

AGENDA
ITEM

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SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL

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NAME OF COMMITTEE	Salcombe Harbour Board
DATE	3 February 2014
REPORT TITLE	VICTORIA QUAY PONTOONS
REPORT OF	Salcombe Harbour Master
WARDS AFFECTED	All South Hams

Summary of report:

To recommend the replacement of the Victoria Quay Pontoons.

Financial implications:

The replacement cost of the Pontoons will be under £50,000, which can be met from the Harbour General Reserve.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Harbour Board **RESOLVES** to recommend to Council to bring forward the replacement of the Victoria Quay Pontoons from the Financial Year (FY) 2015/16 to FY 2013/14 and finance the project from the Harbour General Reserve.

Officer contact:

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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Victoria Quay Pontoons are over 30 years old and in recent years have been deteriorating at an exponential rate. The concrete construction is fragile, the floats are losing their buoyancy, the connecting pieces are tired and present trip hazards and the joints are failing frequently.
- 1.2 The Victoria Quay Pontoons have been identified in the current Strategic Business Plan 2012-2017 for replacement in Financial Year 2015/16 and financial provision made for that year.

2. ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

- 2.1 The Victoria Quay Pontoons are removed each winter to protect them from the worst of the winter storms, before they are replaced each spring they are refurbished for the season ahead. The work currently required to bring the pontoons up to standard is major and will entail the replacement of all of the doubling boards, most of the rubber connectors, some of the floats and the concrete surface needs numerous repairs.
- 2.2 With the pontoons due for replacement in two years it is not good value for money to invest several thousands of pounds into new materials and at least 2 months manpower into refurbishing the current pontoons.
- 2.3 It is therefore proposed to bring forward the replacement of the Victoria Quay Pontoons to this financial year.
- 2.4 The RNLI are planning to refurbish the lifeboat berthing and access pontoons this winter. This will enable any modifications to be made to the RNLI Access Pontoon necessary to accommodate new Victoria Quay Pontoons whilst the Access Pontoon is undergoing refurbishment.
- 2.5 It is proposed that the replacement pontoons would be a like for like replacement.

3. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Statutory Powers: Local Government Act 1972, Section 151. The Pier and Harbour Order (Salcombe) Confirmation Act 1954 (Sections 22-36).
- 3.2 There are no other legal implications to this report.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The pontoons have been budgeted for replacement in 2015/16 with an estimated cost of £70,000. With the current improvement works at Kingsbridge there is insufficient funds to finance this project early from the Pontoon Reserve. However, the Harbour Authority Revenue Budget is currently forecasting a surplus of £60,000 for FY 2013/14. These funds will be transferred to the Harbour's General Reserve at the end of the FY and will more than cover the current estimated replacement cost of £50,000. Bringing forward the replacement of the Victoria Quay pontoons would make long term financial sense and prove a good use of the 2013/14 surplus to reduce long term maintenance costs.
- 4.2 Because of the short time line, the pontoons would need to be in place for 1 April 2014 when the seasonal licence for these berths start, an exemption from contract procedure rules will be required. This has been applied for.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 The risk management implications are:

Risk/Opportunity	Risk Status			Mitigating and Management Actions
	Impact/ Severity	Likelihood/ Probability	Risk Score	
Without major refurbishment the Victoria Quay pontoons are likely to fail during the 2014 season. This would be a major problem because the 60 boats accommodated on the pontoons could not be found alternative berths. The financial loss would be £17,000 and the loss of reputation disastrous.	3	3	9	Either extensive and expensive refurbishment of the current pontoons to keep them going until they are replaced as planned in 2015/16 or To bring forward the replacement of the pontoons.

6. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Corporate priorities engaged:	Community Life Economy Environment
Statutory powers:	The Pier and Harbour Order (Salcombe) Confirmation Act 1954 (Sections 22-36).

Considerations of equality and human rights:	None
Biodiversity considerations:	None
Sustainability considerations:	None
Crime and disorder implications:	None
Background papers:	Strategic Business Plan 2012-17. Reserve Funding Request. Application for Exemption from Contract Procedure Rules.
Appendices attached:	None