
CAPITAL OUTTURN 2003/04

**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 provides information on the Capital Programme out-turn position as at 31st March 2004.

Summary

2. The total resources available for Capital schemes during 2003/04 totalled £36.071m, however not all of the resources were planned to be expended during 2003/04. The total capital spend incurred during 2003/04 was £23.232m. All of the single year Credit Approvals have been utilised and any single year grants have been maximised. The slippage into 2004/05 will be financed by grants that can be carried forward, Usable Capital Receipts and Capital Contributions. In addition £6.1m of Capital resources have been utilised to repay debt, which is consistent with the Medium Term Financial Plan.

Information and Analysis

3. The Capital out-turn for 2003/04 totalled £23.232m and the financing of the expenditure is as follows.

	£m
Capital Expenditure incurred during 2003/04	23.232
Financing of Capital Expenditure	
Basic Credit Approvals	5.554
Supplementary Credit Approvals	2.663
Capital Grants	11.328
Capital/Revenue Contributions	0.360
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Receipts	1.389
General Fund – Capital Receipts	<u>1.938</u>
Total Capital Financing	23.232

5. **Appendix 1** details the progress of the 2003/04 Capital Programme. Column A details the resources available and Columns B and C identifies the capital spend incurred during 2003/04 and virements within programmes respectively. Column D details the resources carried forward and Column E identifies the small amount of surplus resources no longer required.
6. The Education Capital Spend totalled £5.353m. This programme was funded via Capital Grants £2.645m, Supplementary Credit Approvals (SCA) £2.417m, Basic Credit Approvals (BCA) £0.181m, General Fund Capital Receipts £0.019m and Capital/Revenue Contributions £0.091m. Details of Educational physical works are detailed below :-
 - (a) In physical terms the construction of the new Alderman Leach Primary School commenced at the beginning of February 2004. The contract will run for approximately 46 weeks and will be completed in December 2004. Following a hand over period the school will decant in time for a February 2005 opening. Regarding the replacement of Skerne Park Primary, the lead Architect was appointed and detailed design commenced at the beginning of February 2004. A design has now been completed and agreed. Production information is currently being developed to enable a comprehensive tender document to be issued. The anticipated completion date for construction is July 2005, which would enable the new extended school and community facilities to open in September 2005.
 - (b) In addition electrical rewiring has been undertaken on a rolling programme, with works carried out at Longfield Comprehensive and Eastbourne Comprehensive Schools, during 2003/04. Boiler replacement works were carried out at Hummersknott Comprehensive, Longfield Comprehensive and High Coniscliffe Primary Schools. The replacement of the internal gas mains pipework and the removal of the associated asbestos and lagging material was undertaken at Hummersknott Comprehensive School. Construction work began on two new music classrooms at Longfield Comprehensive and a Music and Drama Suite at Hurworth Comprehensive, both are due to be completed in June 2004. The first phase of building works to physically link the individual areas of the Corporation Road Primary School commenced. Seed Challenge allowed schools to bid for funding focusing on their own capital requirements, in accordance with the Authority's Education Asset Management Plan, this funding has contributed towards some of the above mentioned schemes. Schools Access Initiative enabled a variety of disability related issues to be addressed at a number of schools. Federation funding secured for Eastbourne Comprehensive School made it possible to carry out extensive refurbishment works.
7. The Housing Capital spend incurred during 2003/04 totalled £7.196m. This programme has been funded via Capital Grants £3.542m, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Receipts £1.389m, usable receipts carried forward £0.638m and BCA £1.627m.
8. In practical terms a total of 324 properties benefited from Internal Planned Maintenance during 2003/04, including kitchen and bathroom improvements and electrical rewiring. This consisted of 166 properties at Red hall, 130 at Lascelles and 28 at various other locations. Central heating systems have been replaced at 412 properties at North Road (125 properties), the Town Centre (104), Lascelles (74), Red hall (59), Bank Top (41), and 9 at various other locations. External improvements have also been completed at 97 properties at Firthmoor. A major programme of extra care work improvements including extension and full refurbishment has been undertaken at Dalkeith House sheltered housing scheme,

while remodelling of flats, internal and external improvements has commenced at Dinsdale Crescent. In addition to the above Disabled Facility Grants of £0.606m and Renovation Grants of £0.851m were paid out to improve living conditions within the private sector.

