

## COUNCIL - 3 MARCH 2011

### QUESTIONS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

**(1) Question submitted by Councillor Jones to the Cabinet Member - Corporate Services**

"Could the Cabinet Member supply the Council with the cost of Members' IT equipment per annum, broken down in the following categories:

- (a) computers
- (b) other IT equipment
- (c) mobile phone cost/usage

Also the cost per head in percentage of each political group."

**Response of the Cabinet Member - Corporate Services (Councillor Parry).**

**Revenue Costs**

**Council Facilitated Broadband Total Spend - £4,062**

<b>Per Group</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>% of total expenditure</b>
Liberal Democrats	£2,640	65%
Conservatives	£720	18%
Labour	£702	17%

**Privately arranged Broadband Total Reimbursement - £6,168**

<b>Per Group</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>% of total expenditure</b>
Liberal Democrats	£2,584	42%
Labour	£2,481	40%
Conservatives	£1,103	18%

### Mobile Phone Line Rental Total Spend - £672

(All calls are charged to the individual Members via monthly allowances)

Per Group	£	% of total expenditure
Liberal Democrats	£459	68%
Labour	£213	32%
Conservatives	£0	nil

### Security

The Wrapator software to control Councillor access to Council systems cost £1,452. The provision of secure data sticks (USB Pen Drives) was £32 per Councillor.

### Capital Costs

#### Equipment 2007/08 to 2010/11 Total Spend - £49,327

	PC	Laptops	Printers	PDA/Phones	Misc	% of spend
LD	£1,921	£13,628	£2,774	£1,220	£931	42%
L	£3,190	£9,605	£2,115	£620	£363	32%
C	£3,230	£7,702	£1,393	£0	£635	26%

Average cost of all equipment per head is £747 or £186.75 per annum for each of the last four years.

There has been no purchase of new equipment in 2010/11 as capital funds are currently frozen.

### Members' ICT Scheme from May 2011

A new scheme regarding the provision of ICT Equipment to Councillors was approved on 2 March 2011 by Cabinet Member Corporate Services. The new scheme allows:

- The £360 p.a. allowance towards a broadband connection has been reduced to £250
- Access to paper and toners will now be via the political secretaries
- £50 contribution is required if there is personal use
- A choice of a PC or Laptop plus a printer. (This will only be available at such time as there are capital funds available for a refresh of equipment).

## **Members' New Email System**

The new simpler email system for Councillors cost £1,000 in Microsoft licence fees.

### **(2) Question submitted by Councillor P. Dowd to the Cabinet Member - Children's Services**

"Does the Cabinet Member agree that the new build of Netherton Activity Centre, incorporating Jake's Sensory World providing services for children with disabilities, is 'mad spending'?"

### **Response of the Cabinet Member - Children's Services (Councillor Moncur)**

"No"