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**OVERVIEW OF RESOURCES PORTFOLIO**

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1. Since the last meeting of Council, the main area of my work has been in relation to the setting of the Council's budget for the forthcoming financial year. In addition to this, I have presented the following reports to Cabinet.
  - (a) **Capital Programme Monitoring** - We have considered the current position of the Capital Programme. The current projected outturn of the 2008/09 Capital Programme is £134.3million against an approved programme of £134.4million. The report noted various fluctuations to individual capital projects, but that the overall outturn is just below the approved programme. Cabinet agreed a number of changes to the programme.

The report detailed highlights of the capital programme: major refurbishments and new build of schools – Hummersknott, North Road Primary, Eastbourne Academy – together with smaller repairs at numerous other schools; planned internal and external maintenance to 100s of Council houses; various schemes within Transport.
  - (b) **Revenue Budget Monitoring** - We have considered the current position of the revenue budget. The revenue budget was of particular focus during the setting of the Budget for next year.

It was reported to Cabinet that the projected outturn had improved since the previous report (December 2008). Darlington received an allocation of £463,000 as its allocation of the Local Authorities Business Growth Incentive Grant (LABGI). This reflects Darlington's success in attracting investment and developing business growth from 2004 to 2007. Financing costs in 2008-09 are projected to be £53,000 lower than reported to Cabinet in January. This has been achieved primarily by debt rescheduling, and that the Department for Transport has approved additional £1.229m grant for the Eastern Transport Corridor.
  - (c) **Schedule of Transactions** - A number of transactions, provisionally made by the Director of Corporate Services, have been approved.
2. I have attended the following meetings in respect of my Resource Management Portfolio:
  - (a) I visited the main Council offices, as part of the early stages of an accommodation review – 2nd February
  - (b) Talking Together, Dolphin Centre – 10th February
  - (c) HR appeal – 27th February
  - (d) Shortlisting panel (AD Building Services) – 2nd March
  - (e) IDeA interview to discuss Xentrall partnership – 6th March

- (f) HR appointments panel (AD Building Services) – 12th March
- (g) Various meetings with Directors and Assistant Directors

**Councillor Stephen Harker**  
**Cabinet Member with Resources Portfolio**