

REPORT TO THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE ON 22 JULY 2009

PORTFOLIO: FINANCE & RESOURCES

**REPORT FROM HEAD OF FINANCE, AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE
MANAGEMENT**

**SUBJECT: CAPITAL PROGRAMME - MONITORING REPORT FOR
QUARTER 1 OF 2009-10**

1 DECISION BEING RECOMMENDED

- 1.1 That the update on the progress in completing the General Fund Capital Programme for 2009/10, which is shown in the appendix to this report, be received.

2 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To enable the Executive to raise any queries on progress in implementing the current Capital Programme. Expenditure is monitored on a monthly basis by the Financial Programmes Group, a multidisciplinary officer group.

3 OTHER SALIENT INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Revised Capital Programme for 2008/09 was agreed by Council on 30 June 2009, in the light of updated information following the closure of the accounts for 2008/09. The Total Capital Programme is £1.9m for 2009/10.
- 3.2 Where budgets were under spent in 2008/09 but still required, these were carried forward into the 2009/10 allocations and form part of the Revised Provision as seen in the Appendix to this report.
- 3.3 The majority of the capital provision in 2009/10 is for three projects: the purchase of the new bins for the Waste Contract (£122,500), the Hall Road Cemetery Extension (£248,841) and Cherry Orchard Jubilee Country Park (£100,200).
- 3.4 This is the first quarter report and the detail progress of the Capital Programme at the end of June 2009 is shown in the Appendix attached to this report.
- 3.5 The Capital Programme has historically been funded by capital receipts from the sale of council housing. Since the transfer of our housing stock, we are less able to predict the income that we will receive. Rochford Housing Association now deals with all Right to Buys (RTB) and we are entitled to an element of the proceeds dependant on the timing of the sale. This income is payable annually, therefore any sales in 2009/10 will not be received until 2010/11.

4 RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Delays in completing the items on the Capital Programme could prevent the Council from achieving its strategic objectives and lead to adverse publicity for the Council. The allocation of resources is, therefore, carefully managed to ensure that the Programme is properly funded and the revenue consequences are included in the Medium Term Financial Strategy for the General Fund.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 In the current economic climate, house prices are decreasing. For the RTB market this may lead to an increase in the number of properties sold. However, this is dependent on reductions in interest rates being passed to mortgage applicants, the availability of mortgages, and also the effect of the job market and other financial pressures on the tenants. If the latter points still remain an issue, then this could mean a dip in receipts.

I confirm that the above recommendation does not depart from Council policy and that appropriate consideration has been given to any budgetary and legal implications.

SMT Lead Officer Signature: _____

Yvonne Woodward

Head of Finance, Audit and Performance Management

Background Papers:-

None

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GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2009/10 – EXPENDITURE & COMMITMENTS AS AT 30 JUNE 2009

PROGRAMME ITEM	Original Provision	Revised Provision	Spent & Committed	Notes
IT Requirements	81,000	81,000	-	Annual Allocation. 2009/10 projects: £11,000 Cash Receipting system, £35,000 Elections, Government Connect Project (£35,000). Reported as part of ICT Strategy monitoring.
Wheelie Bins	55,000	122,500	-	The increase in 2009/10 by £67,500 is due to additional bin caddies, funded by ECC contribution received in 2008/09. Reported as part of quarterly capital programme monitoring.
Vehicle Replacements	32,000	32,000	-	Programme of replacement based on life, maintenance and use. Decision on which vehicles are replaced will be made later in the year following review of the Council's vehicles. Reported as part of quarterly capital programme monitoring.
Equipment Replacement Programme	65,000	65,000	-	For 2009/10 - ERM Scanners (£35,000) - decided as part of ICT Strategy action plan, agreed by Portfolio Holder. Council Chamber Audio Visual equipment (£30,000) - options for replacement will be reported to Executive.
Depot Yard Resurfacing	-	65,000	6,311	Works completed - Awaiting final invoices. The total spend is expected to be within £35,000. Reported as part of quarterly capital programme monitoring.
Hall Road Cemetery Extension	250,000	248,841	400	Works being prepared for tender.
Rochford Offices - Electrical Works	80,000	80,000	7,236	An order has been placed with NPS to carry out survey for the electric works.

