

To: **Executive Member for Culture, Corporate Services and Public Protection**
28th April 2020

RELEASE OF SECTION 106 FUNDING FOR REPLACEMENT OF ALL PUBLIC PCS IN LIBRARIES

Executive Director: Delivery

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval for the release of S106 funding (£55,000) allocated to the Library and Information Service to support the replacement of all public PCs and screens in all Libraries.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **That £55,000, 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 Developer contributions are collected through S106 agreements and must be spent on **providing or improving library facilities.**
- 3.2 The £55,000 required for this project will be spent in accordance with S106 obligations and is additionality to current service provision. This project cannot be funded corporately.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 The S106 fund dated 27/10/2014 is being secured through two payment instalments, the first of which was received on 10/07/2019. There is one additional project proposed for this fund which is detailed in another report. Not carrying out this ICT enhancement project could lead to funds being returned to the developer, if no other qualifying scheme is identified through which to deliver enhancements in the time available.
- 4.2 By not replacing the existing public PCs, customers will continue to experience problems with slow processing speed, and websites and applications that they are unable to access.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 There has been an increase in the number of customers within Libraries who are experiencing poor performance on the public network, with slow response time. They are also experiencing difficulties accessing applications, Government websites and PDF files. This is largely due to the age of the public PCs which are still operating on Windows 7, and which Microsoft ceased to support in January 2020.

- 5.2 Given that all Libraries' opening times are being extended by means of technology-enabled opening (Open+), customers are making use of both the public PCs and Wi-Fi without any staff present. It is, therefore, essential that they are able to use the public PCs without experiencing any difficulties, and without the need of staff intervention.
- 5.3 The proposal is to replace all public PCs (base units and screens) in all Libraries with sixty-six Dell Optiplex 7070 units. The solution not only provides users with an enhanced experience in terms of speed and accessibility of applications, but also enables space saving opportunities, as the central processing unit is located within the back of the monitor stand, providing the user with more space to work.
- 5.4 The monitors / central processing units will be secured by means of a cable locking device.
- 5.5 The benefit to the public is an enhanced user experience. For the Council, it is enabling the use of self-service and digital solutions, whilst future proofing and providing value for money.

6 CONSULTATION AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Legal Advice

- 6.1 The allocation of funding proposed in this report complies with the requirements of the s106 agreements.

The approval of the recommendation in the report falls within the decision making remit of officers in consultation with the Executive member pursuant to the Bracknell Forest Council Constitution November 2019 Part 2, section 6 paragraph 6.2 (a)(vi).

Financial Advice

- 6.2 The S106 funding identified in Annex 1 and highlighted yellow is available for this scheme and once approved will be added to the Departments capital monitoring for 2020-21 as part of the rolling S106 capital programme.

Other Consultation Responses

- 6.3 Not applicable, although users have the opportunity to submit feedback digitally, verbally and by completing comments' forms.

Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.4 Not applicable.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.5 S106 contributions will need to be refunded should they not be allocated in accordance with the respective legal agreement.

Background Papers

Contact for further information

Fiona Atkinson, Library Services Manager

01344 352153

fiona.atkinson@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

Annex 1 Section 106 Allocation Details

Libraries

App Ref	Site	Date of s106	Amount due	Comments (estimate)	Terms
14/00315/OUT	Amen Corner North	11/03/2015	£5,981.00	£6,704.00 received 25/07/19	Repay outstanding (with interest) if sum has not been applied within 10 years of receipt. To be spent on library facilities in the borough
			£5,981.00	Completion of 300th dwelling (2021/22)	
13/00575/OUT	Transport Research Laboratory TRL	30/01/2015	£24,759.00	Completion of 500th dwelling (2023/24)	Repay outstanding (with interest) if sum has not been applied within 10 years of receipt. To be spent on library facilities in the borough
13/01007/OUT	Berkeley's Harvest Ride	27/10/2014	£93,150.00	£116,527.00 received 10/07/19	Repay outstanding (with interest) if sum has not been applied within 10 years of receipt.
			£93,150.00	Commencement of phase 9	

					To be spent on library facilities in the borough
13/01068/REM (12/00476)	Winchester House	04/07/2014	£68,420.00	Occupation of 200 th dwelling (2020/21)	Repay outstanding (with interest) if sum has not been applied within 10 years of receipt. To be spent on library facilities within 3km of the site
Total			£291,441.00		