9. The Transport Capital spend incurred during 2003/04 totalled £4.271m. This programme has been funded via BCA £3.189m, SCA £0.108m, General Fund Capital Receipts £0.146m, Capital Grants £0.680m and Capital Contributions £0.148m.
10. Work programmes continued to be focused on the delivery of various strategies set out in the Local Transport Plan. Corridors of Certainty improvements continued with schemes on North Road near Lawson Street and St Paul's Terrace and on Yarm Road at Hewitson Road, Hundens lane and near St John's Crescent. In addition a major bus priority consultation exercise was carried out for North Road. As part of the action to achieve the 2010 national road casualty reduction targets various road safety and traffic calming schemes were implemented across the Borough including those at Firth Moor, Brinkburn Road and between Royal Oak and Denton. The successful Speedvisor programme was also expanded. The Safer Routes to School initiatives continued and major traffic calming/signing/lining works were carried out in Corporation Road and Salisbury Terrace. Removing obstacles to the use of the highway continued with more dropped kerbs, tactile paving, raised kerbs at bus stops and pedestrian crossing facilities being introduced. A wide ranging programme of road and footpath schemes was carried out including major resurfacing works on the A68 between High Grange and Swan House roundabout. This was supported by an extensive range of bridge strengthening, structural and routine maintenance works.
11. In relation to Pateley Moor Crescent Home Zone scheme, construction work commenced on 5th January 2004. This is a 24 week contract to completely re-shape the layout of the street to a design agreed with residents. This work will create an area of traffic calmed public space where pedestrians will have priority over cars. In relation to the cycling strategy, the surfacing of the Barnard Castle Track Bed, West Auckland Road to Newton Lane has been completed, resulting in a high quality sealed surface, and lit traffic free segregated path for use by walkers, cyclist and horse riders. This will also form part of a pedestrian and cycle route to the new Alderman Leach Primary School. Additionally 400 metres of segregated pedestrian/cycle path has been constructed between Rydal Road and Melsonby Crescent. Cycle parking has been installed at five schools. In relation to monitoring the Council has significantly upgraded its traffic and cycle monitoring infrastructure installing 36 permanently sited traffic counters and 7 cycle counters linked via telemetry to a computer at the Town Hall.
12. Other major physical capital works that were undertaken during 2003/04 include the completion of the Firthmoor Community Centre, with the centre officially opening on the 28th May 2004. In relation to improvements of footpaths in Parks and Cemeteries, works to relay footpaths have been completed in Eastbourne Park, Sugar Hill Park, North Park, Stanhope Park and the Denes, whilst refurbishment work was completed at North Cemetery and Green Park. Officers have received positive comments from residents regarding this work and this has contributed to increased residents satisfaction for Park areas during the Council's annual survey. In relation to South Park Restoration, tree surgeon works have been undertaken and works on the North Boundary railings are currently underway.
13. In relation to Implementing E-Government, further development and expansion of the website, intranet and related processes that include the introduction of a 'Life Events' theme

and electronic on-line forms and services. In relation to CCTV – Parks, Cemeteries and Play Areas a CCTV camera was installed at Eastbourne Park and was operational from November 2003. Delays have been encountered regarding the other installations but it is now anticipated that cameras will be installed in North Lodge Park in July 2004 and South Park, Alderman Crooks Park and North Lodge Park in August 2004.

14. In relation to waste minimisation grant from Defra the “Time to recycle” scheme has been introduced. This has included the purchase of 4 kerbsider vehicles and a recycling box for every household within the Borough. This service has been acknowledged by the Friends of the Earth who have listed it as one of the ten best in the country. In relation to the refurbishment of Honeypot Lane Caravan Site a new electricity and water supply has been provided to all of the 45 pitches. A community building has also been provided.
15. The Sure Start nursery building at McNay Street was also completed during 2003/04, with the physical works completed in October 2003. In relation to the Social Services Department, over the last twelve months a major roll-out of IT equipment has occurred, including several line upgrades and an ongoing implementation of a new electronic client record system.

Legal Implications

16. 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

17. 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.

Outcome of Consultation

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

Council Policy Framework

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

Decision Deadline

20. For the purpose of the ‘call-in’ procedure this does not represent an urgent matter

Recommendation

21. It is recommended that the 2003/04 Capital Outturn be noted.

Reasons

22. To allow Members to note the progress of the agreed Capital Programme.

Paul Wildsmith
Director of Corporate Services

Background Papers

Capital Medium Term Financial Plan 2003/04 – 2007/08

Accounting Records

Brian Boggon: Extension 2305