

Area North Committee – 26th June 2013

12. Area North 2012/13 Outturn Report (Executive Decision)

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Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is to update Members of the actual spend against budget for the year 2012/13 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 2013.

Recommendations:

Members are recommended to:

- (1) review and comment on the 2012/13 financial outturn of Area North budgets;
- (2) note the position of the Area North Reserve as at 31st March 2013;
- (3) carry forward the slippage of £129,270 on the Area North capital (Appendix A);
- (4) note the position of the Play & Youth capital investment programme in Area North (Appendix B); and
- (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 in consultation with the ward members.

REVENUE BUDGETS

Background

Full Council in February 2012 set the General Revenue Account Budgets for 2012/13 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 2013. This includes transfers to or from reserves.

	£
Approved original budget as at Feb 2012	192,440
Carry forwards approved June 2012	36,990
Transfer from Area North Reserve funding for interpretation panels at Cartgate	4,320
Transfer from Area North Reserve funding for Norton sub Hamdon CLT Trust	5,000
Contribution to portable PA system	(1,000)
Allocation of training budgets	1,130
Revised Budget as at 31st March 2013	238,880

A summary of the revenue position as at 31st March 2013 is as follows:

Element	Original Budget £	Revised Budget £	Actual Spend £	Carry Forward £	Actual + Carry Forwards £	Variance £	%
Development	192,440	235,890	200,940	23,400	224,340	(11,550)	4.9
Grants	0	2,990	(3,576)	5,550	1,974	(1,016)	34
Group Total	192,440	238,880	197,364	28,950	226,314	(12,566)	38.9

The actual grants budget for 2012-13 is £15,370 but as this is funded from New Homes Bonus it is showing as a nil balance in the table above. Together with the carry forward from 2011-12 there is a grants budget of £18,360.

Area Development Manager Comments

The **Development** element of the Area North budget comprises salary and associated costs of running the service. As a result of managed staffing changes this budget was underspent, resulting in a 4.9% underspend on the planned budget.

The Area North **community grants** budget (£15,370) contributed towards 27 projects and services. The average contribution was 22% with a total estimated value of £76,703. For every £1 granted by SSDC, a further £4.50 was invested from other grants and local fundraising. *NB The Area North budget for 2013-14 continues at around £15,000 for revenue support to local projects.*

Of the capital allocations referred to as "slippage" there are no concerns to report about future delivery, and the completion of agreed schemes is a high priority for the Area Development work programme. The total "slippage" shown of £129,270 (Appendix A) included £75,000 of potential allocations to community led projects, and although many schemes are under development applications are not yet ready. This includes Tintinhull and Montacute for new village halls, and a planned refurbishment at Martock Parish Hall. A further £28,000 refers to the Cocklemoor bridge retained payment.

There is around £275,000 to invest in local priorities in future years and Councillors may wish to consider further investment of capital into local priorities of the parishes in your ward - you are encouraged to contact me to discuss this. The current Area Development Plan includes many community based schemes which may require capital investment by SSDC to help make them happen. Recommendations for new schemes are likely to be in

keeping with the council's ethos to support community led action, and the need to reduce the revenue costs of the council.

In agreement with the Area Chairs and Financial Services we plan to provide a half-yearly report with information on the progress of schemes and projects supported through the area budgets by ward. This will link the capital programme, grants and Section 106 monies. The aim is to provide a clearer picture of agreed investment and progress in each ward. NB: Information on SSSC budgets and resources supporting community priorities in Area North is available at any time on request.

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 virement has taken place since the last report:

Amount £	From	To	Details
1,000	Area North Admin	Corporate Democratic	Contribution to new portable PA system
5,000	Area North Reserve	Norton Sub Hamdon CLT Trust	Support towards progressing affordable rural housing schemes

AREA RESERVE

The position on the Area North Reserve as at 31st March 2013 is as follows:

	Allocations £	Balance £	Comments
Position as at 1st April 2012		43,920	
Less amounts transferred for use in 2012/13:			
Interpretation panels at Cartgate picnic area	(4,320)		Project Completed
Current balance in Reserve at 31st March 2013		39,600	
Less remaining allocations:			
Support towards progressing affordable rural housing schemes within the Area North	(15,000)		To transfer as required for additional staffing, printing, and professional fees. £5000 allocated to establish Community Land Trust in Norton sub Hamdon
Total Committed		(15,000)	
Uncommitted balance remaining		24,600	

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 2013 was £10,958 on an approved 2012/13 programme of £65,700. £54,742 of the approved programme for 2012/13 was unspent. It is recommended that the slippage of £129,270 for both approved and reserve schemes be carried forward into 2013/14.

There is £74,528 in the reserve schemes for 2012/13 and a further £246,658 for future years.

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

Schemes	Spend 2012/13 £	Future Spend £
Unallocated Capital Reserve	52,528	129,000
Planning enforcement action	0	45,000
Local priority projects – enhancing facilities and services	22,000	72,658
TOTALS	74,528	246,658

COMMUNITY GRANTS – 4th Quarter

During the 3 months to March 2013, £8,550 was awarded under delegated authority for grants up to £750. See Appendix C for further details.

Community Grants Summary for 2012/13

During 2012-13 £17,233 was allocated to community projects under delegated authority for grants of up to £750. £10,683 has been paid, £6,550 to be carried forward to 2013/14 for projects not yet completed and £16 remained as an uncommitted balance.

Original Budget (including carry forwards from 2011/12)	£18,360
2011/12 Carry forwards paid during the year	(£2,530)
Total revised budget for 2012/13 (1)	£15,830
Refund from previous grant awarded & paid (VAT)	£1,419
Total revised budget for 2012/13 (2)	£17,249
Grants awarded & allocated	(£17,233)
Uncommitted balance	£16

If Members would like further details on any of the Area North budgets or services they should contact the Area Development Manager (North).

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
