
CAPITAL PROGRAMME OUTTURN 2004/05

**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 2005.

Summary

2. The total resources available for Capital schemes during 2004/05 totalled £45.616m, however not all of the resources were planned to be expended during 2004/05. The total capital spend incurred during 2004/05 was £29.864m. All single year supported capital expenditure has been utilised and any single year grants have been maximised. The slippage into 2005/06 will be financed by unsupported borrowing, grants that can be carried forward, Usable Capital Receipts and Capital Contributions.

Information and Analysis

3. The Capital out-turn for 2004/05 totalled £29.864m and the financing of the expenditure is as follows.

	£m
Capital Expenditure incurred during 2004/05	29.864
Financing of Capital Expenditure	
Supported Capital Expenditure (Borrowing)	6.850
Unsupported Capital Expenditure (Borrowing)	5.046
Capital Grants	13.763
Capital Contributions	0.369
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Receipts	1.640
General Fund – Capital Receipts	2.184
Revenue Contributions	<u>0.012</u>
Total Capital Financing	29.864

2004/05 Capital Programme

4. Appendix 1 details the progress of the 2004/05 Capital Programme. Column A details the resources available and Columns B and C identifies the capital spend incurred during 2004/05 and virements within programmes respectively. Column D details the resources carried forward and Column E identifies the small amount of resources not utilised.

Education - 2004/05 Capital Programme

5. The Education Capital Spend totalled £8.242m. This programme was funded via Capital Grants £5.101m, Supported Capital Expenditure £1.730m, Corporate Capital Resources, (General Fund Capital Receipts/Corporate Unsupported Borrowing) £0.905m, Revenue Contributions £0.012m, Capital Contributions £0.109m and Departmental Unsupported Borrowing of £0.385m. Details of physical works undertaken during 2004/05 are as stated below:-
 - (a) In physical terms there were a number of replacement school projects undertaken during 2004/05. The new Alderman Leach Primary School was opened during February 2005 and is now fully operational. Construction work commenced on the Education Village and Harrowgate Hill Primary School projects during April 2004 and June 2004, respectively. The new Harrowgate Hill Primary School premises being scheduled for handover during August 2005 and is expected to be in use from the start of the new school year in September 2005. Whereas, the Education Village premises are scheduled for handover at the end of October 2005 and is expected to be in use by early November 2005. In addition, building work on the replacement of Middleton St George CE Primary School commenced during January 2005, the new premises being scheduled for completion during November 2005 and is expected to be in use by late November or early December 2005. Lastly, construction work commenced during February 2005 on the replacement of Skerne Park Primary School, with the new school buildings scheduled for completion during February 2006 and is expected to be in use by late February or early March 2006.
 - (b) A wide range of projects were undertaken in partnership with schools. These included electrical rewiring undertaken on a rolling programme, with fire alarm and emergency lighting works carried out at Abbey Infant, Mowden Infant, Mowden Junior, Gurney Pease Primary, Heathfield Primary, Hurworth Primary, Mount Pleasant Primary and Branksome Comprehensive Schools. Boiler replacement works were carried out at Mowden Junior, Rise Carr Primary and Eastbourne Comprehensive Schools. Heating pipework was replaced at High Coniscliffe CE Primary School and the cold water main renewed at Gurney Pease Primary School. Building works to physically link individual areas of Corporation Road Primary School were completed during May 2004. Construction work was completed during July 2004 for two new music classrooms at Longfield Comprehensive School. At Hurworth Comprehensive School construction work on the new Music and Drama Suite was completed during August 2004, the new Maths Resource Area was completed during December 2004 and the new Staff Room and Admin Block completed during January 2005. Seed Challenge allowed schools to bid for funding focusing on their own capital requirements, in accordance with the Authority's Education Asset Management Plan. Schools Access Initiative enabled a variety of disability related issues to be addressed at a number of schools. Federation

funding made it possible to complete extensive refurbishment and repair works at Eastbourne Comprehensive School.

Housing - 2004/05 Capital Programme

6. The Housing Capital spend incurred during 2004/05 totalled £6.607m. This programme has been funded via Capital Grants £3.530m, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Receipts £1.640m, Usable Receipts brought forward £0.255m and Supported Capital Expenditure of £1.182m. Details of physical works undertaken during 2004/05 are as stated below:-

(a) In practical terms a total of 198 properties benefited from Internal Planned Maintenance during 2004/05, including kitchen and bathroom improvements and electrical rewiring. These properties were predominantly in the Hundens, Lascelles, Parkside and Geneva Road areas of the town. Central heating systems have been replaced at 243 properties mainly at Branksome, Dodds St, Lascelles and Bank Top areas of the town. External improvements have also been completed at 82 properties at Firthmoor. A major programme of 'Extra Care' improvements including extension and full refurbishment has been completed at Dalkeith House sheltered housing scheme and will be completed shortly at the Oban Court scheme, while remodelling of dwellings as well as internal and external improvements have been undertaken at 52 flats at Dinsdale Crescent and Lascelles.

(b) In addition to the above, Disabled Facility Grants of £0.642m and Renovation Grants of £0.681m were paid out to improve living conditions within the private sector.

Transport – 2004/05 Capital Programme

7. The Transport Capital spend incurred during 2004/05 totalled £5.017m. This programme has been funded via Supported Capital Expenditure £3.746m, Capital Grants £0.499m, Unsupported Capital Expenditure £0.466m, Corporate Capital Resources (Capital Receipts/Corporate Unsupported Capital Expenditure) £0.220m and Capital Contributions of £0.086m. Details of physical works undertaken during 2004/05 are as stated below:-

(a) In relation to physical works, the Station Interchange was completed in June 2004, which provides a turning circle for the introduction of a new bus service between the Airport, the Rail Station and the Town Centre. In relation to the Strategy for Buses, the preparatory work was completed for the Northgate Bus Lane including Traffic Regulation Orders, demolition of a toilet block and the construction of a new bus bay. Additional investment was made in improving bus infrastructure, including new flags at 288 bus stops, 76 raised kerbs, 5 new bus stops, 8 improved bus shelters and 250 timetable cases. The Rural Bus Challenge CCTV scheme has seen cameras, lights and solar panels fitted at 25 rural bus stops.

