

REVISED CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2010/2011
DIVISIONAL MANAGER COMMENTS
AT MID YEAR POINT

Parish Capital Schemes
Savings of £30,000 have been made on Parish Capital schemes and £35,000 has been reprofiled into future programmes. This has partially been achieved through Parishes delivering projects below the costs originally anticipated. It also reflects funding being withdrawn from a number of projects that were approved some years ago but which have not been able to proceed. The progress made on delivering schemes efficiently rests with individual Parish Councils.
Assistant Chief Executive
Orders have been placed on ICT Infrastructure which is funding used to keep the Council's ICT equipment up to date and to maintain its speed, integrity, and security. Works are progressing in relation to the integration of M3PP with front office on the EDM scheme. Orders have been raised for hardware and software for the Server Visualisation and other major projects and other schemes are progressing.
Street Scene
The new wheelie bins have been purchased and have been distributed. The Vehicle Tracking Scheme will be completed towards the end of the year.
Regeneration and Estates
The Council is currently working on two separate phases of the Skelmersdale Town Centre Regeneration Project with a development partner but the economic conditions remain challenging. Consultants have now been identified and the Council is sharing these costs with the HCA. The Investing in Business Regeneration Programmes (IiB) and Council managed IiB funded projects are complete as are the Inspire Projects.

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Planning

Savings of £13,000 have been identified on demand led Conservation Grant schemes and £30,000 has been reprofiled into future programmes when it is anticipated that demand will improve. It is expected that the remaining programme will be delivered within the new timeframe.

Community Services

Contaminated Land schemes are progressing and are at various stages of completion. It is anticipated that the Environmental Health System will now be completed following the OR Project.

Consultants have been employed on the implementation of the new CCTV suite and the LSP has approved PRG funding for CCTV upgrades throughout the Borough. The timing of this scheme, however, is uncertain and the budget may be moved into 2011/2012 during the budget process. Additional funding has also been secured with the PCT for the acquisition and installation of new Outdoor Gym Equipment.

Works on the various parks are progressing and an anticipated £8,000 overspend on Richmond Park will be funded from the anticipated underspend on Coronation Park. £15,000 has been reprofiled for Coronation Park for access improvements and £80,000 has been reprofiled for Tanfields Park where work will commence following consultation. A further £7,000 Play Builder funding has been secured for Manor Road Park.

New Christmas lighting equipment has been identified for 2011/2012 and this funding has been reprofiled. Minor works on Aughton Street should be complete by the end of the financial year.

The final invoice for works on Nye Bevan Roof repair is awaited and expenditure on the Leisure Trust contract continues. Funding is committed on Allotments and Chapel Gallery and WiFi provision are complete.

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Housing Private Sector

Take up on the Housing Loans scheme has been slower than anticipated and funding has been returned to the Capital Pot. The remaining funding has been profiled over the remaining life of the existing contract. A funding switch in the Disabled Facility Grant Programme to utilise the Regional Housing Allocation has enabled a further £50,000 of capital receipts to be returned to the Pot as the current Programme fulfils current demand.

The Clearance Programme is subject to the completion of legal procedures and plans have been prepared for expenditure on both Affordable Housing and the Empty Homes Initiative.

Housing Public Sector

The Housing Public Sector Programme has been thoroughly reviewed to take account of new contracts awarded for the financial year. Original budgets have been moved between schemes to facilitate the implementation of the new contracts and budgets for Sheltered Accommodation and Disabled Adaptations have been reprofiled into subsequent programmes. Expenditure of a capital nature has been transferred from the HRA which has also funded expansions to several Housing Programmes. All of the adjustments are detailed in Appendix B to this report.

Expenditure on the Bin Store scheme is linked to the rollout of the Council's new wheelie bin programme and contingencies have been included for Decent Homes and Voids. The remaining programme, including the Housing ICT System, will be delivered within the new budgets allowing for some retention at the end of the year.

Corporate Property

A number of projects are currently in progress and the spend on Health and Safety works is ongoing. Following a review of the programme, £72,500 has been identified as surplus to requirements and has, therefore, been offered up as a saving.

The vast majority of work on the Office Move and Refurbishment has been completed and utilisation of the remaining resources has yet to be finalised.