

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

INFORMATION

meeting date: 14 SEPTEMBER 2021
title: OVERALL CAPITAL MONITORING 2021/22
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
principal author: ANDREW COOK

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To report the progress on the Council's approved 2021/22 capital programme for the period to the end of July 2021.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives - none identified.
- Corporate Priorities - to continue to be a well-managed council, providing efficient services based on identified customer need.
- Other considerations - none identified.

2 2021/22 CAPITAL PROGRAMME BACKGROUND

2.1 Sixteen capital schemes on the Council's original estimate capital programme, totalling £2,393,320, were approved by the Special Policy and Finance Committee and Full Council at their meetings in February 2021 and March 2021 respectively. This included ten scheme budgets that had been moved from the 2020/21 capital programme to the 2021/22 capital programme.

2.2 In addition, the following amendments have been made to the capital programme in-year so far:

- Twelve capital schemes were not completed by 31 March 2021 and had unspent budget available at that date. The total unspent budget of £724,770 on those schemes, known as slippage, has been moved into the 2021/22 capital programme budget, after approval by the appropriate service committees in May and June 2021.
- Additional budget approvals, totalling £233,410, have been approved on six capital schemes so far in 2021/22.

2.3 As a result of the above, the total approved budget for the 2021/22 overall capital programme of twenty-eight schemes is £3,351,500. This is shown at Annex 1.

3 CAPITAL MONITORING 2021/22

3.1 The table overleaf summarises the overall capital programme by committee, showing the total approved budget, actual expenditure and remaining budget as at the end of July 2021. Annex 1 shows the overall capital programme by scheme.

Committee	Original Estimate 2021/22 £	Budget Moved from 2020/21 £	Slippage from 2020/21 £	Additional Approvals 2021/22 £	Total Approved Budget 2021/22 £	Actual Expenditure including commitments as at end of July 2021 £	Remaining Budget as at end of July 2021 £
Community Services	285,000	1,270,000	60,320	131,660	1,746,980	354,385	1,392,595
Planning and Development	0	26,420	0	0	26,420	0	26,420
Policy and Finance	0	105,510	34,280	0	139,790	11,675	128,115
Health and Housing	424,300	215,340	595,170	101,750	1,336,560	222,752	1,113,808
Economic Development	0	66,750	35,000	0	101,750	0	101,750
OVERALL TOTAL	709,300	1,684,020	724,770	233,410	3,351,500	588,812	2,762,688

3.2 At the end of July 2021 £588,812 had been spent or committed. This is 17.6% of the overall capital programme budget for 2021/22.

3.3 A summary of progress on the twenty-eight schemes in the capital programme at the end of July 2021 is as follows:

- One scheme has been completed.
- Ten schemes are currently on-track to be completed in-year.
- Three schemes will not be completed in-year.
- It is unclear whether twelve of the schemes will be completed in-year.
- Two schemes are on-going Housing grants schemes.

3.4 Progress on the schemes with the largest remaining budgets is as follows:

- **Play Area Improvements 2021/22 (£71,387) and Play Area Improvements 2020/21 (£40,000):** Some significant equipment replacement and refurbishment works have already been completed or ordered in 2021/22 at Proctors Field and Calderstones play areas and in-year routine improvement works continue. However, there has been no spend to date on the specific improvement schemes at Kestor Lane play area, £70,000, and Clitheroe Castle play area, £32,660. The work on these schemes is being put out to tender and the schemes specification and tender documentation is being worked up by officers currently. The current aim is for the schemes to be completed within this financial year.

The rest of the remaining budget, £8,727, relates to budget planned for in-year routine improvement works across various play areas, based on officer and/or insurance condition surveys. This work will continue in-year and it is expected that the budget will be used in 2021/22.

- **Replacement of Refuse Wheelie Bins (£13,000):** Replacement bins covered by the capital budget are to be ordered throughout 2021/22 and the spend covered by the capital scheme budget should be completed in-year.
- **Installation of a Second Parking Deck on Chester Avenue Car Park (£1,230,000):** The option of a second parking deck at Chester Avenue is no longer being pursued, given planning issues relating to that site. Officers are now considering another option for additional parking, but this has some site issues which must be considered further before the option is considered in detail by the Car Parking Working Group. Given this, it is unclear whether any expenditure will take place on this scheme in 2021/22.

NOTE - This scheme was included in the capital programme on the basis that a feasibility study is undertaken and reported to Policy and Finance Committee for further consideration before the capital scheme can go ahead.

- **Refurbishment of Bowling Green Café – Castle Grounds (£16,366):** The majority of the scheme work has been completed by July 2021. New kitchen work and some final mainly external works are currently planned for completion before Christmas 2021. The new kitchen work will be undertaken following consultation with the new café concession holder.
- **Concreting Works to Transfer Station (£12,088):** Initial internal concrete slab work and capping work has been completed. Further internal slab work to the recycling and residual areas and some external concrete work will be undertaken in Autumn 2021 to complete the scheme.
- **Introduction of Planning Portal Link to the Planning Application System and Planning System Update (£26,420):** The planning portal link has been installed and configured previously. Further work is being undertaken to facilitate integration into the Development Management service.

