

Scrutiny Panel

15

8 July 2014

Report of Assistant Chief Executive Author Graham Coleman

282741

Title Capital Expenditure Monitor 2013/14

Wards affected

Not applicable

The Panel is invited to review the progress against all capital schemes during 2013/14

1. Action required

1.1 To note the level of capital spending during 2013/14, and forecasts for future years.

2. Reason for scrutiny

- 2.1 Monitoring capital spending is important to ensure:
 - Spending on projects is within agreed scheme budgets.
 - The overall programme is delivered within budget.
- 2.2 This report also gives the Panel the opportunity to hold Service Managers and Portfolio Holders accountable for their budgets.

3. Background

- 3.1 This report sets out details of spending for the financial year 2013/14 (April to March) and revised forecasts for future years.
- 3.2 The report includes new capital funding and changes to the capital programme.
- 3.3 The report includes capital expenditure in respect of the Housing Investment Programme, including expenditure on the Council's housing stock.

4. 2013/14 review

- 4.1 **Appendix A** sets out details of spending on all schemes along with existing expenditure forecasts provided by budget managers to provide an indication of progress against schemes in monetary terms. It should be pointed out that expenditure is unlikely to be incurred evenly throughout the year, so any apparent variances from the forecast position for the year are unlikely to indicate any over or under spending against projects as a whole, but tend to relate to timing differences between anticipated payments and actual payments to contractors. Any significant divergences from planned activity will be brought to the Panel's attention in the following paragraphs.
- 4.2 Accrued capital spending during the year totalled £22.7 million. This expenditure represents 87% of the projected spend for 2013/14.

4.3 It should be noted that the programme includes a number of major schemes where spending is planned across more than one year. Budget managers have profiled their forecasts for expenditure in line with expectations for 2014/15 and beyond. The table below provides a summary of the capital programme by service area:

	Total Prog.	2013/14 Spend	2013/14 Forecast	Future Years Forecast	(Surplus) / Shortfall
Service / Scheme	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Corporate & Financial Mgmnt	4,076.6	1,279.4	2,108.6	1,965.6	(2.4)
Operational Services	1,789.4	807.8	836.1	953.3	0.0
Professional Services	1,983.9	587.3	1,030.6	953.3	0.0
Commercial Services	7,021.5	5,122.8	6,061.9	996.3	36.7
Community Services	6,532.4	4,517.9	4,906.0	1,626.4	0.0
Completed Schemes	310.6	310.5	310.6	0.0	0.0
Housing Revenue Account	11,603.3	10,076.8	10,812.6	960.0	169.3
Total Capital Programme	33,317.7	22,702.5	26,066.4	7,454.9	203.6

- 4.4 The Capital Programme has increased by £3.1m since the previous report. Cabinet on 29 January approved new funding of £800k for the installation of PV panels on commercial properties. £2.7m is included for the purchase of the former BP site at North Colchester. Funding has been removed for elements of the Castle Museum redevelopment that have been funded from revenue. There are a number of other small adjustments for schemes funded from external grants and Section 106 monies. The Capital Programme now stands at £33.3 million.
- 4.5 The most significant areas of planned expenditure in the year are summarised in the following table:

Scheme	Forecast £'000	Actual £'000
Decent Homes & Upgrades	7,775.0	7,209.9
North Colchester Development Land	2,760.2	2,700.2
Castle Museum Redevelopment	2,727.8	2,715.4
Sheltered Accommodation Review	2,023.0	2,192.3
Universal Customer Contact FSR – ICT	1,562.7	912.7
Walls (Town, Castle and Closed Churchyards)	795.0	508.0
Disabled Facilities Grants	700.0	373.8
Garrison ex-Medical Centre	700.0	700.0
Assistance to Registered Housing Providers	655.0	655.0
Transcoast	610.6	584.2

4.6 The Scrutiny Panel on 20 August requested that a RAG (Red, Amber, Green) status was added to the quarterly capital monitoring report to provide a clear indicator of overall project performance. The RAG status of capital schemes is summarised in **Appendix A**. Although there are no 'Red' schemes, a total of 10 schemes were classed as 'Amber' by the budget manager. The current position against these schemes is detailed in **Appendix B** to this report.

4.7 There is currently a projected net overspend on the capital programme of £203.6k. This is detailed below:

Scheme	Over/ (Under) £'000
Town Hall DDA Sensory Project (forecast)	3.5
Carbon Management Programme (forecast)	(5.9)
Site Disposal Costs	36.7
Sheltered Accommodation Review	169.3
Total Net Overspend	203.6

4.8 The current projected overspend against the Sheltered Accommodation Review will be covered by additional resources that have been agreed for the scheme as part of the 2014/15 Housing Investment Programme. It is also possible that the small projected overspends against the Town Hall DDA Sensory Project and phase 2 of the Carbon Management Programme will be mitigated as part of the overall programme. Subject to final figures these items will be referred to a future Cabinet for consideration alongside an updated forecast of capital receipts.

5. Strategic Plan references

5.1 The Council's Capital Programme is aligned to the Strategic Plan.

6. Financial implications

6.1 As set out above.

7. Risk management implications

7.1 Risk management issues are considered as part of all capital projects.

8. Other standard references

8.1 Having considered consultation, publicity, equality, diversity and human rights, community safety, and health and safety implications, there are none that are significant to the matters in this report.

Background papers

None