

**TO: Executive Member for Culture, Corporate Services and Public Protection
27th October 2017**

**Supplementary Capital Approval: Libraries
Director of Environment, Culture and Communities**

1 Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To release s106 monies received by the Council for the provision of library services in order to support the introduction of new technology into the library service.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **That £21,878 as detailed in Annexe 1 be approved to support the provision of enhanced technology within the borough's libraries.**

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The library project to install self service and technology assisted opening is, based on estimates, predicted to overspend slightly and the use of s106 funds mitigates against this. It is also an opportunity to utilise S106B receipts which, in isolation, are difficult to spend as a capital sum given the generally small scale of receipt.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 There are no alternative projects for these funds.

5 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 5.1 Council has previously approved a total capital allocation of 689k, including £57k of s106 money, for the provision of self service and technology assisted opening in all of the borough's libraries and that project is progressing well.
- 5.2 Most of the libraries will have to have some building modifications to allow the public to access them when no member of staff is present (additional fire escapes for example) and while an initial estimate was made in the original project plan for such expenditure, the more detailed estimated costs of these modifications since project inception indicates that they *may* cause the project to be slightly overspent.
- 5.3 Annexe 1 is a list of all the s106 receipts for libraries excluding any relating to Harmanswater library. As can be seen, the majority are very small amounts and none could realistically support a capital project in isolation. Given the potential overspend, it is recommended that this money be released now to support the project. In the event that the predicted overspend does not materialise, the s106 monies would be used in the project as a priority resulting in a saving to the council. Importantly, it would also utilise s106 receipts which in isolation are difficult to spend on capital projects and if unspent would be in danger of being returned to the developer.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 Improving access to local libraries is considered to be an appropriate use of the s106 receipts

Borough Treasurer

- 6.2 The 2017/18 capital programme has a total of £125,000 s106 receipts to be used for Leisure and Culture schemes. There are sufficient unallocated funds remaining in the 2017/18 capital programme to accommodate this request.

Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.3 Not applicable

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.5 No strategic risk issues have been identified.

7 CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

- 7.1 Not applicable.

Method of Consultation

- 7.2 Not applicable.

Representations Received

- 7.3 Not applicable.

Background Papers

Transformation Review of Libraries

Contact for further information

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Unrestricted

Annex1

YN CODE	END DATE	Binfield	Bracknell	Warfield	Winkfield	Sandhurst	Grand Total
YN180	22/10/2008				158		158
YN348	19/03/2015		19				19
YN351	13/08/2015		61				61
YN390	31/10/2020	5,370					5,370
YN418	16/05/2018				230		230
YN455	25/03/2020				3,220		3,220
YN461	19/04/2020				226		226
YN464	05/01/2023		220				220
YN478	11/03/2021				230		230
YN479	17/03/2021			7290			7,290
YN498	28/07/2021	220					220
YN501	15/10/2021				220		220
YN513	24/11/2021				440		440
YN529	12/082022	2,310					2,310
YN533	28/09/2022				675		675
YN542	30/11/2022	450					450
YN543	24/12/2022	315					315
YN552	TBC					224	224
Grand Total		£8,665.00	£ 300.00	£7,290.00	£5,399.00	£ 224.00	£ 21,878.00