

REVISED CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2009/2010
DIVISIONAL MANAGER COMMENTS
AT MID YEAR POINT

Parish Capital Schemes
The spending on grants to Parish Councils is determined by the progress that Parishes make on individual schemes and is not within the direct control of the Council. In overall terms, progress is slow and options are being explored to encourage Parishes to spend their allocations more quickly.
Assistant Chief Executive
The rollout of Electronic Document Management is dependent of the outcome of Organisational Re-engineering projects and the ICT Infrastructure Scheme is dependent upon the demand for replacement and upgrade. The EGovernment Programme is progressing and projects will continue into the next financial year.
Street Scene
An order has been placed for the Vehicle Tracking System and delivery is expected in 2009. The budget is then expected to be fully utilised in the year.
Planning, Regeneration and Estates
Both Investing in Business and Inspire budgets were based on estimated demand for grants which are reimbursed by NWDA. This demand has been finalised and is lower than anticipated. Both schemes are due for completion by the end of the financial year. Outline planning consent has been granted for Abbotsford Regeneration enabling this scheme to progress to the detailed design stage. The Burscough Town Centre scheme is complete as is the Re-Roofing at Gorsey Place although invoices are still awaited. Works on the Investment Centre Car Park are progressing and will be completed by the end of the year. The budget for Skelmersdale Town Centre is to be used to fund the replacement roof of Nye Bevan Pool and has been transferred to Community Services. An expanded cycle route at Whitemoss has been completed and the remaining budgets for the Free Tree Scheme, Conservation Area Enhancements and Preservation of Buildings at risk are committed.

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Community Services

Works are ongoing on the Contaminated Land, Environmental Health System, Play Engagement, and Community Environmental Action schemes. Orders have been placed for Richmond Park, where the pavilion is due for installation in November, and at Coronation Park, where the entrance feature is also due for installation in November. Orders have also been placed for Play Area Improvements and Big Lottery funding is awaited on this scheme. The Leisure Trust contract is continuing and outstanding refurbishment works at the Gallery are still to be finalised. Minor floodlighting works are still to be undertaken at Liverpool Road Playing Pitch before the final Football foundation payment will be received. The funding of the anticipated overspend on this scheme will be identified from underspends on other schemes as details are finalised. Market stalls have been purchased for Moor Street and stalls for Aughton Street will be assessed when the works on the Clock Tower/Aughton Street are complete.

Housing Private Sector

The Disabled Facility Grants are on target to deliver the full Programme for the year. Renovation Grant approvals are committed and the Loans Scheme agreement has recently been signed and loans are now being processed. The timing of expenditure on the Clearance Programme is uncertain due to the need to complete legal procedures. Officers are in discussions with DCLG regarding the use of the Affordable Housing budget for the Elmstead Regeneration Project.

Housing Public Sector

There has been a slow start to some schemes within the procurement framework due to negotiations on target costs. These have now been agreed with contractors and budgets have been realigned to reflect these costs. Most schemes are scheduled to finish by the end of the financial year although there is likely to be retentions on some contracts. One Bathroom contract has been delayed until next year and completion of works to Marlborough Court may extend to June 2010. Installation proposals are awaited for the Beechwood Court lift and tenders have been received for structural works in Old Skelmersdale as have quotations for structural works at Whitburn.

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Corporate Property

Investment plans have been revised and the remaining schemes, including the Office Refurbishment, are progressing.