PROGRAMME ITEM	Original Provision	Revised Provision	Spent & Committed	Notes
Rayleigh Accommodation - Heating/DDA/ Reception	30,000	66,000	4,488	Installation of gas supply at Rayleigh to allow conversion from oil. Boiler replacement is out to tender and it is expected back by mid July.
One Stop Customer Interface Facility (Rochford Reception)	25,000	35,000	-	Architects have now been appointed to prepare specification for the works.
Office Accommodation - Building Works	50,000	50,000	-	This budget is allocated at year end to capitalise any special items that can be classified as capital.
Pavillion Refurbishments	30,000	30,000	-	Executive decision. Essential works to renew old facilities including toilets and showers as part of a rolling programme to bring pavilions up to an acceptable standard.
District Boundary Signs	-	29,500	-	We have now received ECC approval. The works is now out to tender.
Great Woking Public Conveniences	-	30,500	-	Delayed from previous years because of vandalism. Seeking court injunction on trespassers before any works can start.
Play Spaces	50,000	100,000	-	The has started at Conway Avenue, Great Woking and Rawreth Lane. Tenders received in June 2009 for the Play Schemes in Althorne Way, Canewdown & Hockley Woods . Once approved works will commence on these soon.
Cherry Orchard Jubilee Country Park	100,200	100,200	24,438	Programme of works agreed by Executive.
Open Spaces Programme	50,000	100,000	-	The approval of 2009/10 programme has been delayed due to the need to reprioritise some health and safety works not funded within this year's budget. This will be agreed with the Portfolio Holder shortly.

PROGRAMME ITEM	Original Provision	Revised Provision	Spent & Committed	Notes
Sweyne Park (Rayleigh Football Pitches)	40,000	191,000	-	Tender in for grounds work at £107,000. Tender for car park and toilets still waiting. Part of this budget is a £75,000 grant received from Football Foundation.
Great Woking Youth Facilities	80,026	80,026	-	Two teen shelters have been installed on the recreation ground with much success. High levels talks are now underway with ECC with regard to provision of additional facilities in Great Woking.
Teen Shelters Rolling Programme	20,000	27,500	2,567	Units have been installed in Rochford, Canewdon and Hullbridge. The temporary shelter will be installed at Ashingdon before the school summer holidays and a permanent shelter at St John Fisher will be on site around the same time. Consideration is now being made as to options for further facilities.
Clements Hall Bridleway Extension	28,000	28,000		Central Area Committee request for a bridle path extension within the Clements Hall Leisure Centre site, along the western boundary, from the end of Hawkwell Park Drive to Hawkwell Parish Councils open space `Spencers`, approximately 100m in length. Two schemes have been designed. Consultations went to the public and the Central Area committee. One of the options was selected to pursue. ECC didn't approve the design and so a redesign is underway. Revised scheme to be put to Members as soon as a meeting can be arranged. Report into Executive for decision on final scheme.

PROGRAMME ITEM	Original Provision	Revised Provision	Spent & Committed	Notes
Rawreth Recreation Ground - Extension to Car Park	30,000	30,000		ECC turned down the first proposal, therefore the scheme to be redesigned. Subject to final decision by Executive. Request from Area Committee.
Total Expenditure For General Fund	1,096,226	1,592,067	45,440	
OTHER HOUSING PROGRAMME				
Home maintenance and Adaptation Grants	52,236	107,441	35,193	FROM 2009/10 BASED ON 60% OF ESTIMATE
Disabled Grants	196,000	196,000	25,868	
Total Expenditure	248,236	303,441	61,062	
Total Capital Programme	1,344,462	1,895,508	106,502	