
Meeting: Social Care, Health & Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date: 30 July 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 March 2012

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 Social Care, Health and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to note and consider this report.

Status of the Programme

10. The following table summarises the position as at the end of the financial year 2011-12.
11. Table 1 Capital programme summary

	Full Year Outturn						
	Gross Expend. Budget	Gross Income Budget	Net Total	Gross Expend. Outturn	Gross Income Outturn	Net Total	Variance
Project	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Disabled Facility Grants (DFG)	3.370	(0.588)	2.782	3.066	(0.704)	2.362	(0.420)
Renewal Assistance	0.244	(0.044)	0.200	0.131	(0.020)	0.111	(0.089)
NHS Campus Closure	4.430	(4.430)	0	1.803	(1.803)	0	0
Timberlands	0.931	(0.699)	0.232	0	(0)	0	(0.232)
Empty Homes	0.200	(0.040)	0.160	0.048	(0)	0.048	(0.112)
Adult Social Care ICT Projects	0.280	(0.280)	0	0.161	(0.161)	0	0
Step Up/Step Down refurbishment	0.050	(0.050)	0	0	(0)	0	0
Sheltered Housing	0.020	(0.020)	0	0	(0)	0	0
Sub Total	9.525	(6.151)	3.374	5.209	(2.688)	2.521	(0.853)
HRA	5.056	0	5.056	4.766	0	4.766	(0.290)
Total	14.583	(6.153)	8.430	9.975	(2.688)	7.287	(1.143)

General Fund Programme

12. As part of the capital programme review (November 2011) a successful bid was made to increase the resources allocated to **Disabled Facility Grants** (DFG), as shown in the gross expenditure budget above. The expenditure outturn was slightly lower than expected and income, including a late additional amount of grant received from Department for Communities & Local Government, was higher than anticipated. This resulted in a net under spend of £0.420m.
13. In the year 2011/12, 397 DFG cases were completed which resulted in 513 major adaptations. These are as follows:

Type of adaptation	No completed
Level access shower/wet room	279
Straight stair lift	70
Curved stair lift	20
Toilet alterations	18
Access ramps	22
Dropped kerb and hard standing	6
Wheelchair/step lift	5
Through floor lift	11
Major extension	7
Kitchen alterations	7
Access alterations (doors etc)	34
Heating improvements	7
Garage conversions	7
Safety repairs/improvements	8
Other	12
Total	513

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 2011/12, 48 Renewals cases were completed and are broken down as follows:

Type of Assistance	Number
Safety Security Emergency Repair	15
Home Improvement Assistance	27
Affordable Warmth Assistance	5
Legacy Empty Homes Grant	1

21. Expenditure on **Empty Homes** related to Empty Dwelling Management Orders (EDMOs) for two properties in Hockliffe Street in Leighton Buzzard. Two further properties were progressed but due to the legal and administrative requirements it was not possible to start works before the end of the financial year. A further five properties have been earmarked for EDMO/Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) and will be progressed during 2012/13. This has resulted in an under spend for 2011/12 of £0.112m.
22. The **Campus Closure Programme** outturn has resulted in slippage into 2012/13 of £2.627m 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 £5.3m on refurbishing and building new properties. At 31 March 2012, the programme had completed/delivered 10 properties across Bedfordshire. A further 6 schemes are in development or planned with 2 expected to complete in 2012/13 and 4 in 2013/14.
23. Slippage of £0.160m has been identified on **Social Care ICT** projects. The projects will now take place in 2012/13.
24. Whilst the work on the **Step Up/Step Down** facility in one of the Councils residential homes was completed, it did not meet the requirements of capital expenditure and therefore the capital funds were not utilised.
25. The **Sheltered Housing** project has slipped into 2012/13, although there will be no impact on the overall capital programme as it is fully grant funded.

Housing Revenue Account Programme

26. There was an under spend of £0.290m in the HRA capital programme due to efficiencies in delivery of the Estates Improvements and Energy Conservation programmes for 2011/12. As a result the revenue contribution to finance capital expenditure has been reduced by this amount, which contributed to the under spend for the HRA revenue outturn.

Appendices:

Appendix A – General Fund position by Capital Project

Appendix B – HRA position by Capital Project

Background papers and their location: None