

Area North Committee – 26th November 2008

10. Area North 2008/09 Budget Monitoring Report for the period ending 30th September 2008

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Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is to update Members on the current financial position of the Area North Committee as at the end of September 2008.

The report will be presented by the Head of Area Development (North) as budget holder.

Recommendation

Members are recommended to review and comment on the current financial position on Area North Budgets.

REVENUE BUDGETS

Background

Full Council in February 2008 set the General Revenue Account Budgets for 2008/09 and delegated the monitoring of the budgets to the four Area Committees and District Executive. Area North now has delegated responsibility for the Area North Development Revenue budgets, which include revenue grants and regeneration, the Area North Capital Programme and the Area North Reserve.

Financial Position

The table below shows the position of revenue budgets as at 30th September 2008. This includes transfers to or from reserves. It also includes the carry forwards agreed by District Executive in June 2008:

	£
Approved base budget as at Feb 2008	361,980
Budget Carry forwards approved DX June 2008	32,980
Revision of salary budget due to Job Evaluation (JE) results	1,600
Staff Turnover savings	(810)
Revised Budget as at 30th September 2008	395,750

A summary of the revenue position as at 30th September 2008 is as follows:

Element	Original Budget £	Revised Budget £	Y/E Forecast £	Favourable Variance £	Adverse Variance £	%
Development	330,740	351,530	351,530	-	-	-
Grants	31,240	44,220	44,220	-	-	-
Group Total	361,980	395,750	395,750	-	-	-

Head of Area Development Service Comments

A summary of current grants awarded, set against the Community Grants budget is attached in Appendix C. This shows that £22,710 has been allocated, leaving £13,850 available for the remainder of the year. This programme has been supplemented by the two service enhancement themes of supporting older people and supporting young people, which also provided a range of community grants.

The Development budget includes the provision for the Area North Service Enhancement budget, which is currently on target, although this will require some additional activity in the New Year to promote further opportunities for local service improvements.

As we enter the second half of the financial year, an increased focus on the completion of projects within the 2008-09 capital programme will be required. This will be done in conjunction with the relevant Heads of Service, and in particular the Area North Youth and Play Steering Group

Budget Virements

Under the financial procedure rules the Heads of Service can authorise virements within each individual service of their responsibility (as defined by Appendix B of the Annual Budget Report) and up to a maximum of £25,000 between services within their responsibility providing that the Head of Finance has been notified in advance. All virements exceeding these limits need the approval of District Executive. All virements between different Services, irrespective of value, need approving by District Executive. Area Committees can approve virements between their reserves and budgets up to a maximum of £25,000 per virement and £50,000 in any one financial year, provided that all such approvals are reported to the District Executive for noting. (In accordance with the constitution)

The following virements have taken place since the last report:

Amount £	From	To	Details
1,600	Job evaluation budget	Area North budgets	Revision of salary budget due to JE results
810	North Development	Financial Services	Staff Turnover savings

AREA RESERVE

The position on the Area North Reserve is as follows:

		£
Position as at 1 st April 2008		56,910
Extra hours for Regeneration Officer 08/09	(4,350)	
Small Business Development Grants	(7,640)	
Uncommitted balance remaining		44,920

Since the previous Committee report dated 24th September 2008 the balance has not changed.

CAPITAL PROGRAMME

The revised capital programme for this financial year and beyond is attached following this report together with a progress report on each scheme either Area or District Wide that are current within Area North. The estimated spend on the North Capital programme in 2008/9 is £260,590. There is £57,110 in reserve schemes for 2008/09 and a further £192,653 for future years.

The details of the reserve schemes are as follows:

Schemes	Estimated Spend 2008/9	Future Spend
	£	£
Unallocated Capital Reserve		59,530
Somerton traffic & safety in West Street		50,000
Martock town centre improvements	2,000	
Langport town centre access & Car Parks	30,000	20,000
Small business grants	5,000	15,000
Community Safety including traffic calming	5,000	10,000
Improving community halls and facilities	11,310	13,123
Play and youth facilities	3,800	25,000
TOTALS	57,110	192,653

If Members would like further details on any of the Area North budgets or services they should contact the relevant budget holder or responsible officer.

Background Papers: *Financial Services Area North budget file*
