

COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR CARLISLE
Meeting date: 5 January 2021
From: Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure

2020/21 HIGHWAYS BUDGET / PROGRAMME PROGRESS REPORT

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report presents the Highways Revenue, Devolved Capital and Non-Devolved Capital Budget finance reports, combined with the highways programme progress information, as detailed in the attached appendices.

2.0 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

2.1 The Carlisle Local Committee's devolved 2020/21 Cash Limited Budget was determined by the County Council on 13 February 2020. The Local Committee is able to vire funding between budget lines during the course of the financial year, subject to Corporate Policy and Service Standards. The Local Committee is not able to vire funding from capital budgets into revenue budgets.

2.2 The allocated Highways Revenue budget for 2020/21 is £1,366,694.

The available budget has been increased due to the underspend of £8,791 in 2019/20.

The available Highways REVENUE budget for 2020/21 is therefore £1,375,485.

2.3 The allocated Devolved Highways Capital budget for 2020/21 is £3,290,000.

The available budget has been increased due to the slippage of £53,975 in 2019/20.

The available Devolved Highways CAPITAL budget for 2020/21 is therefore £3,343,975.

2.4 The Non-devolved Highways CAPITAL budget for 2020/21 is £1,441,472.

2.5 The Highways Devolved (ADDITIONAL) CAPITAL budget for 2020/21 is £1,634,658.

2.6 The Highways Non-devolved Highways (ADDITIONAL) CAPITAL budget is £1,593,306.

3.0 **RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 *That Local Committee note the revenue and budget allocations for 2020/21 and the commitments and expenditure recorded in Appendices 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.*
- 3.2 *That Local Committee note the programme progress information shown in Appendices 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.*
- 3.3 *That Local Committee note the Highways Revenue budget has been split for use against various budget headings. (Appendix 1)*
- 3.4 *That Local Committee note the devolved Capital and Additional devolved Capital budgets have been split for use against various budget headings. (Appendix 2 and 4)*
- 3.5 *That Local Committee note the following:*

The highways programme is very busy with a lot of work in the coming months. This is also a busy time with our winter maintenance, so we do anticipate some forced changes to the programme.

Our aim remains to deliver the full programme of works within the financial year (end March 2021). Officers will continue to liaise with Local Members about any changes to work in their Electoral Division.

Two schemes from the Devolved Structural Carriageway Works Programme are postponed until 2021/22 (subject to LC agreeing a budget for these works) due to funding limits, these are; Oakshaw Hill & Laws Easton and Friar Waingate Bridge.

The non-devolved highways project, Eden Bridge footway, is being delayed due to the ongoing flood defence works at Hardwicke Circus. The funding for this project will slip into the 2021/22 these works will be undertaken as early as possible.

4.0 **BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 The available highways **REVENUE** budget for 2020/21 is £1,375,485. Forecast outturn figures and comments on programme progress are shown in **Appendix 1**.

Works ordered against the highways revenue budget are delivered through a combination of the in-house workforce for Highway Maintenance, Lighting Maintenance and Drainage Maintenance and external contractors for Traffic Signals Maintenance, Verge Maintenance and Road Marking Maintenance.

- 4.2 The available devolved highways **CAPITAL** budget for 2020/21 is £3,343,975. Forecast outturn figures and comments on programme progress are shown in **Appendix 2**.

Works ordered against the devolved highways capital budget are delivered through a combination of in-house construction teams and external frameworking contractors, notably for machine-laid road surfacing work and surface dressing.

- 4.3 The **NON-DEVLOVED** highways capital programme for 2020/21 is £1,441,472. Forecast outturn figures and comments on programme progress are shown in **Appendix 3**.

Works ordered against the non-devolved highways capital programme will include works on the Principal Road Network (PRN), Engineering Safety Schemes (ESS), Priority Transport Improvement Schemes and Bridges and Structures.

- 4.4 In the Chancellor's budget statement on 11th March 2020 an additional £500m per year for the next 5 years was announced. This funding for Local Highway authorities is aimed at fixing potholes and can be used to undertake longer-term works or works that prevent defects forming.