The planning system update element of the scheme was previously put on-hold awaiting the outcome of the planned wider process review in the Planning section. That planned wider process review has still not taken place because of the on-going impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. Also, CMT are looking to consider back office systems integration improvements in some service areas including planning and building control. Given this, the planning system update element of this scheme will not be undertaken in 2021/22.

- **Dewhurst Road, Langho - Resurfacing Works (£67,975):** The pre-tender works were in progress at the end of July and are now close to completion, but additional budget is likely to be required to fund this element of the scheme. The final pre-tender costs and funding of the additional budget are still to be confirmed. The main contract works will be specified and put out to tender after completion of the pre-tender works, but at this stage it is unclear whether the scheme will be completed in-year.
- **Network Infrastructure (£30,000):** There has been no progress on the scheme due to resources being diverted to other projects/work that had been pushed back due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We will be engaging with suppliers soon but do not expect the scheme to be complete this financial year.
- **Re-design of Corporate Website (£12,000):** Work is currently on-going. Based on the current project plan it is currently expected that the re-design will be completed by December 2021.

- **Disabled Facilities Grants (£752,422):** Committed expenditure at the end of July 2021 was based on seventeen schemes approved in previous years and twelve schemes approved so far in 2021/22. In addition to this, there were a further twenty one applications working towards approval, two currently approved schemes where additional approval may be required to fund further work now identified and there are twenty six referrals from Occupational Therapists that may become formal applications in the near future. Further referrals and applications are expected in-year.

The number of schemes approved and completed so far in 2021/22 has been significantly reduced. This is because of the limited availability of contractors to quote/tender for works and complete works post Covid-19 lockdown and reduced technical officer capacity between April and July due to a vacancy on the Surveyors team. The technical officer capacity should increase because the Surveyors team vacancy has been filled, but limited contractor availability is likely to remain an issue for the foreseeable future.

At this stage, there is no certainty that the scheme budget will be fully committed by year-end. Any unspent budget at year-end will be rolled forward as slippage into 2022/23 because this scheme is financed by ring-fenced DFGs grant income from MHCLG and some funding from Onward Homes.

- **Landlord/Tenant Grants (£187,976):** Committed expenditure at the end of July 2021 was based on one scheme approved in 2019/20. The scheme works are complete and payment of the grant is expected by September 2021. No additional schemes have been approved so far in 2021/22. This reflects reduced landlord interest in the scheme. However, as part of the town centre health check work officers are assessing opportunities of under-used and vacant properties, which may identify some properties which could lead to Landlord/Tenant projects.
- **Clitheroe Market Improvements (£78,600):** The plans for this further phase of market improvements, including the way forward for the bull-ring stalls, will be worked up by officers. This work will commence later in 2021/22 to understand how the Covid-19 pandemic has changed the usage of the market. Following consultation with the market traders, the plans will be reported to a future meeting of the Health and Housing Committee for approval before work commences.
- **Replacement of Pest Control Van PK13 FJP (£13,800) and Replacement of Dog Warden Van PE64 EYC (£13,500):** Procurement of the new vans has been put on hold in-year. This is because the Pest Control and Dog Warden services are part of the Environmental Health Services team and available management and staff time on the team has been focussed on other priority areas of work so far this year due to on-going staff vacancies within the team and additional pressures caused by Covid-19. At this stage, it is unclear whether the van purchases will take place in-year.
- **Clitheroe Affordable Housing Scheme (£11,770):** The scheme was put on hold in January 2021 whilst the property was temporarily used as a homeless let. This means the final refurbishment works are still to be completed. The property is still being temporarily used as a homeless let until the Joiners Arms Flats 1 and 2 Renovation scheme is completed. It is unclear whether this scheme will be completed in-year, based on it being unclear when the Joiners Arms Flats 1 and 2 Renovation scheme will be completed, see below.

- **Joiners Arms Roof Renewal (£42,200) and Joiners Arms Flats 1 and 2 Renovation (£13,540):** These schemes are held up by the difficulty in identifying enough contractors prepared to quote for the works post Covid-19 lockdown. At the end of July 2021, one further contractor quote was still needed before the preferred contractor could be selected. Once the preferred contractor is selected, works completion will then be dependent on contractor timescales. Given this, it is unclear whether these schemes will be completed in-year.
- **Economic Development Initiatives (£81,750):** There is no spend to date in-year but the Council are continually seeking to identify economic development schemes which this budget is set aside for. A proportion of the budget was set aside to assess a piece of land along the A59 which is subject to a separate report to the Economic Development Committee.
- **Gateway Signs for Whalley, Longridge and Clitheroe (£20,000):** No spend to date on this scheme for the installation of two new welcome signs and replacement of a damaged sign at Simonstone. At this stage, it is unclear whether installation will be completed within this financial year, as this is subject to gaining the required permissions from Lancashire County Council before work can be undertaken.

4 CONCLUSION

4.1 At the end of July 2021 £588,812 had been spent or committed. This is 17.6% of the overall capital programme budget for 2021/22.

