

Proposals for use of Underspends – Recommended for Approval

1 Directorate: Chief Executive

1.1 Core, Including members services

Proposal	Cost £000	2014/15 £000	2015/16 £000	Benefits of proposal (eg financial savings, contribution to Council's priorities)
Lean capacity building programme – balance into 15/16	35	0	35	This capacity building programme with its related carry forwards spans both 2014-15 and 2015-16. £40K is the value of the contract awarded, expiring March 2016, £35k of which is proposed to be carried forward into 2015-16. This is directly related to the council's business process transformation priorities.
Total Cost	35	0	35	

1.2 Economic Development

Proposal	Cost £000	2014/15 £000	2015/16 £000	Benefits of proposal (eg financial savings, contribution to Council's priorities)
Rent on the head lease for Journeycall premises. Position as follows :- 2015/16 – a deficit of £50,000	20	0	20	Journeycall is major inward investment in Angus. No budget heading has been identified however to support the costs of the head lease on the buildings. Ec Dev can offer a contribution of £20k to this in 2015/16 but this will mean a need for further corporate support for these costs.
Survey and report into Angus as a location and recommendations to be undertaken to inform future area, tourism and investment strategies	10	0	10	To ensure that we are marketing Angus in the most effective way possible and with a better and fuller understanding of visitors we need to review the survey undertaken many years ago into perceptions of Angus to be able to align activity to needs, and address critical and long standing issues of lack of awareness of Angus as a location to work and visit.
Updated accommodation audit and report to be undertaken	10	3	7	More up to date information is required on current accommodation needs particularly in terms of hotels in Angus. New developments at Dundee and estimated increases in bed spaces required locally, together with an increase in business use of Angus accommodation, coupled with the closure of hotels in the area require the accommodation audit undertaken in 2009 to be reviewed and refreshed to be suitable to target potential inward investors more effectively.
New photography undertaken	15	15	0	Current photography records are now outdated and a new library of images

and catalogued on an external hard drive				for wider council use is required. In addition the libraries are not catalogued nor stored effectively. Resource to do this would ensure much better use of this material.
Total Cost	55	18	37	

2 Directorate: People

2.1 Schools and Learning

Proposal	Cost £000	2014/15 £000	2015/16 £000	Benefits of proposal (eg financial savings, contribution to Council's priorities)
Funding provision to allow teacher retirement/refresh programme	60	0	60	This is to create a budget to support early retirement by teachers and other education staff. This is necessary to support the recommendations of service reviews for central staff and is likely to be required in the future for teaching staff as staffing formulas are adapted.
Implementation of on line school payments system.	£180k over 3 year period	0	180	The £80,000 cost in 2015/16 relates to the cost of implementation and the balance of £100,000 would cover annual recurring costs in the 2 years following implementation. These costs are a best estimate at this stage. Once the on-line payments system is in place there will be a reduction in staff time handling and counting cash which in time will create efficiencies and savings.
Total Cost	240	0	240	

2.2 Children and Young People Services

Proposal	Cost £000	2014/15 £000	2015/16 £000	Benefits of proposal (eg financial savings, contribution to Council's priorities)
Temporary staff to allow the People Directorate to continue to develop the early years workforce and support children and families	175	0	175	These are government grant monies which were allocated to deliver the introduction of 600 hours early learning and childcare. The continuation of these posts for a further 12 months will enable the Directorate to develop the early years workforce and continue to support the most vulnerable young people and families.
ASN – purchase of additional sensory impairment equipment for use within schools.	40	40	0	The aim is to improve outcomes for children with Additional Support Needs, children in need and children at risk. There is an opportunity to make this essential investment given the underspend available in the Council's budget.
Total Cost	215	40	175	