- 4.5 The **(ADDITIONAL) devolved CAPITAL** for 2020/21 is £1,634,658. Forecast outturn figures and comments on programme progress are shown in **Appendix 4**.

Works ordered against the (Additional) devolved Capital budget are delivered through a combination of in-house construction teams and external framework contractors, notably for machine-laid road surfacing work.

- 4.6 The **(ADDITIONAL) non-devolved CAPITAL** for 2020/21 is £1,593,306. Forecast outturn figures and comments on programme progress are shown in **Appendix 5**.

Works ordered against the (Additional) non-devolved Capital budget are delivered through a combination of in-house construction teams and external framework contractors, notably for machine-laid road surfacing work.

5.0 **OPTIONS**

- 5.1 The Local Committee may vire revenue funding between revenue funded budget headings.

- 5.2 The Local Committee may vire devolved capital funding between devolved capital funded budget headings.

- 5.3 The Local Committee may vire (additional) devolved capital funding between (additional) capital funded budget headings.

- 5.4 The Local Committee may not vire funding between revenue, devolved capital or (additional) devolved capital budgets.

6.0 **RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The Local Committee budgets as indicated in Appendix 1 and 2 were approved by Council in February 2020.

- 6.2 The 2020/21 Highways Revenue budget is forecasting an overspend of £13,515 (1.0%), with some headings under review.

- 6.3 The 2020/21 Devolved Highways Capital budget is forecasting an underspend of £28,144 (0.8%).

- 6.4 The 2020/21 (Additional) Devolved Highways Capital budget is forecasting an overspend of £23,998 (1.5%).

7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The recommendations in this report do not contain any legal implications however Local Committee could take decisions that could have future legal implications.
- 7.2 When allocating and moving money between budgets, Local Committee must follow the rules set by the Council following its consideration of the “Draft Revenue Budget 2020/21 and Medium Term Financial Plan (2020 – 2025) and Draft Capital Programme (2020 – 2025)” report (“the Report”) on 13 February 2020 and any such additional restrictions set by Cabinet and or Council regulating the use of such funds.
- 7.3 Local Committees may, pursuant to Part 2D, paragraph 5.1.2 (f), of the Constitution, agree and keep under review the implementation of, the highways revenue budget and capital programme for the local committee’s area to support the Council to carry out its statutory duty to maintain the highway in a safe condition as far as reasonably practicable.

8.0 CONCLUSION

- 8.1 The 2020/21 Highways Revenue budget is forecasting an overspend of £13,515 (1.0%) with some headings under review.
- 8.2 The 2020/21 Devolved Highways Capital budget is forecasting an underspend of £28,144 (0.8%).
- 8.3 The 2020/21 (Additional) Devolved Highways Capital budget is forecasting an overspend of £23,998 (1.5%).

Angela Jones
Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure

December 2020

APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 – Highways Revenue Report
Appendix 2 – Devolved Highways Capital Report
Appendix 3 – Non-devolved Highways Capital Report
Appendix 4 – (Additional) Devolved Highways Capital Report
Appendix 5 – (Additional) Non -devolved Highways Capital Report

Electoral Divisions: All

Executive Decision

Key Decision

Yes	
	No

If a Key Decision, is the proposal published in the current Forward Plan?

		N/A
	No	
		N/A
	No	
	No	
	No	

Is the decision exempt from call-in on grounds of urgency?

If exempt from call-in, has the agreement of the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee been sought or obtained?

Has this matter been considered by Overview and Scrutiny?

If so, give details below.

Has an environmental or sustainability impact assessment been undertaken?

Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken?

N.B. If an executive decision is made, then a decision cannot be implemented until the expiry of the eighth working day after the date of the meeting – unless the decision is urgent and exempt from call-in and necessary approvals have been obtained.

PREVIOUS RELEVANT COUNCIL OR EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

No previous relevant decisions.

CONSIDERATION BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

Not considered by Overview and Scrutiny.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers.

REPORT AUTHOR

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