
**CAPITAL PROGRAMME
MONTHLY MONITORING REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2004**

**Responsible Cabinet Member(s) - Councillor Don Bristow,
Resource Management Portfolio**

Responsible Director(s) - Paul Wildsmith, Director of Corporate Services

Purpose of Report

1. This report presents an update of the Capital Programme and looks at spending and resource levels.

Summary

2. The total Capital Programme now stands at £42.355m. The Authority requires capital receipts of £1.854m to be received during 2004/05. The 2004/05 asset disposal programme totals £3.394m therefore surplus capital receipts of c£1.540m are anticipated to be carried forward to future years. This carry forward will be required to fund future years capital programmes.

Information and Analysis

3. **Appendix 1** summarises the capital resource position within the Authority. Lines 2-4 details the Capital Commitments, lines 5-13 details capital resources available to the Authority. The balancing resource for the Capital Programme is general fund capital receipts. The current requirement £3.954 is detailed at line 13. However expenditure of £2.100m is planned to be incurred in future years. Therefore only £1.854m needs to be generated during 2004/05.
4. An analysis of the movement in the forecast of capital resources is set out below.

Note Ref.		£m
	Capital Receipt requirement as 31st March 2005 as last reported	+3.605
(a)	Increase in Prior Years Commitments	+1.808
(b)	Increase in 2004/05 Capital Programme	+1.250
(c)	Increase in Capital Funding excluding Capital Receipts	<u>-2.709</u>
	Current Capital Receipt requirement	<u>+3.954</u>
	Less expected slippage	<u>-2.100</u>
	Capital Receipt requirement for 2004/05	<u>+1.854</u>

5. **Appendix 2** details schemes that have been approved in previous years. The total commitments have increased by £1.808m as detailed below:

- (a) In relation to the Sure Start Centre at Mount Pleasant School, in total £0.630m has been secured which is an increase of £0.362m from the previous update. The funding has been secured from Sure Start £0.318m and European Regional Development Fund, £0.312m. The proposed Sure Start Centre is to be attached to the existing Mount Pleasant School.
- (b) In relation to Transport Capital Contributions an additional £0.240m has been recently received. This relates to £0.170m from Bussey & Armstrong in relation to the West Park Development, £0.055m from various developers in order to implement Transport related improvements at Middleton St George and £0.015m for various other minor alterations.
- (c) In relation to the New Opportunities Fund (NOF), Sports Facilities, all ten projects have now been successfully approved. In total £1.075m has been secured from NOF, which is an increase of £1.028m since the last update. This funding will allow sporting facilities to be developed at ten schools throughout the borough and increase community use.
- (d) In relation to Refurbishment of Outdoor Play Areas, an additional £0.086m has been received from George Wimpey North East Ltd as a contribution towards the enhancement of the equipped play area within Middleton St George. Members are asked to formally release this funding.
- (e) Regarding the refurbishment of Honeypot Lane Caravan Site, the project is now anticipating to outturn £0.030m above the original budget. The increase in cost is due to extensive tarmacing works.
- (f) In relation to Various Land Sale Costs, an increase of £0.062m has been reported since the last update. Specifically this relates to an additional £0.031m relating to Morton Park, £0.020m for the Haughton Road Development and £0.011m for the Park Place Exchange scheme. Some of these costs may be able to be reimbursed, but are required

to be funded by the Authority in the first instance. These costs are required to be incurred to enable the Authority's Asset Disposal Programme to proceed and Members are requested to approve additional resources to this scheme.

6. **Appendix 3** details 2004/05 Capital programme. The increase of £1.250m is explained below:-
- (a) In relation to the Education Capital Programme an additional £0.013m has been secured from the Adult and Community Learning Fund. £0.010m of this funding is to be expended on Disability Discrimination works predominately at Branksome Comprehensive and £0.003m on other minor works. As this new funding only totals £0.013m, it was felt inappropriate to compose a separate Cabinet report to release this funding. Members are therefore asked to formally release this funding.
 - (b) Overall the 2004/05 Housing Capital Programme has increased by £0.027m since the last update. This is due to securing £0.030m Private Sector Energy Efficiency reimbursement, and a small reduction of £0.003m in anticipated Housing Revenue Account, Capital Receipts. Within the Housing Capital Programme, a number of movements have been reported, mainly due to delays in Flat Remodelling work. This has resulted in £0.231m of resources being vired to Internal Planned Maintenance to ensure that all resources available are fully utilised within the financial year.
 - (c) In relation to the Transport Capital Programme £0.105m has been secured from Sus-Trans, in relation to Links to Schools. This funding is to contribute towards the Hurworth to Neasham cycle route, Red Hall/Skerne Cycle route and Cemetery Lane/Carmel Road cycle route.
 - (d) Under emergency delegated powers £0.020m has been approved to undertake bridge strengthening works on the Polam Lane Footbridge.
 - (e) In relation to improving Town Hall Security £0.025m has been allocated from the risk management fund, to introduce a security system within the Town Hall. Members are asked to formally release this funding.
 - (f) In relation to the Drinkfield Civic Amenity Site Improvement scheme a capital grant of £0.606m has been secured from DEFRA. This funding will allow new recycling facilities to be installed and improved road layout thus reducing congestion. It is anticipated that the improvements will increase recycling by 10 percentage points, pushing Darlington into the top quartile for BVPIs in relation to recycling, composting and landfill.
 - (g) In order to protect land that maybe occupied illegally by travellers, £0.034m has been approved. It is anticipated that perimeter blocks or mounds will be installed at Springfield Park, John Dixon Lane, Alderman Crooks Park, Redhall and McMullen Road/Allington Way.
 - (h) Supported Capital Expenditure of £0.033m has been secured from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, (DEFRA) to purchase additional air monitoring equipment. The equipment is to replace a fixed monitoring station at the heavily

trafficked junction at the St Cuthberts Way/Northgate roundabout adjacent to Marks and Spencer. This unit will monitor long term traffic emissions at this 'worst case' location.

