

HEAD OF SERVICE BUDGET DECISION

Service area: Law & Regulation	Activity code: LAW1 Communication & Marketing	Ref No: LR181901
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Saving title: Reduction in tourism budget

Saving description:

Tourism is an entirely discretionary service under Section 144 of the Local Government Act 1972. The council has the power to encourage visitors and promote services, but has no duty or obligation to do so. The budget for tourism has been reduced in previous years from £63k to £45k, including the closure of tourist information centres.

It is proposed to reduce the tourism budget by a further £10k in 18/19.

This part of the tourism budget is predominantly used to attract grant funding from Welsh Government and other external agencies for tourism, events and projects. In future, any shortfall in match-funding would have to be provided 'in kind' though officer support.

	<i>2018/19</i>	<i>2019/20</i>	<i>2020/21</i>	<i>2021/22</i>
Net Savings (£000's)	10			
FTE's impact				

Implementation Costs (- £000's)	<i>2018/19</i>	<i>2019/20</i>	<i>2020/21</i>	<i>2021/22</i>
Revenue (state type):				
Capital (state what):				

Any impact on (i) service ?	Yes
(ii) performance ?	Yes
(iii) risk ?	No

If yes, please state impact on each applicable area:

The reduction in spending on tourism could have an adverse impact on the promotion of Newport as a tourist destination and could reduce the number of visitors.

The tourism budget is also used to attract grant funding from Welsh Government and other external agencies for tourism and other events. The loss of this match-funding budget could have an impact on the council's ability to secure external grant funding.

However, these impacts can be mitigated at little or no risk. There should be sufficient provision within the remaining budget to provide match-funding for key collaborative projects and any shortfall could be met from 'in-kind' contributions and officer time. There is no proposal to reduce the current staffing resources.

Does this require an 'equalities impact assessment?'	No
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Any impact on Future Generations Act?. (If yes, explain impact)
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Integration (YES/NO)	No
Long Term (YES / NO)	No
Prevention (YES / NO)	No
Collaboration (YES / NO)	Yes - The reduction in match-funding budgets will have an impact on potential collaborative projects, unless this can be provided 'in kind' through officer time and resources.
Involvement (YES / NO)	Yes - The reduction in the budget will require a re-focusing on greater community engagement and empowerment to encourage local voluntary and community groups to act as ambassadors and provide tourism information and guidance to the public.