

Report to the Council

Committee: Cabinet

Date: 16 February 2010

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Mrs D Collins (Leader's Portfolio)
Councillor M Cohen (Legal and Estates Portfolio)**Item:** 10

1. FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF KEY SITES WITHIN THE DISTRICT – SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE

Recommending:

That a DDF supplementary estimate for 2009/10 in the sum of £15,000 be approved in order to procure specialist external advice on the development potential of key sites within the district.

1. We have considered an outline strategy for the relocation of Council services away from the Langston Road Depot between now and 2012/14 and the implications for external tenants in order to solve short-term operational problems and to achieve the medium to long-term strategy objective of either selling the site or as an alternative to redeveloping the site to achieve new streams of revenue income.
2. In addition the Asset Management Co-ordination Group are looking at the development potential to increase income from a number of other Council owned key sites within the district.
3. There will be speculative costs involved in determining the development potential and likely return on investment for each site which will require specialist external advice for which budgetary provision does not exist. We will be receiving a further report setting out the anticipated costs involved in examining each of the sites in order to decide how to proceed and determine the level of budgetary provision required to enable this work to process.
4. In the meantime we have approved a reallocation of an existing DDF budget in the sum of £10,000 and in addition we are seeking a supplementary DDF estimate in the sum of £15,000 in 2009/10 to enable progress to be made on the immediate issues surrounding the Oakwood Hill/Langston Road sites and other sites where specialist advice is likely to be required during the current financial year.
5. Accordingly we recommend as set out at the commencement of this report.