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**CAPITAL PROGRAMME  
MONTHLY MONITORING REPORT – MAY 2005**

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

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

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**Purpose of Report**

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

**Summary**

2. This is the first monthly monitoring report for 2005/06. This confirms that the 2005/06 Capital Programme totals £47.512m. The Authority requires capital receipts of £2.605m to be achieved during 2005/06. The 2005/06 asset disposal programme totals £3.775m therefore surplus capital receipts of c£1.169m 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. Line 2 details schemes that have slipped from 2004/05 and line 4 details schemes that have commenced in 2005/06. Resources available to the Authority are detailed at lines 4-13. The balancing resource for the capital programme is general fund capital receipts. The 2005/06 total requirement is detailed at line 14 (£2.605m).
4. **Appendix 2** details the capital schemes that have been approved in previous years. Included in this appendix are schemes, where the profile of the spending was anticipated to be phased over a number of financial years and also schemes that have slipped from 2004/05. Column A details the approved budget, Columns B and C identifies the spend as at 31st March 2005 and projected out-turn respectively. Column D details the amount of expenditure for each scheme still to be committed during 2005/06 and Column E details the current years spend to date.
5. **Appendix 3** details the 2005/06 capital programme. The low level of spend to date is consistent with previous years as there is a lead time with many capital schemes. Budget holders in the main have provided prudent predictions at this early stage with the only a small number of variances to budget reported.
6. Additional approvals/movements since the approval of the Capital Medium Term Financial Plan are as follows:

- (a) In relation to East Street Car Park an additional £0.125m is required to be approved to allow the scheme to be completed. The additional costs are required due to identifying additional structural works and the tenders received for the work were greater than anticipated. The additional cost is to be financed from prudential borrowing. The additional repayment costs have been included in the revised scheme and the scheme is still able to be accommodated with Departmental resource allocations. This scheme is to allow the top floor of East Street Car Park to become operational and completion is anticipated in early Autumn 2005. Members are asked to formally approve this additional expenditure, required to enable the scheme to be completed.
  - (b) Additional Land Sale Costs of £0.100m need to be incurred by the Authority for legal and surveying costs in relation to the Central Park Development at Haughton Road. These costs may be able to be re-imbursed, but are required to be financed in the first instance by the Authority from Corporate Resources. A report detailing the implications of the scheme to the Authority is to be presented to Cabinet shortly. However in the interim Members are asked to approve this additional expenditure.
  - (c) Sure Start funding totalling £0.675m has been secured since the last update. This will allow Capital improvements to occur at, Cockerton West, Maidendale House Firthmoor, Skerne Park, North Road, and introduce Outreach Centres at Eastbourne and Northgate. A Cabinet report to approve this funding is currently being compiled.
  - (d) In relation to the Dolphin Centre Refurbishment, £0.220m of revenue contributions are available to supplement the scheme. A full report detailing the scheme and requesting to formally release all of the funding is to be forwarded to Cabinet imminently.
  - (e) The Northgate Building Improvement Scheme, has secured external grant funding of £0.100m since the last update. Cabinet formally released this additional funding on 10th May 2005.
  - (f) In relation to the Arts Centre Refurbishment Scheme, £0.036m of external funding has been secured since the last update. This funding is to supplement the funding already in place for the scheme. Members are asked to formally release this additional approval.
7. At this early stage in the year outputs achieved as a direct result of the 2005/06 capital programme are limited due to the lead time for many schemes. However the following progress has been made.
8. In relation to the Children's Services Capital Programme, Heathfield Nursery/Primary adaptations started on 16th May 2005 and are projected to be completed by 2nd September 2005. North Road Nursery/Primary adaptations are also underway and are anticipated to be completed in July 2005. The final works are underway at Hurworth Comprehensive in relation to the Federation scheme and are projected to be completed by 2nd September 2005. Additionally at Longfield Comprehensive School window repairs and redecoration commenced on 6th June 2005 and are also anticipated to be complete by 2nd September 2005. A major programme of rewiring and boiler replacements are currently being prepared with the work programmed to be undertaken during the summer holidays. Additionally work

is continuing on the construction of Skerne Park Primary, Harrowgate Hill Primary and the Educational Village.

9. In relation to the Housing Capital Programme 98% of the Extra Care work at Oban Court is now complete. In relation to Flat Remodelling, 44% of Dinsdale Crescent Phase 2 is complete and 77% of Ramsgill House has been completed. In total, Internal Planned Maintenance has been completed at 68 properties during 2005/06 and Heating Replacements has been installed at 71 Properties. Additionally £0.065m and £0.082m has been expended in relation to Disabled Facility Grants and Private Sector Renovation Grants respectively.
10. Regarding the Transport Capital Programme, new Traffic Signals have been installed at North Road/Albert Road. Carriageway Maintenance is currently underway on Longfield Road and the Puffin Crossing at Carmel Road North is now fully operational. The first phase of Newton Lane Traffic Calming has also been completed and the Hurworth to Neasham Footpath/Cycleway is now substantially complete.
11. In relation to the Public Realm works scheme, anti bird netting has been installed at North Road and Parkgate Railway Bridges.

### **Conclusion**

12. The Capital Programme totaling £47.512m is on target with movements reported above. Capital Receipts of £2.605m are required in 2005/06. Asset disposals have been identified to cover this and to support future years Capital Programmes.

### **Legal Implications**

13. 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**

14. 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**

15. No formal consultation has been undertaken regarding this report

### **Council Policy Framework**

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

## **Decision Deadline**

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

## **Recommendation**

18. It is recommended that:-

- (a) The 2005/06 updated Capital Programme be noted.
- (b) Additional resources of £0.125m are formally released by Cabinet in relation to the East Car Park scheme.
- (c) Additional resources of £0.100m are formally released by Cabinet in relation to the Land Sale Costs for the Central Park, Houghton Road Development.
- (d) Additional resources of £0.036m are formally released by Cabinet in relation to the Arts Centre Development.

## **Reasons**

19. To allow Members to note the progress of the agreed Capital Programme and to allow the East Street Car Park, Central Park, Houghton Road and Arts Centre Schemes to progress.

**Paul Wildsmith**  
**Director of Corporate Services**

## **Background Papers**

Capital Medium Term Financial Plan 2004/05 – 2007/08  
Accounting Records

Brian Boggon: Extension 2305