

**CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2010/2011**  
**DIVISIONAL MANAGER COMMENTS**  
**AT 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH**

<b>Parish Capital Schemes</b>
<p>Spending on grants to Parishes is determined by the progress that Parishes make on individual schemes and is not within the direct control of the Council. Parishes must complete schemes within 2 years or risk losing their funding. Unspent approvals, therefore, have been slipped into the new financial year.</p>
<b>Assistant Chief Executive</b>
<p>Expenditure against the ICT Infrastructure budget was to keep the Council's ICT equipment up to date and to maintain its speed, integrity, and security.</p> <p>Works are progressing in relation to the integration of front office processes on the Electronic Document Management scheme and the Server Virtualisation and Web Improvement Programme are progressing.</p> <p>Unspent approvals have been slipped into 2011/2012 to enable completion of these schemes and enable further OR projects to be rolled out.</p>
<b>Street Scene</b>
<p>The new wheelie bins for the rollout of Alternate Weekly Collection in Skelmersdale have been purchased and distributed and the Vehicle Tracking Scheme has been completed. New external security enhancements at The Robert Hodge Centre, funded by a revenue contribution, have been added to the Programme.</p>
<b>Regeneration and Estates</b>
<p>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. Consultancy costs are being shared with the Housing Community Agency and the current phase is nearing completion and a small budget approval has slipped into the new financial year.</p> <p>The Investing in Business Regeneration Programme has been completed.</p>

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**Planning**

Conservation Grants are progressing and the unspent budget has been slipped into next year's Programme. The minor overspend on the Free Tree scheme was funded by a contribution from Revenue and the Buildings at Risk Scheme was fully utilised. Section 106 monies were used to fund a new Cycle Path in Pimbo.

**Community Services**

Government guidance is awaited for Contaminated Land schemes which are on hold. Following completion of the OR Project the Environmental Health System is progressing.

Consultancy works have been completed for the implementation of the new CCTV suite. The full scheme will commence in August 2011 and the budget has been slipped. Two Outdoor Gym Equipment projects have been completed and one has been slipped for completion in the new year.

Lottery funding for works on Play Engagement has been transferred to revenue to reflect the nature of the expenditure. Manor Road Park is complete and works on other parks, including Halsall Lane, Banks, and Mossy Lea are progressing and unspent approvals have been slipped into the new year. An overspend on Richmond Park has been funded from the underspends on Coronation Park (Ph 4) and Nye Bevan Re-Roofing which are complete. Tended works on Stanley Coronation Park are due to take place over the summer and budgets have been slipped into 2011/2012.

Flood Alleviation schemes at Calico and Dock Brooks have been added to the programme and works, which have commenced, will continue into the new year.

Expenditure on the Leisure Trust contract is on budget for the year and Chapel Gallery, Aughton Street Pedestrianisation, and WiFi provision schemes are complete. Funding is committed on Allotments which has slipped into the new year.

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**Corporate Property**

Works on programmed schemes, including Office Move and Refurbishment, have progressed in line with budget with the exception of roofing and construction works that were delayed due to severe weather over winter. This forms the basis of the slippage into the new financial year along with approvals for Moorgate Toilets.

**Housing Private Sector**

The Affordable Housing budget has been slipped into the new year following a report to Cabinet in March which approved the seeking of expressions of interest from Registered Providers for the future options on over the medium term.

A Cabinet report in March approved the suspension of the Loans Scheme pending a 12 month review following slow take up of loans. Approvals have, therefore, slipped into the new year.

A property in Firbeck has been acquired under the Clearance Programme and other acquisitions, at Firbeck and Lime Court, are progressing. The remaining budget has been slipped into 2011/2012.

The Disabled Facility Grants Budget is fully committed with some approvals being carried forward into the new financial year. There has been a delay in the Empty Homes Initiative due to a delay pending Government decision on dealing with empty properties. This advice is expected to be available in Autumn 2011.

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**Housing Public Sector**

The Windows, Re-roofing, and Kitchen/Bathroom Programmes were rolled forward from the previous financial and have all completed in year. Unused approvals have been used to fund an overspend on the Heating Programme which was overspent due to unforeseen failures in heating systems as a result of severe weather conditions.

The Electrical Upgrades expenditure was less than originally projected by the contractor and the unused budget has been utilised on the additional Adaptations and Voids budgets undertaken where demand exceeded expectation.

The Energy Efficiency Programme was substantially complete but an element has slipped due to delays in obtaining appropriate external funding. Slippage on Sheltered Upgrades is due to tendering difficulties and late contractor commencement on site. Slippage on Structural Works follows the decision to defer part of the Programme to the new year to secure cost savings using traditional tendering.

The full Decent Homes budget was not fully required in year and the balance has been slipped into the new financial year. Area Bids have also been slipped due to delays in tenants putting forward proposals to use the budget. Approvals for Communal Areas have been slipped following the late contract start. Binstore Improvements have slipped to assist in the council wide project.