

**Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council**

**Action Sheet**

**Joint Budget Scrutiny Committee – 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Action to be Taken</b>	<b>By Whom</b>	<b>Action Taken</b>
5	<p><b><u>Action Sheet – 28<sup>th</sup> September 2020</u></b></p> <p><b>Item 8 – Capital Budget Monitoring – 2020/21 Quarter 1</b></p> <p><b>Splash Pad Funding Allocation / Play Equipment</b> A Member requested a detailed breakdown of where the funds had been allocated, in particular the allocations of £110,000 and £107,000.</p>	Richard Crook	Please see attachment
6	<p><b><u>Revenue Budget Monitoring – 2020/21 Quarter 2</u></b></p> <p><b>Social Services – Adult Services</b> A Member sought clarification if additional costs had been built into the budget in relation to providing potential additional specialist services for adults with learning difficulties when services return to normal.</p> <p><b>Leisure Trust</b> A Member enquired regarding the Book Fund and asked for a breakdown of the costs spent.</p>	<p>Michelle Morris / Damien McCann</p> <p>Lynn Phillips</p>	<p>Response circulated to Members on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020. (also attached for information).</p> <p>Last year (2019/20) Leisure Trust spent £51,681 on the Library Book Fund and are looking at an increase of 5% this financial year. The Leisure Trust has invested on a pan Wales level in ‘Borrow Box’ to increase the availability of eBooks given the current pandemic. This includes a 6% spend on Welsh Language books, which will meet this target.</p> <p>The WPLS 2019/20 report has been submitted and the Council/Trust are expecting a draft response in December and final agreed response in January 2021.</p>

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	<p><b>Cross Cutting issues</b> A Member referred to the areas of expenditure which would see reductions and enquired if any savings had been made as a result of less printing costs.</p>	Rhian Hayden	<p>A comparison of costs incurred on printing indicate:-</p> <p>2019/20 – April to January - £57,412 2020/21 – April to January - £36,786</p> <p>A cost reduction of £20,626 for the period.</p>
7	<p><b><u>Capital Budget Monitoring – 2020/21 Quarter 2</u></b></p> <p>A Member referred to Appendix 1.1 and the costs relating to Ebbw Vale Town Centre and for a breakdown on where these funds had been spent.</p>	Rhian Hayden	<p><b>Ebbw Vale Town Centre:</b> Costs of £60,495 had been incurred as at Q2 against the TRI – Urban Centre Commercial Property Enhancement Fund. This focusses on addressing the lack of good commercial &amp; retail space in town centres, the spend consists of grant payments to two applicants who have completed works creating retail &amp; residential units.</p>