- (i) In relation to East Street Car Park, £0.300m has been agreed to be expended to bring the upper floor of the Car Park back into use. This scheme is to be financed via Prudential Borrowing, with repayments to be funded from increased car parking income.
- (j) In relation to Railway Museum, Urgent Works, £0.080m has been agreed to allow urgent safety works to be undertaken. This work consists of installing temporary support to the roof trusses using hired props. These props will take the weight of the roof and so eliminate the risk of movement of the roof beams.
- (k) Other minor variances of £0.007m have also been reported since the last update.

7. Movements in Capital funding excluding Capital Receipts are detailed above.

Outputs

- 8. In relation to the Education Capital Programme work is fully complete on the erection of new music classrooms at Longfield Comprehensive and the erection of the new drama music suite at Hurworth Comprehensive, both were operational by the beginning of the new school year. Work is continuing at Hurworth Comprehensive, on the construction of a new mathematics resources room and administration extension also at Hurworth Comprehensive. At both Reid Street and North Road Primary Schools, fire stopping works are due to be completed during the October half term holiday. The major window replacement programme is also to be completed at Bishopton and Redmarshall Primary School during the October half term holiday. At Eastbourne Comprehensive the boiler replacement programme is still underway and at Rise Carr Primary boiler replacement and additional unforeseen works are now substantially complete. At High Coniscliffe Primary the replacement of pipework is substantially complete. At Gurney Pease Primary School the water main replacement works are now fully completed. Minor access works are now fully complete at Hummersknott Comprehensive. The upgrade of fire alarms and emergency lighting systems were undertaken and completed during the summer holidays at Mowden Infants and Juniors, Abbey Infants, Branksome Comprehensive, Mount Pleasant Primary, McMullen House and Hurworth Primary. Work is also continuing on the construction of the new Alderman Leach Primary School and the Education Village. Regarding the replacement of Skerne Park Primary, currently the design stage of the project is nearing completion.
- 9. In relation to the Housing Capital Programme, 93 properties have benefited from internal planned maintenance at Tennysons Gardens, Hilda Street, Parkside, Westminster Road, Shakespeare Road area and Shelley Road area. In relation to heating replacement, 119 units have been complete at Globe Close, Rocket Street, Garrick Court, Carlton Court and Dodds Street. Regarding Extra Care Work at Oban Court 65% of the work is now complete and in relation to flat remodelling at Dinsdale Crescent 85%, of phase 1, of the work has now been completed.

10. In relation to the Transport Capital Programme a programme of highway maintenance works is being implemented with footpath and/or carriageway schemes at Geneva Road and Grange Road completed since the last update and Swan House Roundabout nearing completion. Carriageway maintenance works on the A68 West Auckland Road/Spring Court and A1150 Salters Lane North Phase 1 are both to start shortly. In addition edge strengthening works are ongoing between Great Stainton and Bishopton. Work has been completed on the bridgeworking schemes at Bates Avenue and White House Bridge. Middleton One Row. Traffic management and road safety schemes are being progressed with the West Park Toucan Crossing being completed and the Victoria Road Puffing, crossing installed since the last update. In relation to the North Road Corridor of Certainty, traffic orders are being progressed for traffic calming at Fitzwilliam Drive.

Conclusion

11. The Capital Programme totalling £42.355m is on target with any significant variances reported above. Capital Receipts of £3.954m are required with an estimated requirement of £1.854m in 2004/05. Asset disposals have been identified to cover this and to support future years Capital Programmes.

Legal Implications

12. This report has been considered by the Borough Solicitor for legal implications in accordance with the Council's approved procedures. There are no issues which the Borough Solicitor considers need to be brought to the specific attention of Members.

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998

13. The contents of this report have been considered in the context of the requirements placed on the Council by Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, namely, the duty on the Council to exercise its functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area. It is not considered that the contents of this report have any such effect.

Consultation

14. No formal consultation has been undertaken regarding this report.

Council Policy Framework

15. The issues contained within this report do not represent change to Council policy or the Council's policy framework

Decision Deadline

16. For the purpose of the 'call-in' procedure this does not represent an urgent matter

Recommendation

17. It is recommended that Cabinet:-

- (a) Formally release £0.086m developer contribution in relation to enhancement of equipped play areas within Middleton St George.
- (b) Formally release additional resources of £0.062m in relation to Various Land Sale Costs.
- (c) Formally release £0.013m Adult and Community Learning Funding.
- (d) Formally release £0.025m revenue contribution in relation to improving Town Hall Security.
- (e) Note the progress and approve the updated 2004/05 Capital Programme.

Reasons

18. The reasons for this report are :-

- (a) To allow work on enhancement of equipped play areas within Middleton St George to proceed.
- (b) To allow the Asset Disposal Programme to proceed.
- (c) To allow work utilising the Adult and Community Learning Funding to commence.
- (d) To allow improvements to Town Hall Security to proceed.
- (e) To approve the updated 2004/05 Capital Programme.

Paul Wildsmith
Director of Corporate Services

Background Papers

- (i) Capital Medium Term Financial Plan 2004/05 – 2007/08
- (ii) Accounting Records

Brian Boggon: Extension 2305