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Concurrence No: 066457

Action under delegated authority of Chief Executive	
Action under delegated authority of Director of Finance and Cabinet Member for Finance	X
Action taken by Chief Executive in consultation with Cabinet Member(s)	

Subject: Emergency Pool Pipework Repairs at Laura Trott Leisure Centre

Signature and designation of officer(s) taking action:

	10/03/2021		08/03/2021
Chief Executive	Date	Director of Finance	Date
			05/03/21
		Head of Finance	Date
Name of Cabinet Member Consulted:	(s)	I have been consulted and concur with the proposals set out below:	
Councillor P Mason			10/03/2021
Cabinet Member for Finance & E Services	Business	Signature:	Date:
Councillor			
Cabinet Member		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) a virement of £7,000 from the 2020/21 revenue contingency budget be approved; and
- **b)** an exception to the Council's contract standing orders due to the specialist and emergency nature of these works be approved

Purpose

To expedite the emergency repair of pool heating pipework at the Laura Trott Leisure Centre due to a leak that will need to be resolved before the centre can re-open.

The Project

A leak has been found on the heating pipework at Laura Trott Leisure Centre that feeds directly into the pool and needs to be urgently resolved.

The leak is from an eight inch diameter pipe that carries thirty degree heated water to the pool at between four and six bars of pressure. It is suspected that the fibreglass weld on the pipe has failed and is now allowing water to escape. Over time this will continue to deteriorate further due to the chlorinated water and high pressure.

In order to repair the pipework it will need to be completely replaced along with the valves and fittings as a temporary fix is not possible. As the pipework is also eight inches in diameter this is not standard stock and will need to be made to order.

A total failure would result in mass flooding of the plant room and significant damage to all plant equipment. The maintenance team are monitoring the leak and if the volume of water lost continues to increase or further leaks appear the heating to the pool will need to be shut down and the pumps stopped.

This presents another issue as the pool is designed to have a constant flow of water to enable the temperature to be maintained at thirty degrees. By shutting this off the water would start to cool and there is a further risk that this would cause the tiles in the pool to come loose as a tiled pool of this age is not designed to withstand major fluctuations in temperature.

An exception to the contract standing orders is requested due to the specialist and emergency nature of the work. Two contractors have been approached for estimated quotes, JC Leisure and Wrightfield Pools. They are both experienced with pool repairs and able to carry out the work. One quote has already been received from JC Leisure with a further quote from Wrightfield Pools expected by 12 March.

A final decision will be made based on best value and the speed the work can be completed as time is a major factor. The current government guidance shows leisure sites re-opening from 12 April and an order will need to be placed in advance to allow the ordering of parts. There is the risk that it may take several weeks for parts to arrive after an order is placed due to some pipe fittings being made to order.

Capital expenditure to complete this project is estimated at \pounds 7,000 which includes a 10% contingency of \pounds 600 and it is proposed to fund the works from the 2020/21 revenue contingency budget which currently has a balance of \pounds 141,820.

Works Programme

To carry out the emergency repair and replacement of heating pipework to allow the pool to be opened.

Financial, Legal and Risk Management Implications

A total failure would result in mass flooding of the plant room and significant damage to all plant equipment. The maintenance team are monitoring the leak and if the volume of water lost continues to increase or further leaks appear the heating to the pool will need to be shut down and the pumps stopped. There is the further risk that this would cause the tiles in the pool to come loose as a tiled pool of this age is not designed to withstand major fluctuations in temperature.

The works, costing £7,000, have not been forecast in the current 2020/21 financial year and funding is required from revenue contingency which currently has a budget of £141,820.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

The Council could chose not to carry out the repairs. However, this will create the risk that the pool cannot re-open which would result in a loss of income.

Contribution to the Council's Objectives

Maintain a stable financial position.

Help residents to lead a healthy lifestyle.

Contact Officer:	Adam Bradford	Ext: 5408	Date:	05/03/2021
Action reported	to the Cabinet on:			