(b) The North Road Corridor of Certainty scheme, was introduced at Fitzwilliam Drive, Thompson Street East, Pendleton Road and Leyburn Road. Real Time Public Information, has been identified at 10 locations on North Road and preparatory work and electrical installation has been undertaken. In relation to the Yarm Road Corridor of Certainty, at Hundens Lane/Yarm Road signals were upgraded, consultation and preparatory works to the outside entrance to the rail station were completed, a zebra crossing has been upgraded to a puffin crossing and raised kerbs and flags installed at

all bus stops. In relation to Safety Schemes, a Safer Route to School scheme was implemented at Cleveland Street to improve access to Gurney Pease School, 7 further safety schemes were implemented, a 20 mph zone at Alderman Leach School was introduced, 2 rural traffic calming schemes were completed and 2 toucan crossing and 1 signalled crossing relating to the West Park development installed. A major programme of highway maintenance has been undertaken throughout the borough, including carriageway strengthening, noise reduction surfaces and footpath improvements. Additionally Bridge strengthening works have been undertaken, at Bates Avenue Bridge, Whitehouse Bridge, Polam Lane Bridge and Oxneyfield Bridge.

- (c) Extensive cycling infrastructure improvement work has been undertaken including, the West Park Link Cycle path, West Auckland Road link, Desmond Way cycle lane, 3 links to schools at Cemetery Lane, Red Hall and Hurworth to Neasham footpath/cycleway. Additionally 1 advisory cycle lane has been installed between Merrybent and Darlington and 10 lots of cycle parking at schools, the hospital and commercial sites have also been installed.

Other Services - 2004/05 Capital Programme

- 8. Other physical works undertaken during 2004/05 relate to the continuing development of South Park which saw the start of the Heritage Lottery Funded Restoration project, with work starting in late August and programmed to finish in September 2005. However despite the poor weather conditions during the first few months, progress was maintained and major areas of the project saw significant movement up to the year-end. These included work to the following areas:-
 - (a) Lake - involving silt removal and construction of new outfalls and boundary walling
 - (b) Rose Garden - involving new DDA accessible footpaths and both hard and soft landscaping to the garden
 - (c) Fothergill Fountain - relocation of the original fountain to the main entrance of the Park
 - (d) Tree works - removal of dead /diseased trees to the park and replanting approx 250 new trees throughout.
 - (e) Boundary Railing - restoration of the main boundary railing to the perimeter of the park and restoration of the main gates.
 - (f) Children's Play area - Removal of old play equipment and creation of a new ,modern play facility.
- 9. In relation to the restoration of West Cemetery Wall project, the walls were in an unsafe condition and council funding has been deployed to rectify the situation. During the project significant lengths of wall were rebuilt to the original design .The major element of the work was carried out along Cemetery Lane, which coupled with the works to improve the Bridleway along the lane have vastly improved the amenity value to the public using this area.
- 10. Regarding the Town Centre Pedestrian Heart scheme, in 2004/5 all concept design & consultation was completed and a funding package for the main Pedestrian Heart construction works was secured. With regard to the physical works, phase 1 of the enabling works commenced during 2004/05. This phase consists of a 12-week programme of works, which commenced on site on 14 February 2005 and includes the provision of bus priority on Stonebridge, Stonebridge Roundabout and St. Cuthbert's Way and junction improvements at Stonebridge/St. Cuthbert's Way and Freeman's Place/St. Cuthbert's Way. Works have

progressed well with the Council operating in partnership with NWL & Transco to ensure statutory services works progress in parallel and minimise future disruption.

11. In Relation to physical works at Faverdale Industrial Estate, progress has occurred on the mains infrastructure in terms of water, electricity and gas have all been introduced onto the site. The access road into the site has been built which has provided access to Phase 1 and to Argos at Phase 2 of the site. Environmental works have been undertaken at Horsefield Pond to provide habitat for great crested newts whose natural environment may have been disturbed through the introduction of infrastructure to the site.
12. In relation to Implementing E-Government, the acquisition of on-line booking systems and GIS software have been completed. The Internet and Intranet capability have been further developed with the Register Office Search system, Record of Democratic Decision (delegated powers), Schools Extranet, Meeting agendas, Minutes and Reports all completed during 2004/05.
13. In relation to the Customer Services and Call Centre, the acquisition of a Customer Relationship Management system (CRM) and related hardware, together with preparatory work to create the physical centres have been completed.
14. Other major schemes relate to a programme of capitalised repairs to operational buildings, with the boiler at Central House being replaced during 2004/05, further disabled disability works have been undertaken. Additionally the final payment for the purchase of the Arts Centre was also made during 2004/05. In relation to the Equal Pay claim, £2.015m was incurred during 2004/05, which the ODPM have given the Authority express authorisation to capitalise, due to the size of the payments.

Conclusion

15. The total capital spend incurred during 2004/05 was £29.864m. Overall a balanced programme has been achieved with a wide variety of Capital improvements undertaken throughout the Borough during 2004/05.

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.

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 2004/05 Capital Programme Outturn be noted.

Reasons

22. To allow Members to note the progress of the 2004/05 Capital Programme.

Paul Wildsmith
Director of Corporate Services

Background Papers

Accounting Records

Brian Boggon: Extension 2305