

Agenda item 6

For decision - Approving a new budget layout, disposal of assets and appointment of Internal Auditors

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New budget layout

After approval of the 2023-24 budget in January 2023, Council asked that from 1 April 2023 we amend the way we report to reflect the current Frome Town Council Plan programmes. The budget layout and account codes have been changed in line with the Council Plan but there has been no change to the overall budget figures. Some new cost centres have been added for accounting purposes under the Plan programme headings. For example, '301 Lotto – Green & Healthy Future' has a cost centre of its own so we are able to easily account for (and report to Lotto) their grant funding.

The cost centres reflecting the Council Plan programmes are now:

100 Reduce poverty

200 Protect community assets

201 Town Hall

300 Climate and Ecological Emergency

301 Lotto – Green & Healthy Future

400 Agree a unitary deal

500 Improve planning

600 Invigorate our town centre

700 Nurture our open spaces

800 Core communication services

900 Core business services

901 Precept

[You can see the new layout of the budget on the website here.](#)

Asset disposal to Council

Any assets valued over £500 need approval from Council to be disposed of. Please see the table below of assets recommended for disposal.

Asset ID	Description	Value	Date Purchased	Reason for disposal
GPL001	Goupil Electric Vehicle G3	£19,500	01/04/2012	This was the first electric vehicle purchased for the Rangers in 2012. It is out of its maintenance contract meaning repairs are

				<p>very expensive. It is currently in Victoria Park Ranger's yard broken down taking up space that is needed due to a fundamental battery failure plus issues with the steering, repair would cost more than the value of the vehicle.</p> <p>Please note that as a Town Council the value of assets are not depreciated so the vehicle would be valued less in normal circumstances due to depreciation.</p> <p>We are currently investigating how to recycle the vehicle.</p>
LAP029	HP Laptop	£590	01/04/2020	<p>This laptop wouldn't turn on and we are advised by ITEC (our IT support company) to dispose of as it is no longer under warranty. If approved the laptop will be donated to Donate IT.</p>
LAP031	HP Laptop	£590	01/04/2020	<p>This laptop wouldn't turn on and we are advised by ITEC (our IT support company) to dispose of as it is no longer under warranty. If approved the laptop will be donated to Donate IT.</p>

Internal auditors

At the Oversight Committee on 26 July 2023 it was agreed to delegate to the RFO in consultation with the Town Clerk, the review and appointment of Internal Auditors. After further investigation, we propose that we retain our current Internal Auditors (Fair Account) for 2023/24 and continue the process of selecting internal auditors for 2024/25 in January 2024. This means that we have more time to give our current internal auditors notice and to meet in person with possible new internal auditors before a decision is made.

Recommendation

1. Approve the new layout of the 2023-24 budget with no change to the overall budget figures.
2. Approve the disposal of Goupil Electric Vehicle G3 and two laptops.
3. Approve the appointment of Fair Account for Frome Town Council's Internal Auditors for 2023/24.