



Ref Number	Date Issued	Officer/Dept	Rec'd by Secretariat	Reported to the Executive
08/06	15/03/06	M Tichford	4/4/06	
Prior to processing this form it must be referenced by the Secretariat				

The Leader / Business Growth / Portfolio Holders

Date 22 March 2006

Dear Councillor

REQUEST FOR AGREEMENT TO URGENT ACTION UNDER EXECUTIVE PROCEDURE RULES

I enclose two copies of the standard urgent action form and should be grateful for your agreement to action required urgently in the circumstances set out below. Please contact me if you require further information.

Portfolio: Leader / Business Growth
Date of next Executive meeting: 4 April 2006
<p>Action proposed:</p> <p>To:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 extend the contracts of 2 consultants currently employed by Regeneration until 31 May 2006 2 fund an honorarium to the Technical Support Officer to 30th April 2006, backdated to 1st November 2005 3 extend contracts of 2 temporary staff, one to 30th April 2006, and the second to 31st May 2006. <p>Financial/Resource Implications:</p> <p>A maximum of £12,000, to be funded from the under spend in 2005/06 due to continuing vacancies. This under spend is expected to be in the region of £90,000 at financial year-end, and can therefore fully support the £12,000 requested.</p> <p>A further report will be presented to Executive on the utilisation of the realised under spend carried forward, after taking account of the above, once the draft outturn has been considered and approved by Executive, scheduled for the end of May 2006.</p>
<p>Background information:</p> <p>Two consultants are currently employed by Regeneration. The first is assisting Development Control in the handling of major applications – an area in which performance has dropped significantly in the last year mainly due to staff recruitment and retention issues. The second is assisting in developing the Whitehaven Regeneration Programme – in particular the implementation plan and delivery team. He is also leading on negotiation with Tesco to try and achieve an enhanced scheme over that currently consented. It is proposed to continue funding their work for a period of two months until consideration is</p>

given as to how the major element of the under spend is to be utilised at the end of May.

Two temporary staff are currently engaged in capturing geographical data for the MVM / M3 system for Development and Building Control. The work will not be completed by the end of March when their contracts come to an end. In addition there will be a corporate system need to adapt new data from OS giving greater positional accuracy over the next 6-8 weeks. It is proposed that the contracts for one post be extended to the end of April and the other to the end of May, funded from under spend.

The IEG Officer has been providing some project management support for the MVM project since the temporary arrangement with a consultant was terminated in November 2005. The Technical Support Officer in Development Control has supported him in this role. The IEG Officer has handed over the residual project management tasks to the Technical Support Officer in preparation for his leaving the Council at the end of March. It is proposed that an honorarium be paid to the Technical Support Officer, back dated to the 1 November in recognition of the additional responsibilities taken on. This will likely continue until May 2006 when the current phase of implementation of MVM is completed. Further consideration will then need to be given as to how project management is provided to guide the further development of MVM.

Reason(s) for urgency:

No funding other than the 2005/06 under spend is available to support the work described above and without this progress on key areas within the Regeneration portfolio will cease from 1 April.

Comments of Head of Business and Finance:

Funding in place from underspends from 2005/06

Signature: *S. C. Bannick*

Comments of Head of Legal and Democratic Services:

Agreed

Signature:

M. J. [Signature]

Comments of other officers consulted:

Signature(s):

Comments of Overview and Scrutiny Chairman:

Agree Budget under spend for this agreed

Signature:

Pete B. Bannell

Please indicate your views in the box below and return one copy to me as soon practicable.

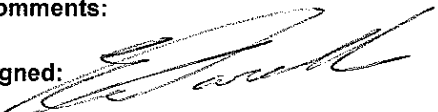
Yours sincerely

M. Kichford

(Business Unit Manager/Chief Executive/Director)

I agree*/disagree* with the action proposed

Comments:


Signed:  Date: 4th April '06

Cllr (insert name)

E WOODWARD

I agree*/disagree* with the action proposed

Comments:

Signed:  Date: 3/4/06

Cllr (insert name)

J HEWITSON

*Please delete as appropriate
