

<b>DECISION NO:</b>	<i>For Member Services use only</i>
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Concurrence No:	066434
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<b>Action under delegated authority of Chief Executive</b>	
<b>Action under delegated authority of Director of Finance and Cabinet Member for Finance</b>	X
<b>Action taken by Chief Executive in consultation with Cabinet Member(s)</b>	

Subject: Virement from Capital Contingency to fund essential electrical safety installations to 26 lamp columns as part of the Council's festive lighting programme.

Signature and designation of officer(s) taking action:

1/12/2020	1/12/2020
_____ Chief Executive Date	_____ Director of Finance Date
	26/10/2020
	_____ Head of Finance Date

**Name of Cabinet Member(s) Consulted:**

I have been consulted and concur with the proposals set out below:

1/12/2020	1/12/2020
_____ Councillor Mason Cabinet Member for Finance and Business Services	_____ Signature: Date:
_____ Councillor Cabinet Member for	_____ Signature: Date:

Name of any member who has declared a conflict of interest in relation to this decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS DOCUMENT WILL BE PUBLISHED ON THE COUNCIL'S WEBSITE**

The report overleaf sets out the decision to be taken, the reasons for the decision, and the details of alternative options, if any, considered and rejected.

Officer decisions are available for public inspection, both at the Borough Offices and on the Council's website. Officer decisions are kept for a period of six years at the Borough Offices and for six months on the website after the decision is made. Background papers are available for four years.

**RECOMMENDED that: a virement of £11,000 from the 2020/21 capital contingency budget to fund essential electrical safety installations to 26 lamp columns as part of the Council's festive lighting programme be approved.**

## **Purpose**

To request approval for a virement of £11,000 from the 2020/21 capital contingency budget to fund essential electrical installation works to 26 lamp columns as part of the Council's festive lighting programme.

## **The Project**

A routine electrical installation inspection by the new festive lighting contractor of all the 70 lamp columns planned to be fitted with a festive motif revealed a number of issues within 26 lamp columns. Devices designed to provide personal protection from a electric shock, are missing or do not meet the requirements of British Standard BS7671 (Requirements of Electrical Installations). Other installations which do not comply with this standard include sockets and timers.

If new components are not installed, then none of the 26 columns would receive sign-off in the county council's festive lighting licence application process. Consequently the Council would not be permitted to install the festive motifs on these columns.

## **Financial, Legal and Risk Management Implications**

The new installations works will cost circa £11,000 including contingencies. The works will be carried out by SparkX Ltd, the appointed festive lighting contractor. There is no budget available to fund this and therefore a virement from the 2020/21 capital contingency budget is requested.

Given that the vast majority of the faulty columns are in Hoddesdon Town Centre, the quality of the festive lighting programme in the area would be considerably diminished, and the Council's reputation damaged if all the motifs are not put up. The provision of the motifs is part of the festive lighting contract.

## **Alternative Options Considered and Rejected**

Given the health and safety implications of the faulty installations, irrespective of whether or not the motifs are put up, not to progress these works is not considered to be an alternative option.

## **Contribution to the Council's Objectives and Environmental Sustainability Priorities**

The proposed works will contribute to the Council's objective of fostering development of town centres as vibrant locations by providing an attractive festive lighting display.

## **Conclusion**

Public safety and the development of town centres are priorities for the Council. The proposed works will support these priorities. Therefore, a virement from the 2020/21 capital contingency budget is requested to fund the works.

Action reported to the Cabinet on:

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