

## REPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE



<b>DATE</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup> June 2008</b>
<b>PORTFOLIO</b>	<b>Leisure</b>
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## Capital Spending Approval – Towneley Park Restoration Project

### PURPOSE

1. To seek approval to spend capital funds allocated in the Councils Capital Programme 2008/09, which has previously been approved by the Executive and to seek approval for additional slippage.

### RECOMMENDATION

2. The Executive is recommended to:
  - a. Recommend to Full Council approval of additional slippage of £246,383 from the 2007/08 programme.
  - b. Note the explanation that is given for the additional slippage.
  - c. Approve an additional capital budget of £47,138, which will be funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.
  - d. Authorise Officers to spend £704,772 from the capital programme in 2008/09.

### REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

3. Approval of the Executive is required for any capital spend exceeding £50,000.

### SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS

4. This is the fourth of the five-year of the restoration project. Much of the major construction work is now complete, including:
  - restoration of the pond and ha-ha wall,
  - riverside car park & new toilets
  - the Hall car park
  - extension of the stables café
  - improvement of Barwise carpark
  - restoration of the main avenue
  - improvements to the riverside play area
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5. Appendix 1: Identifies project expenditure in the 2008/09 programme to the value of £704,772 including slippage items from the 2007/08 programme. The value of the new schemes to be implemented in 2008/09 is £280,801 and there is slippage of £376,833 from 07/08. This includes £130,450 of slippage previously approved and £246,383 of slippage on schemes that were expected to complete before the end of the financial year but which were delayed.
6. It should be noted that of this slippage, schemes to the value of £334,033 are now either completed, being implemented on site, or are currently being tendered and will commence shortly.
7. The remaining slippage of £42,800 has occurred because:
  - horticultural improvements have been designed but implementation has been delayed until this autumn
  - Restoration of Deer Park Bridge, where final design approval by the Heritage Lottery Fund for the improvements to the bridge parapets has not yet been obtained.
8. The 2008/09 capital programme needs to be increased by £47,138 for schemes that have been brought forward in the 5 year programme. These schemes will be funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.
9. Appendix 1 also identifies how the programme funding is split between Heritage Lottery Grant, the Council's Capital programme contribution and third party funding and also includes the revenue costs of staff posts.

### **Recovery of additional capital expenditure on riverside car park and toilets**

10. On 8<sup>th</sup> March 2007 Finance and Performance Group approved a report requesting an additional allocation of £83,000 to finance the additional costs that were incurred during construction of the riverside car park and the new toilet & café facility. The report identified that the budget for the remaining years of the project will be reviewed with the HLF to identify any savings that could be made to offset the additional expenditure. To date savings of £42,000 have been agreed with the Heritage Lottery Fund, resulting from the transfer of liabilities for the river wall from Burnley Council to LCC. Further potential savings in the costs of restoration of Fold's Cross have been identified with the HLF and will be confirmed once the detailed design for this element of the scheme has been approved.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGET PROVISION**

10. The capital programme budget for 2007/08 identifies funding of £280,801 of which the contribution from the Council's capital receipts is £108,929. The Heritage Lottery Fund is contributing £171,872.
11. In addition there is approved slippage of £130,450 and further slippage of £246,383 requested from the 2007/08 capital budget allocation of which £53,373 is slippage from the Council's capital receipts allocation and the remainder is HLF grant (£169,160) and

third party contributions (£23,850)).

12. An additional capital budget of £47,138 is required to fund schemes that have been brought forward in the 5 year programme which will be wholly funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.
13. There is no net increase in the maintenance costs of Towneley as a result of the restoration project. The revenue implications of the HLF project were previously reported to the Executive and approved in March 2005 (minute 157).

#### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

14. **People, Places and Prosperity**

Towneley is the most popular public park in Burnley and offers a wide range of recreational and cultural activities, attracting an estimated 490,000 visits per year. Towneley therefore makes a significant contribution to the health and well being of local people and helps to create a very positive image of Burnley to outside visitors and contributes to the Town's economic prosperity.

#### **DETAILS OF CONSULTATION**

15. None

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

16. Capital Programme 2008/089 reported to Full Council in February 2008. Project files held at Towneley Hall.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

**PLEASE CONTACT:**

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**ALSO:**

[Appx 1](#)