget reductions.
Impact on Performance	Carbon consumption throughout the estate could increase.
Impact on FTE Count	None
Impact on other Service Areas	None
Impact on Citizens	None
Delegated Decision (Head of Service/Cabinet Member/ Cabinet)	Head of Service
Activity Code	RIH7 Civic Centre Facilities Management

Net Savings (£000's)	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
	203			

Implementation Costs (- £000's)	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Revenue – Redundancy/Pension				
Revenue – External consultants				
Revenue - Other				
Capital – Building related				
Capital - Other				
Implementation Cost - Total				

Current Position

The management of non-domestic (building) rates and water rates have been managed centrally within the Housing and Assets service area, until the financial year of 2018/19, where it will be managed by individual service areas.

The management of vacant properties has until recently been managed between service areas and the Housing and Assets service area. A protocol has been developed, communicated and implemented for the Management of Vacant Properties across the Newport City Council estate.

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Carbon management in previous years has been through an annual submission of the Carbon Reduction Commitment managed by Natural Resources Wales and due to the length of the scheme, credits have been permitted to be carried forward for use in subsequent years. The financial year 2018/19 is the final year of the CRC scheme and there are some carried forward credits which enable a budget saving to be made.

Key Objectives and Scope

To develop a modernised way of working, including improved monitoring of carbon consumption, vacant properties estate and service area management, including budget management as well as greater adherence to a revised scheme, policy and protocol.

Options considered

The disaggregation of rates budget management has resulted in an improved budget position as detailed in next section of this document.

Carbon budget management changes are legislative and governed by Natural Resources Wales, therefore no consideration for payment or options.

Recommended Proposal/Option

A total saving across Housing and Assets service area through efficient and improved ways of budget monitoring and processing to rates, response and carbon budget reductions of £203,000 within the financial year of 2018/19. This figure comprises the following budget areas;

- Reduction to the carbon management budget of £70,000
- Reduce the vacant properties response budget by £20,000
- De-centralised non-domestic rates budget to be reduced by £48,000
- Water rates have been de-centralised and budget reduced by £65,000

Required Investment

None.

High Level Milestones and Timescales

April 2018.

Key Risks/Issues

Risk Description	Risk Score (as per matrix below)	Mitigation Measures
Reduced budgets could be overspent against.	6	Monthly monitoring to be undertaken and approvals sought from Service Manager and Head of Service against the budget managers.
Vacant properties held by	12	Corporate Asset

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Housing & Assets service area could require additional in-year budget.		Management Plan (CAMP) is being revised for 2018/19 including disposals schedule and timeframe.
Carbon consumption throughout the estate could significantly increase the payment to be made to Natural Resources Wales.	8	Software has been introduced and a further enhancement is planned to enable an improved interface between carbon consumption and finance monitoring. Energy & Sustainability Manager to monitor position throughout the year.
Specific linkage with Future generation act requirements		
<p>These proposals include an integrated and modernised way of working through changes to process and budget monitoring which enable changes to the budgets.</p> <p>The longer term strategies and constraints of legislation have been accounted for within the forecasted financial pressures and have allowed reductions to be made to the carbon management budget line.</p> <p>Developing, implementing and managing these changes are due to the close internal working relationship between service areas.</p> <p>Key stakeholders, such as Newport Norse and other service areas are key to the success of these proposals and their engagement has been undertaken early in their development and will continue through their development.</p>		
Fairness and Equality Impact Assessment		
None.		