

GROWTH REQUEST FORM (2015)

Growth Block (delete as appropriate)	One-off	Invest-to-save	Unavoidable Recurring	
Brief Description	<p>Private Sector Housing Stock Condition Survey Appointment of consultants to carry out a Stock Condition Survey (including a householder questionnaire) of the Private Sector Housing Stock (private rent / owner occupation / RSL) within the Borough and prepare a report containing findings and provide strategic recommendations.</p> <p>To supplement the £24,250 in the base budget to give a total of £50k.</p>			
Mandatory / discretionary	<p>Mandatory - Under the Local Government and Housing Act we have a statutory requirement to keep abreast of housing conditions in the locality - one of the ways of doing this is through a stock condition survey. We are required to prepare a Home Energy Conservation Report bi-annually and to submit this to DECC. The findings of this survey will assist in completing this return.</p>			
Links to the Council's Corporate Plan Priorities	<p>The Corporate Plan aims to improve the quality of housing in the Borough, to reduce inequality and improve standards of living</p>			
Consultation undertaken to support the request	<p>Little consultation would be required prior to the survey, which in itself is consultation. Work would take place with other colleagues, Equalities Group around the questionnaire. The survey would be sent to randomly selected addresses from the Council Tax database.</p>			
Equalities outcomes				
Impact on performance measures/targets	<p>Up to date information relating to future demand for DFG's, Home Repair Financial Assistance. The data could be used to support bids for external funding for energy initiatives e.g Green Deal /ECO.</p>			
Budget Implications:	2015/16 £	2016/17 £	2017/18 £	Future years (£)
Growth request amount	25,750			
Revenue savings (Invest to Save bids only)				

Other revenue budget implications eg increased maintenance costs				
Risk management considerations if approved				
Risk management considerations if <u>not</u> approved	<p>No up to date information on the condition on the Private Sector Housing Stock. The last survey was carried out in 2008 and is overdue. Without this information we are unable to assess what the condition of the stock is, what interventions may be required, what the future need is for DFG's, home owners ability to maintain their own homes without access to finance, other interventions in the private sector stock e.g. enforcement.</p>			
Other Comments	<p>Insufficient staffing resources to deliver a dedicated survey and analyse the findings in addition to delivering the day to day functions</p> <p>Discussion had taken place previously around whether there was any appetite to carry out a cross boundary survey with NEDDC and BDC. This will be explored again and may result in an efficiency in cost of the survey.</p>			