

Carlisle City Council

Report to Council

Meeting Date: 3 January 2023
Portfolio: Finance, Governance and Resources
Key Decision: No
Policy and Budget Framework: Yes
Public / Private: Public

Title: Capital Budget Overview & Monitoring Report: April to September 2022 – Carry Forward Approval
Report of: Corporate Director of Finance and Resources
Report Number: RD 53/22

Purpose / Summary:

This report provides details of a request to carry forward capital budget from 2022/23 into 2023/24 following consideration of the April to September 2022 Capital Budget Overview and Monitoring Report (RD42/22) by Executive at its meeting on 21 November 2022.

Recommendations:

Council is asked to:

- (i) Approve the re-profiling of capital projects, as carry forward requests, totalling £5,000,000 to 2023/24 as set out in the report.

Tracking

Executive:	21 November 2022 (RD42/22)
Scrutiny:	24 November 2022 (RD42/22)
Council:	3 January 2023

1. Background

- 1.1. This report provides details of a request to carry forward capital budget from 2022/23 into 2023/24 following consideration of the April to September 2022 Capital Budget Overview and Monitoring Report (RD42/22) by Executive at its meeting on 21 November 2022.

2. Carry Forward Approval Request

- 2.1 An initial review of the 2022/23 capital programme has been undertaken to identify updated and accurate project profiles and the Executive approved a recommendation be made to Council to reprofile £5,000,000 from the 2022/23 capital programme into 2023/24 as follows:

Scheme (relating to carry forwards only)	Annual Budget 2022/23 £	Carry Forwards 2023/24 £	Revised Annual Budget 2022/23 £
Carlisle Southern Link Road	5,000,000	(5,000,000)	0
Total	5,000,000	(5,000,000)	0

The Council's contribution towards the Southern Link Road will not be required in 2022/23 and will need to be included in Cumberland Council's capital programme for 2023/24.

3. Risks

- 3.1 The ongoing impact of issues identified will be monitored carefully in budget monitoring reports and appropriate action taken.

4. Consultation

- 4.1 Consultation to date.
Portfolio Holders, SMT and People Panel have considered the issues raised in this report.

5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

- 5.1 Council is asked to:
- (i) Approve the re-profiling of capital projects, as carry forward requests, totalling £5,000,000 to 2023/24 as set out in the report.

6. Contribution to the Carlisle Plan Priorities

- 6.1 The Council's capital programme supports the current priorities in the Carlisle Plan.

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Appendices attached to report:

- None

Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government Act 1972 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers:

- None

Corporate Implications:

Legal - The Council has a fiduciary duty to manage its finances properly and the proper reporting of the budget monitoring is part of this process.

Property Services - Property asset implications are contained within the main body of the report.

Finance - Financial implications are contained within the main body of the report.

Equality - This report raises no explicit issues relating to the public sector Equality Duty.

Information Governance - There are no information governance implications.

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2022

EX.151/22 CAPITAL BUDGET OVERVIEW & MONITORING REPORT - APRIL TO
SEPTEMBER 2022
(Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Finance, Governance and Resources

Relevant Scrutiny Panel People Panel

Subject Matter

The Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder submitted report RD.42/22 providing an overview of the budgetary position of the City Council's capital programme for the period April to September 2022. Detailed therein were the capital budget overview; the overall budget position for the various Directorates; the monitoring and control of expenditure against budget allocations and the exercise of virement.

As at the end of September, expenditure of £6,396,970 had been incurred on the Council's core capital programme. When considered against the profiled budget of £8,212,365 that equated to an underspend of £1,815,395.

The unspent balance remaining of the revised annual budget of £38,555,900 was £32,158,930. A review of the 2022/23 capital programme would be undertaken to identify accurate project profiles for the remainder of the financial year, and potential slippage into future years.

In addition, paragraph 3.9 recorded that a number of schemes were included in the capital programme for 2022/23 which required reports to be presented to the Executive for the release of funding before the project could go ahead. The Council's contribution towards the Southern Link Road would not be required in 2023/23 and would need to be added to Cumberland Council's capital programme as an increase to the overall project in 2023/24.

The Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder then moved the recommendations set out in the report, which were seconded by the Leader.

Summary of options rejected none

DECISION

That the Executive:

1. Noted and had commented on the budgetary position and performance aspects of the capital programme for the period April to September 2022;
2. Noted adjustments to the 2022/23 capital programme as detailed in paragraph 2.1 of report RD.42/22;
3. Approved the reprofiling of £5,000,000 as detailed in paragraph 3.9 and Appendix A into 2023/24.

Reasons for Decision

To inform the Executive of the Council's actual financial position opposite its Capital programme for 2022/23.

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PEOPLE PANEL HELD ON 24 NOVEMBER 2022

PEP.58/22 CAPITAL BUDGET OVERVIEW AND MONITORING BUDGET - APRIL TO SEPTEMBER 2022

The Corporate Director of Finance and Resources Holder submitted report RD.42/22 providing an overview of the budgetary position of the City Council's capital programme for the period April to September 2022. Detailed therein were the capital budget overview; the overall budget position for the various Directorates; the monitoring and control of expenditure against budget allocations and the exercise of virement.

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The Executive had considered the matter at its meeting on 21 November 2022 (Minute EX.151/22 referred).

In considering the report Members raised the following comments and questions:

- Could any funding from the Sustainable Warmth Grants be used to support individuals who could not afford to heat their homes?

The Corporate Director of Finance and Resources clarified that the Grants were to support capital schemes to provide insulation and other energy efficiency measures. She reminded the Panel that there were a number of grants and schemes available to support households in need.

- The Town Deal and Future High Street Funds still had a significant amount money, would this roll over to the new authority?

The Corporate Director of Finance and Resources confirmed the funding would roll over as capital schemes. In response to a further question she stated that should any changes to the use of the money be required it would need to be agreed by government and this would require a discussion with the Corporate Director of Economic Development.

- A Member asked if the scheme for the £110,000, recently agreed by Council, could ensure that some of the money went to rural areas.

The Corporate Director of Finance and Resources responded that the funding had been agreed by Council and the scheme for the distribution of the funds was being prepared. The funds would be available to anyone who met the criteria where ever they lived in the district.

- In response to a question the Head of Health and Wellbeing confirmed that the crematorium

infrastructure scheme would not be completed before vesting day as it was an eighteen month project.

- The Panel asked for further information on the Disabled Facilities Grant underspend, feedback on the impact of the changes to the Policy and details of any spend commitments.

The Corporate Director of Finance and Resources agreed to submit a written response to the Panel.

RESOLVED - 1) That the capital Budget Overview and Monitoring Report: April to September 2022 (RD.42/22) be noted;

2) That the Corporate Director of Finance and Resources provide a written response regarding the reasons for the underspend in the Disabled Facilities Grant budget along with feedback on the impact of the changes made to the flexibility of the Policy and an overview of the budget profile including commitments, future spends and challenges.