

Realignment of Capital Budget for Mill Lane Car Park

Council	11 July 2024
By	Mike Humber Director of Environment
Cabinet Portfolio	Cllr K Bright, Parking
Key Decision	Budget
Decision classification	Unrestricted
Ward:	Margate Central

Purpose of the Report

To authorise an additional £100K capital budget in 2024/25 order to procure the replacement lift for Mill Lane Car Park in Margate.

Recommendation(s):

To approve a supplementary 2024/25 general fund capital budget of £100K for the lift replacement at Mill Lane Car Park in Margate, to be funded from the decriminalisation reserve.

1. Summary of Reasons

1.1 *The lift in Mill Lane Car Park has been out of order for a considerable amount of time, despite a number of temporary fixes the lift is now no longer operational and requires replacement.*

2. Background

2.1 *Mill Lane Car Park was built in the 1970's, significant changes were made to the site in 2011 to improve security including lighting.*

3. Relevant Issues

3.1 *The lift has been subject to significant periods of outage over the last few years, this has been caused by a number of issues including vandalism as well as general wear and tear.*

3.2 *The breakdowns have become more difficult to fix over time due to the age of the components and availability of parts. The fixes have become less stable which leads*

to more breakdowns. The lift is currently out of order as it is not safe to operate. The lift has reached the end of its useful life and requires replacing.

- 3.3 *The capital budget has allocated funds over 3 years for refurbishment of our two multi storey car parks, the **Mill Lane Car Park capital** budget for this financial year is £121K. Market research has suggested that the budget required for this lift replacement will be more than this therefore monies allocated for next year need to be brought forward a financial year. This will not impact the overall multi-year budget.*

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 *The project could be put back to next financial year, this is not the preferred option as the lift is currently out of order, the cost of materials is likely to increase and the project management team currently have the capacity to undertake the work.*
- 4.2 *The lift could be left out of order, this is not the preferred option as it restricts access to the car park.*

5. Consultation

- 5.1 *Not applicable.*

6. Corporate Implications

6.1 Finance and Resources

- 6.1.1 *This request brings forward a £100k budget from 2025/26 to 2024/25, and does not increase the total amount of the budget. The £100k budget is funded from the decriminalisation reserves, which are available in 2024/25. Funding held in this reserve is accumulated from car parking income surpluses and can only be spent on transport and environmental related initiatives.*

6.2 Legal and Constitutional

- 6.2.1 *Full Council is responsible for setting the budget framework. Any amendment to the agreed budget must also be approved by Full Council.*
- 6.2.2 *The Council is under a duty to secure best value. The procurement process is one of the ways that the Council can ensure that best value is achieved. Separate legal advice should be sought in relation to any procurement issues as well as the finalising of contract award.*

6.3 Council Policies and Priorities

- 6.3.1 *This report relates to the following corporate priorities: -*
- *To keep our district safe and clean*
 - *To create a thriving place*

6.4 Risk

6.4.1 *Whilst there are no risks with realigning the budget there are risks with failing to do so as this will put the project at risk of failure.*

6.5 Climate Change and Biodiversity

6.5.1 *The replacement of an ageing lift with a fit for purpose modern lift will have less of an impact on the environment than the existing lift. The procurement process will look at the least impactful option.*

7. Equality, Equity and Diversity Implications

7.1 *The meeting is to have due regard to their public sector equality duty, which is the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination and consider the potential impact decisions and actions on each of the protected characteristics, at the time the decision is taken.*

The realignment of the capital funding does not require an equalities impact assessment as there are no particular equalities implications arising from this decision.

8. Crime and Disorder Implications and Community impact

8.1 *The meeting is under a duty to consider crime and disorder implications. This is to exercise its functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent (a) crime and disorder in its area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment), (b) the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in its area, and (c) re-offending in its area.*

9.0 Subject History

9.1 *Not applicable*

Annexes

Not applicable

Background Papers

- *None*

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Report Sign Off / Signed off by / Date sent / Date signed off / Initials
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