

12. Area North 2011/12 Outturn Report (Executive Decision)

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Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the actual spend against budgets for the year 2011/12 of the services over which this Committee exercised financial control.

Public Interest

This report gives an update on the financial position of Area North Committee after twelve months ended 31st March 2012.

Recommendations:

Members are recommended to:

- (1) Review and comment on the 2011/12 financial outturn position of Area North budgets
- (2) Note the position of the Area North Reserve as at 31 March 2012
- (3) Carry forward the slippage of £127,886 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)

REVENUE BUDGETS

Background

Full Council in February 2011 set the General Revenue Account Budgets for 2011/12 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 31st March 2012. This includes transfers to or from reserves.

	£
Approved base budget as at Feb 2011	263,480
Carry forwards approved June 2011	50,050
Transfer of salary savings	(2,320)
Training spend funding	90
Salary turnover savings	(620)
Printer funding transferred to Finance (year end adjustment)	(1,430)
Revised Budget as at 31st March 2012	309,250

A summary of the revenue position as at 31st March 2012 is as follows:

Element	Original Budget £	Revised Budget £	Actual Spend £	Carry Forwards £	Actual+ Carry Forwards £	Variance £	%
Development	248,120	282,200	232,373	34,000	266,373	(15,827)	5.6
Grants	15,360	27,050	24,056	2,990	27,046	(4)	0.0
Group Total	263,480	309,250	256,429	36,990	293,419	(15,831)	5.1

Area Development Manager (North) Comments

For 2011-12 the base budget of £263,480 included £9,500 (3%) efficiency savings, which have been achieved. The additional £15,827 variance (5.6%) savings are from a staff secondment and further efficiencies to supplies and services.

The carry forwards of £36,990 noted above include:

Item	£	Current position
Rural Transport development	£ 21,000	To be reviewed against local priorities to improve the provision of public/private/community transport services. Report on options by December 2012.
Welfare Benefits advice – additional service	£10,000	This is contracted for with Housing & Welfare benefits, starting April 2012.
Community Safety Projects	£ 1,500	To be allocated against local priorities.
South Petherton Parish Lengthsman Scheme (Transition funding)	£1,500	Paid
Development sub total	£34,000	
Grants Community	£2,990	Five grants offered in 2011-12 but not paid until projects completed.
Group Total	£36,990	

Budget Virements

Under the financial procedure rules the Strategic/Assistant Directors and Managers 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 Assistant Director Finance & Corporate Services 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
1,430	Area North Admin	Finance	Lease for MFD printer to be treated as finance lease. Costs & funding transferred to Finance

AREA RESERVE

The position on the Area North Reserve as at 31st March 2012 is as follows:

	£	£	Comments
Position as at 1st April 2011		43,920	
<u>Less remaining allocations:</u>			
Support towards progressing affordable rural housing schemes within the Area North	(15,000)		To transfer as required for additional staffing, printing, and professional fees. Work to date covered from existing budgets.
Total Committed		(15,000)	
Uncommitted balance remaining		28,920	

CAPITAL PROGRAMME

The 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 (Appendices A & B).

In summary the actual spend to 31st March 2012 was £49,679 on an approved 2011/12 programme of £108,667. £58,988 of the approved programme for 2011/12 was unspent. It is recommended that the slippage of £127,886 for both approved and reserve schemes be carried forward into 2012/13.

There is £68,898 in the reserve schemes for 2011/12 and a further £245,000 for future years.

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

Schemes	Estimated Spend 2011/12 £	Future Spend £
Unallocated Capital Reserve	51,240	100,000
Allocation to support Economic Vitality in Area North		20,000
Planning enforcement action		45,000
Local priority projects – enhancing facilities and services	17,658	80,000
TOTALS	68,898	245,000

COMMUNITY GRANTS

During the 12 months to March 2012, 19 grants were awarded under delegated authority for grants up to £750 and 2 grants awarded by the Area North Committee.

All community grants carried forward from 2010/11 have been paid.

Community Grants Summary

Original budget 2011/12	£15,360
adjustment	(£360)
Carry forward from 2010/11	£12,050
Total revised budget	£27,050
Grants offered, committed and paid in 2011/12	£24,056
Commitments carried forward 2012/13	£2,990
Underspend 2011/12	4
Total	£27,050

Council Plan Implications

The budget is closely linked to the Council 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