4.2 A summary of progress on the twenty-eight schemes in the capital programme at the end of July 2021 is as follows:

- One scheme has been completed.
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- Two schemes are on-going Housing grants schemes.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

PF59-21/AC/AC
6 SEPTEMBER 2021

For further background information please ask for Andrew Cook
BACKGROUND PAPERS – None

Overall Capital Programme 2021/22

Cost Centre	Scheme	Original Estimate 2021/22 £	Budget Moved from 2020/21 £	Slippage from 2020/21 £	Additional Approvals 2021/22 £	Total Approved Budget 2021/22 £	Actual Expenditure including commitments as at end of July 2021 £	Remaining Budget as at end of July 2021 £
	Community Services Committee							
PLAYV	Play Area Improvements 2021/22	40,000	0	0	62,660	102,660	31,273	71,387
PLAYU	Play Area Improvements 2020/21	0	40,000	0	0	40,000	0	40,000
PLAYT	Play Area Improvements 2019/20	0	0	16,500	0	16,500	16,500	0
REPWB	Replacement of Refuse Wheelie Bins	13,000	0	0	0	13,000	0	13,000
RVVUH	Replacement of Refuse Collection Vehicle VU62 HXK	232,000	0	0	0	232,000	229,150	2,850
PDECK	Installation of a Second Parking Deck on Chester Avenue Car Park	0	1,230,000	0	0	1,230,000	0	1,230,000
WVHKN	Replacement of Pickup Ford Ranger PK60 HKN	0	0	25,250	0	25,250	25,558	-308
RCCTV	Replacement of CCTV System	0	0	18,570	0	18,570	11,358	7,212
BGCAF	Refurbishment of Bowling Green Café – Castle Grounds	0	0	0	45,000	45,000	28,634	16,366
CONCR	Concreting Works to Transfer Station	0	0	0	24,000	24,000	11,912	12,088
	Total Community Services Committee	285,000	1,270,000	60,320	131,660	1,746,980	354,385	1,392,595
	Planning & Development Committee							
PLANN	Introduction of Planning Portal Link to the Planning Application System and Planning System Update	0	26,420	0	0	26,420	0	26,420
	Total Planning & Development Committee	0	26,420	0	0	26,420	0	26,420

Overall Capital Programme 2021/22

Cost Centre	Scheme	Original Estimate 2021/22 £	Budget Moved from 2020/21 £	Slippage from 2020/21 £	Additional Approvals 2021/22 £	Total Approved Budget 2021/22 £	Actual Expenditure including commitments as at end of July 2021 £	Remaining Budget as at end of July 2021 £
	Policy & Finance Committee							
DHRST	Dewhurst Road, Langho - Resurfacing Works	0	65,800	3,850	0	69,650	1,675	67,975
NTWRK	Network Infrastructure	0	30,000	0	0	30,000	0	30,000
COLFT	Lift replacement at Council Offices	0	2,110	0	0	2,110	0	2,110
COADM	Committee Administration IT System	0	7,600	0	0	7,600	0	7,600
COWEB	Re-design of Corporate Website	0	0	12,000	0	12,000	0	12,000
REPPC	Replacement PCs	0	0	10,000	0	10,000	10,000	0
CFUPG	Financial system upgrade	0	0	8,430	0	8,430	0	8,430
	Total Policy & Finance Committee	0	105,510	34,280	0	139,790	11,675	128,115
	Health & Housing Committee							
DISCP	Disabled Facilities Grants	347,000	0	567,500	46,010	960,510	208,088	752,422
LANGR	Landlord/Tenant Grants	50,000	136,740	15,900	0	202,640	14,664	187,976
CMIMP	Clitheroe Market Improvements	0	78,600	0	0	78,600	0	78,600
PVFJP	Replacement of Pest Control Van PK13 FJP	13,800	0	0	0	13,800	0	13,800
PVEYC	Replacement of Dog Warden Van PE64 EYC	13,500	0	0	0	13,500	0	13,500
CLIAH	Clitheroe Affordable Housing Scheme	0	0	11,770	0	11,770	0	11,770
JROOF	Joiners Arms Roof Renewal	0	0	0	42,200	42,200	0	42,200
JRENO	Joiners Arms Flats 1 and 2 Renovation	0	0	0	13,540	13,540	0	13,540
	Total Health & Housing Committee	424,300	215,340	595,170	101,750	1,336,560	222,752	1,113,808

Overall Capital Programme 2021/22

Cost Centre	Scheme	Original Estimate 2021/22 £	Budget Moved from 2020/21 £	Slippage from 2020/21 £	Additional Approvals 2021/22 £	Total Approved Budget 2021/22 £	Actual Expenditure including commitments as at end of July 2021 £	Remaining Budget as at end of July 2021 £
	Economic Development Committee							
ECDVI	Economic Development Initiatives	0	66,750	15,000	0	81,750	0	81,750
GWSGN	Gateway Signs for Whalley, Longridge and Clitheroe	0	0	20,000	0	20,000	0	20,000
	Total Economic Development Committee	0	66,750	35,000	0	101,750	0	101,750
	OVERALL CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22 TOTAL	709,300	1,684,020	724,770	233,410	3,351,500	588,812	2,762,688