

EXPENDITURE ON PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

Portfolio	Finance
Ward(s) Affected:	All

Purpose

To inform the committee of expenditure on professional advisors for the year to 31st March 2015

Background

1. The committee had requested information on the expenditure incurred on professional advisors by the Council.

Current Position

2. The report analyses out all expenditure incurred on professional advisors greater than £500 for period to 31st March 2015. It has been broken down in to the type of advice given together with the advisors name and an explanation.
3. The vast majority of the money spent has been used to “buy in” specialist services for areas such as planning, property management etc. In common with many smaller district councils, Surrey Heath has to buy in professional expertise “as needed” when it does not have these skills in house and it is uneconomic to have them.
4. The total expenditure for the year was £339k of which £220k relates to work for the town centre redevelopment. This compares to £351k for the same period last year of which £187k related to the town centre. Hence non-town centre professional advisors costs have fallen from £164k in 2013/14 to £119k in 2014/15.

Recommendation

5. The Committee is asked to receive the report and comment as appropriate.

Background Papers: None

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ANNEXE A

PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS >£500 APRIL 2014 TO MARCH 2015		
TYPE AND NAME	DESCRIPTION	£
PLANNING AND BUILDING CONTROL		
COUNSELS FEES	Planning advice	1,250
CAPITA	Draft SFRA strategy	12,451
GURNEY CONSULTING	Building Control plan checking	7,333
IAN MCCOLL AND ASSOC	Checking Building Control Applications	10,120
MDT DESIGN	Building Control drawings advice	650
SURREY WILDLIFE TRUST	Ecological Planning Advice	5,196
WESSEX ECONOMICS	Functional Economic Area Analysis	2,500
WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL	Historic Buildings advice	9,284
		48,784
PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS		
JLT PUBLIC SECTOR RISKS	Insurance Broker fee	3,000
ARLING CLOSE	Treasury Advisors	8,625
CIVICA	Computer consultancy	1,085
R DAVIES	Quality Audits advice	975
FOOTPRINT ECOLOGY	Sangs advice	3,840
IDOX	Computer consultancy	1,900
KADA RESEARCH	Economic development strategy	15,000
S TWILLEY	Bagshot Village Marketing Video	1,500
SWORD CHATTERIS	Computer consultancy	1,700
VIZARDS	Procurement and Contract advice	3,657
COUNSELS FEES	Planning advice	10,635
COUNSELS FEES	Employment	5,738
COUNSELS FEES	Licensing	8,275
COUNSELS FEES	Housing Benefits	4,537
		70,467
TOWN CENTRE		
ALLIES AND MORRISON	Architects	102,954
CARTER JONAS	Ashwoon House Survey	7,637
DAVID JONE BOULD	Ashwood House Legal advice	1,902
MONTAGU EVANS	Camberley Town Centre project advisor	107,550
		220,043
GRAND TOTAL		339,294