

ITEM No ...16.....

REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 23 APRIL 2018
REPORT ON: FUNDING TO DUNDEE SCIENCE CENTRE
REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
REPORT NO: 141-2018

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To obtain committee approval for a £100,000 contribution to Dundee Science Centre to assist in their project to extend their exhibition space and create a new Science Learning facility.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to approve:

The granting of £100,000 contribution to Dundee Science Centre to complete the funding required for their development project

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Council's contribution of £100,000 will be funded from the General Contingency provision included in the approved 2018/19 Revenue Budget.

4 MAIN TEXT

Dundee Science Centre is currently extending the existing visitor space to create an interactive exhibition and deliver a Science Learning facility. To complete the funding package of £2.1m which is the cost of the extension, Dundee Science Centre has requested that Dundee City Council provide funding of £100,000 in the financial year 2018/19.

Revenue funding of £100,000 was previously agreed Article III of the Minute of Meeting of 9 May 2016. Report 158-2016 refers.

Dundee Science Centre is a hub and community resource for lifelong learning and engagement with science. Each year, it engages over 80,000 people through in-Centre exhibitions visits, outreach activity and professional learning activities for scientists and teaching practitioners.

The new facilities will enable Dundee Science Centre to expand its learning programmes, partnerships and increase the number of people it serves. The project will be a key milestone in the science centre's evolution

The new project has three interlinked components:-

- a new science learning facility, including: a 80-seat seminar theatre; 30-seat learning zone; two meeting nests for mentoring and collaborative work
- a new interactive exhibition showcasing Dundee's pioneering work in medical technology, including minimally-invasive procedures such as keyhole surgery
- a programme of public engagement, with local medical students, clinicians and scientists, to engage visitors in medical advancements, medical careers and healthy living

The new facilities will create an enhanced facility but also an inter-professional collaboration between scientists, clinicians and education expert, to co-create and deliver innovative science learning experiences for all ages.

Dundee Science Centre has been actively fundraising since May 2016 and works commenced onsite in August 2017.

To date committed funding of the project is made up of:

	<u>£</u>
Dundee City Council	100,000
Dundee Science Centre Reserves	40,000
Dundee Science Centre Endowment Fund	290,000
Robertson Trust	170,000
Scottish Enterprise	100,000
Scottish Government	248,000
Welcome Trust	850,000
Individual Trusts	<u>239,667</u>
	<u>2,037,667</u>

The funding raised so far as detailed above is £2.037m, however currently there is a shortfall of £100,000 against the total cost of the project. In order to keep momentum, Dundee Science Centre have requested an additional contribution from the Council of £100,000 which will ensure that the project has sufficient committed funding. The additional funding will result in the project being delivered timeously, making a significant contribution to the City's visitor attractions and educational offer.

6 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management.

There are no major issues.

7 **CONSULTATIONS**

The Council Management Team has been consulted in the preparation of this report and agrees with its contents.

8 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

DAVID MARTIN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

5 April 2018