



## REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 17TH JULY 2012

**SUBJECT: REVENUE GRANTS 2012/2013**

**REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To provide information to Members relating to the revenue grants for 2012/13 made available to Environment Directorate service areas.

### **2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The report covers grant funding notified to the Authority in the Rate Support Grant (RSG) Settlement for 2012/13, along with grant funding relating to revenue expenditure where the funding is made available by other organizations. During the financial year further grants are often made available, these could be bid based.
- 2.2 The report provides a brief description of the intended purpose of the grant funding. More detailed information on individual grants can be made available to Members, if requested.

### **3. LINKS TO STRATEGY**

- 3.1 The Council has a number of corporate strategies and this report deals with the use of resources in the achievement of those strategies.

### **4. THE REPORT**

- 4.1 The attached Appendix provides summary details of revenue grants currently available to the Directorate in 2012-13. It includes a list of the grants, the grant funding bodies, the value of the grant, a brief description of the purpose of the funding, together with details of the responsible officer. As highlighted in the appendix, there is a diverse range of grants available to the Authority.
- 4.2 Grants will have an agreed set of terms and conditions, covering the type of initiatives and expenditure that will be funded, the methods for submitting grant claims and documentary evidence required in support of the claims. The grant funding body will request information to satisfy itself that the grant monies have been spent in accordance with its terms and conditions. Expenditure in respect of grants is usually subject to an external audit.
- 4.3 External audit would assess expenditure against the terms and conditions of the grant and this assessment would normally comprise a random sample of spend, followed by an in-depth scrutiny of the sampled items. This could involve ensuring proper procurement processes

have been adhered to, and/or assets purchased have been located, along with the confirmation that spend complies with the conditions of the grant. The External Auditors produce a report annually summarising any issues that have come to light during their audit of the Authority's grants.

## **5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no equalities issues.

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 Grant funding for service initiatives and schemes can change from year to year and uncertainty of funding needs to be considered and managed, including implications for future service provision, employment implications and alternative funding streams.

6.2 Expenditure must comply with the grant terms and conditions, and/or bids. Failure to comply may result in a qualification of the grant by the External Auditors, which could result in the clawback of the grant funding.

## **7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 Grant funded services provide employment opportunities within the Authority and loss of or reduced grant provision can sometimes impact on employment.

## **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 Members are requested to note the contents of the report.

## **9. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 To inform Members of the 2012/2013 revenue grant funding position for Environment Directorate services.

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Consultees: Councillor D.T Davies, Chair Regeneration & Environment Scrutiny Committee  
Councillor Mrs E.M Aldworth, Vice Chair Regeneration & Environment Scrutiny Committee

Councillor K. James, Cabinet Member Regeneration, Planning & Sustainable Development

Councillor D. Poole, Cabinet Member Community & Leisure Services

Councillor T. Williams, Cabinet Member Highways, Transportation & Engineering

Anthony O'Sullivan, Chief Executive

Pat Mears, Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration

Robert Hartshorn, Head of Public Protection

Terry Shaw, Head of Engineering Services

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Rose Shears, Finance Officer

Dave Roberts, Principal Group Accountant

Paula Beaman, Senior Accountancy Assistant  
Jane Southcombe, Senior Group Accountant

Background Papers:  
Grant Allocation Reports 2012/13

Appendices:  
Appendix 1 Grant List