2.3 Adult Services

Proposal	Cost £000	2014/15 £000	2015/16 £000	Benefits of proposal (eg financial savings, contribution to Council's priorities)
Seaton Grove - approved capital works to upgrade Seaton Grove were shelved in 2013 due to budget pressures. Seaton Grove is Angus Council's largest care centre. It supports 48 resident service users plus numerous older people in the Arbroath community using day-care and respite services. The cost relates to improvement to the call system & front door security which are considered essential.	40	0	40	Improved safety for residents. Proposed to be funded from underspends in other areas within the People Directorate.
Community Alarm - Upgrade of Community Alarm system and transfer of Control Room from Fairlie House, Kirriemuir to Andrew Smyth Gardens, Forfar. This work will bring our system up to a standard of functionality and resilience to achieve our requirements for the next 10 years. At present we are experiencing failures and the control room facility is too small and in the wrong location.	30	30	0	Key priority due to changes in support for the existing system which could leave the council exposed to risk of system failure.
Total Cost	70	30	40	

3 Directorate: Communities (Submitted as a total)

Proposal	Cost £000	2014/15 £000	2015/16 £000	Benefits of proposal (eg financial savings, contribution to Council's priorities)
Broadband internet upgrade at industrial unit sites across Angus.	200	100	100	It is proposed to utilise part of the Communities underspend to fund upgrade works at our industrial unit sites thereby making these more marketable and able to generate new income.
Housing Stock survey – Non Council Housing	40	0	40	Contribute to Council priorities
Hope Paton war memorial	11	11	0	Enable urgent safety/upgrade works to be undertaken
Property maintenance. projects – emphasis on Bruce House	80	0	80	Contribute to Council priorities and maintenance of the Council estate. Supports moves to agile working.
Phase 2 WiFi roll out	10	0	10	Contributes to Council priority to introduce public access wifi in cultural / leisure facilities and ACCESS offices, whilst ensuring there is no clash with service redesign proposals.
PAMIS toilet	20	0	20	Provide PAMIS Changing Places compliant toilets (for those with profound and multiple learning disabilities) at suitable locations beginning with Arbroath visitor centre – the cost of the toilet is estimated at £30k however external fundraising efforts have realised £10k to fund the balance of cost.
Roads decriminalisation street parking review	35	0	35	Roads were given one off monies in 2014/15 of £75k re review of decriminalisation street parking, anticipated outturn in 2014/15 is £40k with balance required in 2015/16
Planning Gain officer 2 nd 6 months post	20	0	20	Contribute to Council priorities. Enable work on planning gain to be completed.
Funding to Undertake Citizen Survey	15	0	15	Contribute to Council priorities. No existing budget given this survey is undertaken only every 2 years.
Roll out of charrettes programme	110	0	110	Bringing together stakeholders at charrettes to support and develop Town Centre improvements and to enable the council to develop Town Centre strategies.
Retail assessment for Angus	20	0	20	To provide up to date assessment of retail capacity etc across Angus and to assist the application of development plan policy and consideration and determination of planning applications.
Royal Hotel Forfar urgent works	25	0	25	The current owner has done little to minimise the current deterioration of the building. This impacts on not only the building in its own right but that of the amenity of the surrounding businesses in the town centre and the perceived view to visitors. Given the continuing poor visual appearance of the frontage and the likelihood of ongoing issues with water ingress and damp given the building has been unoccupied for a period of time it may be appropriate to

				consider action under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997 regarding either an Urgent Works Notice and/or a Wasteland Amenity Notice. It should be noted that recovery of these costs would be sought from the current owner in due course and if recovery was successful the funds would be recycled to an alternative priority to progress Active Travel.
Conservation area reviews	30	0	30	Working collaboratively with Dundee University to ensure that the conservation area reviews are brought forward timeously and provide a solid grounding for which to undertake future reviews as required.
Stalled spaces matched funding	10	0	10	There are opportunities to further strengthen collaborative working between Planning and Community Planning and that of the general communities in Angus. This could be developed as a further project to take account of areas of development outwith town centres and also within the more rural areas. In this regard a successful bid has been made to the Stalled Spaces Scotland Programme and the Council now requires to put in place match funding as part of the success of the bid.
Total Costs	626	111	515	

