
Meeting: Social Care, Health & Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date: 12 April 2012
Subject: Capital Budget Management 2011/12
Report of: Cllr Carole Hegley, Executive Member for Social Care, Health & Housing.
Summary: The report provides information on the Directorate capital financial position as at the end of December 2011

Advising Officer: Julie Ogley, Director of Social Care, Health & Housing.
Contact Officer: Nick Murley, Assistant Director Business & Performance
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

1. Sound financial management contributes to the delivery of the Council's value for money, enabling the Council to successfully deliver its priorities.

Financial:

2. The financial implications are set out in the report.

Legal:

3. Not applicable.

Risk Management:

4. Not applicable.

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

5. Not applicable.

Equalities/Human Rights:

6. Not applicable.

Community Safety:

7. Not applicable.

Sustainability:

8. Not applicable.

Procurement:

9. Not applicable.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Committee is asked to note the Capital position as at the end of December 2011.

Status of the Programme

10. The following table summarises the position as at the end of the quarter 3.

11. Table 1 Capital programme summary

	Full Year Forecast Variance						
	Gross Expend. Budget	Gross Income Budget	Net Total	Gross Expend. Budget	Gross Income Budget	Net Total	Variance
Project	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Disabled Facility Grants (DFG)	3.370	(0.588)	2.782	3.070	(0.584)	2.486	(0.296)
Renewal Assistance	0.244	(0.044)	0.200	0.244	(0.044)	0.200	0
NHS Campus Closure	4.430	(4.430)	0	3.319	(3.319)	0	0
Timberlands	0.931	(0.699)	0.232	0.030	(0.020)	0.010	(0.222)
Empty Homes	0.200	(0.040)	0.160	0.050	(0.000)	0.050	(0.110)
Adult Social Care ICT Projects	0.280	(0.280)	0	0.120	(0.120)	0	0
Houghton Lodge retention	0.002	(0.002)	0	0.002	(0.002)	0	0
Step Up/Step Down refurbishment	0.050	(0.050)	0	0.063	(0.063)	0	0
Sheltered Housing	0.020	(0.020)	0	0.000	(0.000)	0	0
Sub Total	9.527	(6.153)	3.374	6.898	(4.152)	2.746	(0.628)
HRA	5.056	0	5.056	4.856	0	4.856	(0.200)
Total	14.583	(6.153)	8.430	11.754	(4.152)	7.602	(0.828)

General Fund Programme

12. As part of the capital programme review a successful bid was made to increase the resources allocated to Disabled Facility Grants (DFG), as shown in the gross expenditure budget above.
13. In the year to date 283 DFG cases have been completed which has resulted in 354 major adaptations.

These are as follows:

Type of adaptation	Number
Level access showers (all types)	196
Straight stair lift	52
Curved stair lift	13
Toilet alterations	12
Access ramp	18
Dropped kerb and hard standing	3
Wheelchair/step lift	2
Through floor lift	8
Major extension	5
Kitchen alterations	4
Access works	26
Heating	4
Garage conversion	4
Other safety measures	7

14. The grants provided to residents through the DFG programme assist some of the poorer and most vulnerable members of the community. Without these grants in many cases the properties involved would be unsuitable for the needs of the occupiers.
15. By providing such residents with the facilities required to enable them to remain in their current homes, the DFG programme is helping to enhance the quality of their lives. This also reduces pressure on health service resources and residential care, as without these improvements more residents would require emergency or longer term care solutions.
16. The Renewals Assistance programme includes Safety Security Emergency Repair assistance and is an “emergency” type of assistance for the most vulnerable households, for example dangerous wiring, a condemned boiler, etc.
17. In addition Home Improvement Assistance will remedy hazardous and/or non decent homes occupied by vulnerable households, for example leaking roofs, rotten windows, etc. Most defects remedied were likely to have affected the health of occupants.
18. The Affordable Warmth Assistance remedies fuel poverty, usually in association with external funding.

19. All types of assistance provided normally result in improvements to homes that could previously have been affecting the health of the occupants. Assistance is related to improved health outcomes.

20. In the year to date 36 Renewals cases have been completed and are broken down as follows:

Type of Assistance	Number
Safety Security Emergency Repair	11
Home Improvement Assistance	19
Affordable Warmth Assistance	5
Legacy Empty Homes Grant	1

21. Forecast expenditure on Empty Homes relates to Empty Dwelling Management Orders (EDMOs) for two properties in Hockliffe Street in Leighton Buzzard. Two further properties are being progressed but due to the legal and administrative requirements it will not be possible to start works before the end of the financial year. A further five properties have been earmarked for EDMO/Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO). This has resulted in a forecast under spend for 2011/12 of £110k.

22. The Campus Closure Programme is projecting additional slippage of £1.1m into 2012/13 and 2013/14 although there will be no impact on the overall capital programme as it is fully grant funded. Since the beginning of the scheme the authority has spent nearly £4.5m on refurbishing and building new properties. To date, the programme has completed/delivered 10 properties with a further 2 expected to be completed in the spring of 2012. Most of the properties are now occupied but there have been delays with clients moving in due to their vulnerability, completion of the care management process and establishing a route for those without a full mental capacity in relation to their tenancy.

23. Slippage of £0.160m has been identified on Social Care ICT projects.

24. The Sheltered Housing project is projected to slip in 2012/13, although there will be no impact on the overall capital programme as it is fully grant funded.

Housing Revenue Account Programme

25. There is a projected under spend of £0.200m as reported in September 2011 on the HRA capital programme due to efficiencies in delivery of the Estates Improvements and Energy Conservation programmes for 2011-12. This will mean that the revenue contribution to finance capital expenditure will be reduced by this amount.

Appendices:

Appendix A – General Fund position by Capital Project

Appendix B – HRA position by Capital Project

Background papers and their location: None