

11. Area North Budget Outturn Report 2009-10 (Executive Decision)

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NB: the report will be presented by the Area Development Manager (North) as budget holder.

Purpose of the Report

To inform Members of the actual spend against budgets for 2009-10 of the services over which this Committee exercised financial control.

Public Interest

This report gives an update of the Area North Committee's financial outturn for the twelve months ended 31 March 2010.

Recommendations:

Members are recommended to:

- (1) Review and comment on the outturn position and explanation of variances from budgets for the financial year 2009-10.
- (2) Note the position of the Area North Reserve as at 31 March 2010.
- (3) Carry forward the slippage of £130,509 on the Area North Capital Programme (Appendix A).
- (4) Note the position of the Play & Youth Capital Investment Programme in Area North (Appendix B).
- (5) Note the position of the Area North Community Grants budget, including details of grants authorised under the Scheme of Delegation by the Area Development Manager (North) in consultation with the ward member(s) (Appendix C).

REVENUE BUDGETS

Background

Full Council in February 2009 set the General Revenue Account Budgets for 2009-10 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 31 March 2010. This includes transfers to or from reserves. It also includes the carry forwards agreed by District Executive in June 2009.

NOTE: Requested carry forwards for 2010 will be considered by District Executive in July.

	£
Approved base budget as at Feb 2009	364,190
Budget Carry forwards approved DX June 2009 - Development	23,630
Budget Carry forwards approved DX June 2009 - Grants	6,540
Staff Turnover savings	(5,720)
Transfer of salary budget to Environmental Health	(20,870)
Reduction in salary budgets following pay award decision	(2,340)
Transfer from Reserves for additional regeneration work	4,350
Funding for training	640
Transfer from Reserves - use of earmarked balances	8,640
Revised Budget as at 31st March 2010	379,060

A summary of the revenue position as at 31 March 2010 is as follows:

Element	Original Budget £	Outturn Budget £	Actual Spend £	Variance £	Fav / Adv £	%
Development	334,830	343,160	299,313	(43,847)	Fav	(12.8)
Grants	29,360	35,900	21,932	(13,968)	Fav	(38.9)
Group Total	364,190	379,060	369,780	(57,815)	Fav	(15.2)

Area Development Manager (North) Comments

Other than a small underspend to support corporate savings the major reasons for variances include £53,780 which has been requested as a carry forward. This includes:

Area North Service Enhancements - £35,700 (Lengthsman £5000; Community Cars £5000; access to services & welfare £10,000; Countryside access £5700; £10,000 unallocated)

Community Grants - £13,970 (offered and accepted, projects to be completed)

Community Safety Panel and Martock cycling by-law - £3,110

The 'Grants' budget is for grants made under the SSDC Community Grants Programme and details of the current position are included in Appendix C.

At the time of writing, it is possible that the carry forward requests will not be approved, and instead commitments must be made from the 2010-11 budget. This would reduce the 2010-11 service enhancement budget to around £20,000 and the grants budget to around £16,000.

Budget Virements

Under the financial procedure rules and providing that the Assistant Director-Finance & Corporate Services has been notified in advance, the Area Development Manager can authorise virements for each individual cost centre within their responsibility (as defined by Appendix B of the Annual Budget Report) and Assistant Director/Portfolio Holder can authorise virements up to a maximum of £25,000 between services within their responsibility. 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 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
640	Strategic Management	Area North Administration	Transfer of corporate training budgets
8,640	Area North Reserve	Area North Regeneration	Fees (redundant buildings) £500 cycleway feasibility study £500; Small Business Grants £7,640

AREA RESERVE

The position on the Area North Reserve as at 31 March 2010 is as follows:

	£	£	Comments
Position as at 1 st April 2009		56,910	
Previous allocation vired to Regeneration Budget		(4,350)	Regeneration officer time
Further allocations vired to Regeneration Budget in the final quarter		(8,640)	Small Business Grants £7,640, Cycleway feasibility study £500, Professional fees (redundant buildings) £500
Reserve balance as at 31 March 2010		43,920	
<u>Less remaining allocations:</u>			
Completion of feasibility study for the Langport – Cartgate Cycleway	(1,000)		£1500 allocated - £500 spent, keep provision for further fees.
Professional fees and associated costs to progress priorities for the re-use of redundant buildings or workspace development	(2,000)		£500 spent to progress re-use of empty property; (NB: remaining £2000 allocated in May 2010)
Promoting local access to services – Area North Community Offices	(2,000)		Allocations to be made.
Support towards progressing affordable rural housing schemes within the Area North	(15,000)		To transfer as required for additional staffing, printing, and professional fees.
Delivery of five community play day events in 2009	(1,500)		Play days completed. Funding not requested to date.
		(21,500)	
Uncommitted balance remaining		22,420	NB: allocation of £15,500 May '10

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.

In summary the actual spend to 31 March 2010 was £121,068 on an approved 2009/10 programme of £239,419. £12,158 of the unallocated programme for 2009/10 was unused. It is recommended that the slippage of £130,509 for both approved and reserve schemes be carried forward into 2010-11.

For future years, there is £110,000 in the main programme and £180,000 in the reserve schemes awaiting allocation.

The details of the Reserve Schemes for future years are as follows:

Schemes	Future Spend £	
Unallocated Capital Reserve	30,000	
Langport Vision, including boating access to parking and pathways	20,000	
Feasibility costs of schemes	10,000	
Local priority projects – enhancing facilities and services	120,000	An additional £25,000 has been awarded in 2010/11
TOTALS	180,000	

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.

COMMUNITY GRANTS

The details of the Community Grants are included in Appendix C. At the end of March 2010, out of a total budget of £35,900, there was an uncommitted balance remaining of £2,544.

Corporate Priority Implications

The budget is closely linked to the Corporate Plan.

Carbon Emissions & Adapting to Climate Change Implications (NI188)

There are no implications currently in approving this report.

Equality and Diversity Implications

When the Area North budget was set any savings made included an assessment of the impact on equalities as part of that exercise.

Background Papers: *Financial Services Area North budget file*