4 Directorate: Resources

4.1 Corporate Improvement and Finance

Proposal	Cost £000	2014/15 £000	2015/16 £000	Benefits of proposal (eg financial savings, contribution to Council's priorities)
Create capacity in Corporate Procurement Team to take forward the TA Strategic Procurement Review by bringing in additional temporary resource.	95	15	80	<p>Demand for procurement support from services means there is minimal time for the Corporate Procurement Manager and Senior Procurement Officer to devote to the Strategic Review. Bringing in additional capacity to ensure continuity of provision of advice to services will free up their time for the Review. The capacity to be bought in could potentially come from EY or via an additional temporary employee. Costs are based on having this additional capacity for 2 years.</p> <p>The Strategic Review of the Council's Procurement arrangements (which includes a sub project on purchase to pay) is an agreed Transforming Angus project and EMT have already approved the draft business case and PID which set out the expected financial and non-financial benefits. The project has made very limited progress since being agreed in principle because there are no spare procurement team resources available to support it. Agreement of the proposed use of the underspend will solve this problem</p>

				and allow the review to commence and make good progress. It is anticipated that £60k would be used in 2015/16 with the balance of £20k being carried forward to 2016/17.
Establish a short term budget to enable development of the Council's Income Strategy including purchase of a Corporate Debt system and use of alternative mechanisms for collecting cash from customers.	75	5	70	Development and implementation of an Income Strategy for the Council is an agreed part of the Transforming Angus programme but no specific resource has been set aside to take this forward. Implementation of the strategy will require investment in new systems and technology. Funding for this project could be drawn from the Transforming Angus Fund but given the other potential demands on this Fund utilising some of the Corporate Improvement & Finance Division underspend is another option. It is anticipated that £50k would be used in 2015/16 with the balance of £20k being carried forward to 2016/17.
Total Cost	170	20	150	

4.2 Organisational Change

Proposal	Cost £000	2014/15 £000	2015/16 £000	Benefits of proposal (eg financial savings, contribution to Council's priorities)
Employee Attitude Survey	15	0	15	Cost of survey which is required in 2015 is not provided for in any other budget. Meets Council priority to engage with employees.
Accreditation for Health and Safety trainers to deliver training across the council	8	0	8	Will save cost of contracting out training requirement and retain in-house expertise.
Total Cost	23	0	23	

4.3 Legal and Democratic Services

Proposal	Cost £000	2014/15 £000	2015/16 £000	Benefits of proposal (eg financial savings, contribution to Council's priorities)
Print Services Project Manager	40	0	40	Request is being made to assist in funding the new Print Services Project Manager Post for the period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016 by which time the review of the Council's print and copy services is due to completed. Due to a delay in advertising the post the original due date to complete the review has had to be revised to March 2016. It is anticipated that the post will be filled early in 2015.
Total Cost	40	0	40	

5. Directorate: Other Services

Proposal	Cost £000	2014/15 £000	2015/16 £000	Benefits of proposal (eg financial savings, contribution to Council's priorities)
Records Management (Other Services)	149	0	149	The Council is currently developing its Information Governance Strategy and the carry forward if approved will be used to fund the work of the Information Governance Steering Group in implementing the Council's Information Governance Action Plan. It is unlikely that there will now be any significant spend in 2014/15 due to slippage in implementation.
Elections (Other Services)	30	0	30	<p>Community Council elections postponed from Autumn 2014 are due to be held in October 2015. The carry forward, if approved will be used to fund the cost of holding these elections.</p> <p>In addition, the carry forward if approved will be used to fund the ongoing replacement of damaged or obsolete election equipment used for all statutory elections in Angus. It should be noted that grant funding from the Scottish Government is no longer available to cover the full capital cost of these necessary purchases upfront – costs are now reimbursed via the election accounts submitted to the Scottish Government in the form of annual hire charges for the use of election equipment for a particular election and therefore the Council is required to fund any such purchases initially.</p> <p>The on-going replacement programme ensures equipment continues to be fit for purpose.</p>
Total Cost	179	0	179	

GRAND TOTAL

	Cost £000	2014/15 £000	2015/16 £000
Total Cost	1,653	219	1,434