Information

PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Sheet Number:

2017-21/28

for County Councillors

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| From: | David Hall  Clare Aparicio Paul |

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| Date: | 28 November 2017 |

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| To: | All County Councillors |

**Key Decision: County Hall A Block Urgent Priority 1 works approval – update and workshop invite**

Members will be aware of the Cabinet Member Key Decision taken on 20th November which approved the instruction of design and replacement of the A Block boiler plant. This is urgently required as priority maintenance works as the boiler is near obsolete, inefficient and uncompliant with current health and safety regulations. It also feeds C Block, as well as the County Court building at Shire Hall (with no contingency measures in place to host employees in those buildings if the boiler fails).

SCC Property have led on this Key Decision and recommend instructing the boiler design and replacement now. This ensures that the Authority can take advantage of the Spring/Summer 2018 period to replace the A Block boiler plant into good working condition, whilst mitigating a number of significant operational, financial and reputational risks.

To support this Key Decision, there are ongoing plans to decant floors A1, A2, A3 and loft of teams and their storage to elsewhere in the County Hall campus.  Clearing these floors will enable the Authority to start making running cost savings in the short term.

Funding bids have been submitted as part of the 2017/2018 capital bidding process to bring A Block from its current poor condition into modern, flexible, fit for purpose accommodation.  This gives SCC the opportunities to make significant running cost savings from satellite offices and generate potential partner income.

To provide more detailed information, an information session will be provided on Tuesday 5 December at 1.30 pm in the Luttrell Room (following the Scrutiny Place Committee meeting, which is expected to finish around 11.30am and the subsequent Connecting Devon and Somerset Members workshop, which is expected to finish at 12.45pm). Introduced by Junior Cabinet Member Clare Aparicio Paul and led by Claire Lovett, this session will comprise a 10-15 minute presentation of the County Hall modernisation proposals, should capital funding be approved, followed by a Question and Answer session. The Q&A session will feed into a list of FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions) which will be issued to Members following the workshop. We look forward to meeting you there.