

**CHILTERN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
CABINET 17 December 2013**

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*Background Papers, if any, are specified at the end of the Report*

**INSULATION OF CAR PARK ROOFS**

*Contact Officer: Simon Rycraft 01494 732073*

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1. That Cabinet agrees to proceeding with the insulation of the basement car parks to improve the working conditions of staff in the ground floor offices.**
- 2. That £30,000 is added to the approved and committed capital programme to fund this expenditure.**

**Relationship to Council Objectives**

*Objective 3: Conserve the environment and promote sustainability*

**Implications**

*(i) This matter is not a Key Decision within the Forward Plan.*

*(ii) This matter is within the Policy and Budgetary Framework.*

**Financial Implications**

*£30,000 to be added to the capital programme.*

**Risk Implications**

*None*

**Equalities Implications**

*None*

**Sustainability Implications**

*Will contribute to reducing energy consumption in winter months.*

**Report**

- 1** In recent years there have been numerous complaints from Planning Services and Revenues and Benefits in relation to the cold that permeates through the floor from the basement car park. Additional electric fan heating units have had to be deployed in these areas to raise the temperature.

- 2 During the recent office accommodation changes these complaints were raised again through the WorkWell Group and have also been discussed as an on-going issue at the Health and Safety Committee.
- 3 As part of the on-going improvement to the Council office building and in an effort to alleviate the problem, the WorkWell group has asked Facilities to investigate the possibility of insulating the roof of the basement car parks.
- 4 In order to assess what sort of budget may be required and whether an improvement in comfort can be achieved, we have looked at two solutions - one a sprayed foam and the second a Styrofoam and cement based panel system.
- 5 Having discussed the thermal properties with officers from Building Control it would seem that the U value of the floor at present is 1.82. Current building standards would require an office extension to be built with a floor U value of .22. Looking at the manufacturers' specifications of the two products considered, it would seem that we could achieve a U value of .43 for the sprayed system and .45 with panels. The effect of this work will be equivalent to filling an old cavity wall with insulation. Both products meet current fire regulations.
- 6 There is also anticipated to be a minimal additional financial benefit in respect of a saving from loss of heat through the floor slab although this would be difficult to quantify.
- 7 We have had a quote from a sprayed foam supplier and have obtained figures for the supply and fitting of panels. These indicate that the sprayed option is the cheapest. Depending on the solution chosen we would need to consider a budget figure in the region of £30,000. The normal quotation exercise will be carried out in accordance with this Council's contracts procedure rules.
- 8 This report was presented to CAMG on 16 October 2013. Councillors within the Group recommended that the car park roofs should be insulated and felt that the sprayed option preferable to avoid vandalism. They also recommended that £30,000 be added to the capital programme to fund the expenditure.

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**Background Papers:** none