



AGENDA ITEM: 14

CABINET: 14 September 2010

**EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW &
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:
30 September 2010**

Report of: Council Secretary and Solicitor

Relevant Portfolio Holder: Councillor D Westley

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SUBJECT: CAPITAL PROGRAMME OUTTURN 2009/2010

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To provide a summary of the capital outturn position for the 2009/2010 financial year.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS TO CABINET

2.1 That the final position, including slippage, on the Capital Programme for the 2009/2010 financial year be noted and endorsed.

2.2 That the call in procedure is not appropriate for this item as it is being referred to the next meeting of the Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS TO EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

3.1 That the final position on the Capital Programme for the 2009/2010 financial year be noted.

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 Members have been kept informed of the financial position of the Capital Programme throughout the year with regular monitoring reports. The last such Report was presented to Cabinet and Executive Overview and Scrutiny in March 2010 and reported on a Capital Programme of £12.413m. This report

provides Members with the final position on capital schemes for the 2009/2010 financial year.

- 4.2 It should be noted that the final accounts for the 2009/2010 year are subject to audit and the figures contained in this report are, potentially, subject to change. However, the Audit is nearing completion and no issues have been raised on the capital programme to date. Members will be informed in due course of any significant matters arising from the Audit.
- 4.3 The position on the current Programme is discussed elsewhere on this Agenda.

5.0 CAPITAL PROGRAMME

- 5.1 Changes totalling £0.066m, approved at Council in February 2010 when the Medium Term Capital Programme was set, have been incorporated into the 2009/2010 Programme.
- 5.2 The Capital Programme at the end of the 2009/2010 financial year was, therefore, £12.479m. This is analysed by Division in Appendix A.
- 5.3 The key results for the year on the capital programme are that reasonable progress has been made in delivering schemes and that spending is within budget with no significant issues on overspends.

6.0 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

- 6.1 The total capital expenditure for 2009/2010 was £8.776m. This represents 70% of the total Budget for the year. Although this is lower than the 72% comparator for the 2008/2009 Programme, the 2008/2009 Programme was £1.878m lower than the 2009/2010 Programme and expenditure was £1.12m less. This means that the spend for 2009/2010 was an improvement on the previous year and represents a reasonable performance. This is particularly the case given the very bad weather conditions during the winter which disrupted a number of different schemes.
- 6.2 Around £1m of MRA funding was brought forward from 2010/2011 in to the 2009/2010 financial year to ensure that capital investment could take place as quickly as possible. Every effort was made to ensure this money was spent and it had been fully utilised by the year end. Housing Public and Private Sectors represent 70% of the total Programme and overall achieved 75% of their combined budget.
- 6.3 100% spend against the Budget is never anticipated due mainly to reasons beyond the Council's control. For example, some schemes are reliant on a significant amount of match funding and external contributions and others are demand led or dependant upon decisions made by partners. It is recognised that in such cases, schemes can be subject to considerable lead in times and delays because of the decision making processes in other organisations. As

such, these schemes only start when their funding details have been finalised. Another reason is that some contracts include retentions or contingencies that will only be spent some time after completion of the contract. Approvals for schemes that are affected by such issues are to be slipped into the 2010/2011 Programme and are discussed in section 8.

6.4 Spending, scheme progress and slippage are analysed in the appendices.

7.0 CAPITAL RESOURCES

7.1 A breakdown of the resources of £12.479m identified to fund the programme is shown in Appendix A.

7.2 The main area of the capital resources budget that is subject to variation is in relation to capital receipts. These are the useable proceeds from the sale of Council assets (mainly houses under Right to Buy sales) that are available to fund capital expenditure. These receipts can vary significantly depending on the number and value of assets sold.

7.3 12 Right to Buy sales have been generated against the revised target of 10 for the year. This means that there are sufficient receipts to fund the required element of the Programme. In addition to receipts from Council house sales, other asset sales in the year generated a further £0.048m of capital receipts. The use of these additional receipts is discussed elsewhere on this agenda.

8.0 SLIPPAGE OF APPROVALS

8.1 Schemes that are not completed within the financial year for which they are scheduled are slipped into the following financial year along with their unused expenditure and resource approvals.

8.2 The total slippage figure for capital schemes from 2009/2010 is £3.673m. Although this is an increase from the £2.675m slipped from the 2008/2009 Programme it compares favourably due to the larger Programme.

8.3 Further analysis on the slippage is provided in the appendices.

9.0 EXPLANATION OF VARIANCE

9.1 Divisional Managers have considered the position of individual schemes at the year-end and have taken the opportunity of revising budget allocations to take account of new information affecting the spending profiles of their schemes. This has facilitated the funding of scheme overspends against approvals from those schemes that have underspent against their approvals.

9.2 The budgeted expenditure for the 2009/2010 Capital Programme was £12.479m. Taking account of expenditure of £8.776m and slippage of £3.673m, there is a total budget requirement of £12.449m. This means that

there is an overall favourable variance on programmed approvals of £0.03m that is no longer required.

9.3 The variance is mainly due to a reduction in demand for Inspire projects. Funding variances have arisen from utilising external funding sources available. No additional funding has been made available for the Programme. The remaining capital programme is being delivered within the budget that was set and there are no significant issues with scheme overspends.

10.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS/COMMUNITY STRATEGY

10.1 The Capital Programme includes schemes that the Council plans to implement to enhance service delivery and assets. Individual project plans address sustainability and Community Strategy issues and links to Corporate Priorities. The Capital Programme also achieves the objectives of the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities by ensuring capital investment plans are affordable, prudent, and sustainable.

11.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

11.1 Capital assets shape the way services are delivered for the long term and, as a result, create financial commitments. The formal reporting of performance against the Capital Programme is part of the overall budgetary management and control framework that is designed to minimise the financial risks facing the Council.

12.0 SUMMARY

12.1 The capital programme is being delivered on time and within budget. The budget for 2009/2010 was £12.479m, and expenditure for the year was £8.776m. This represents 70% and shows reasonable performance in delivering the programme. £3.673m of approvals have been slipped into the 2010/2011 Programme when the expenditure will be incurred.

12.2 Sufficient capital resources were available to fully fund the capital expenditure incurred in 2009/2010.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

Equality Impact Assessment

There is no evidence from an initial assessment of an adverse impact on equality in relation to the equality target groups.

Appendices

- A Capital Expenditure and Resources Compared to Budget
- B Divisional Manager Comments
- C Analysis of Significant Slippage