

# **COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR BARROW**

**Meeting date: 18 January 2021**

**From: Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure**

## **DEVOLVED HIGHWAYS CAPITAL AND REVENUE UPDATE 2020/21**

### **1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**1.1 This report presents the Highways Revenue and Devolved Capital and Non-Devolved Capital Budget finance reports and updates members as to current progress on these budget lines as detailed in the attached appendices.**

### **2.0 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

**2.1 This Committee's devolved 2020/21 Cash Limited Budget was determined by the County Council in 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 Committee is not able to vire funding from capital budgets into revenue budgets.**

**2.2 The original Devolved Highways Revenue budget was £782,608.**

**2.3 The original Devolved Highways Capital budget was £1,323,034.**

**2.4 Carry forward of the under or accelerated spend during 2019/20 was approved at a meeting of full Council in June 2020 This has had the effect of altering the Revenue and Capital budget lines as follows;**

**2.5 Devolved Highways Revenue budget is now £849,635**

**2.6 Devolved Highways Capital budget is now £1,179,802**

### **3.0 RECOMMENDATION**

**3.1 That Local Committee note the revenue and capital budget allocations for 2020/21 and the commitments and expenditure recorded to the end of November 2020 and shown in Appendices 1, 2 and 3.**

## **4.0 BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 The latest Devolved Highways Revenue budget for 2020/21 is £849,635. Forecast outturn figures and comments on programmed progress are shown in Appendix 1.
- 4.2 Works ordered against the revenue budget are delivered through a combination of the in-house workforce for Better Highways and Street Lighting activities, and a mixture of in house teams and external contractors for drainage cleansing, verge maintenance, road markings and traffic signals maintenance. We are currently predicting a pressure of £15,616 on this budget but the Network Management Team will look to manage these costs against remaining schemes wherever possible.
- 4.3 The latest Devolved Highways Capital budget allocation for 2020/21 and additional allocations is £1,179,802. Forecast outturn figures and comments on programmed progress are shown in Appendix 2. Currently we are forecasting an accelerated spend in this budget line of £5,698 but intend to scrutinise remaining works to manage costs as we progress through the financial year.
- 4.4 Works ordered against the devolved highways capital program are delivered through a combination of in-house construction teams and external framework contractors, notably for machine-laid road surfacing work and surface dressing.
- 4.5 Part of the highway's capital programme uses budgets which are not devolved to this committee. These programmes include works on the Principal Road Network, Engineering Safety Schemes, Priority Transport Improvement Schemes, and Bridges and Structures. Additionally, this year the Additional Pothole fund for Barrow also sits within this budget line. The current budget is £1,268,720. Forecast outturn figures and comments on programme progress for the non-devolved budget programmes are shown in Appendix 3.
- 4.6 There is an additional challenge fund budget line which again is sat within the non devolved capital programme. This is managed on a countywide basis and is not reported at a Local Committee level. However, members are informed of progress on schemes within the Borough through the works programme updates at the Highways Sub Group.

## **5.0 OPTIONS**

- 5.1 This Committee may decide to vire money between budget headings. The Committee is not able to vire money from capital budgets into revenue budgets.

## **6.0 RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The budget and financial position of the Highways budgets for the Barrow are as set out in appendices 1 to 3. There are no direct resource implications arising from the recommendation to note this report.

## 7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report which is for noting.

## 8.0 CONCLUSION

8.1 At this stage, the devolved Highways Revenue budget is forecasting a small accelerated spend. The devolved Capital budget is also forecasting some accelerated spend at the financial year end. The Local Highways Team are working to manage this accelerated spend and ensure savings wherever possible. It is expected that the full programme of capital works can be delivered by the end of the financial year.

**Angela Jones**  
**Executive Director - Economy and Infrastructure**

*December 2020*

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## APPENDICES

- Appendix 1** - ***Devolved Highways Revenue Budget to end of November 2020***  
**Appendix 2** - ***Devolved Highways Capital Budget to end of November 2020***  
**Appendix 3** - ***Non-Devolved Highways Capital Budget to end of November 2020***

Electoral Divisions: All Barrow

Executive Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If a Key Decision, is the proposal published in the current Forward Plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		N/A
Is the decision exempt from call-in on grounds of urgency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If exempt from call-in, has the agreement of the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee been sought or obtained?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		N/A
Has this matter been considered by Overview and Scrutiny? If so, give details below.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has an environmental or sustainability impact assessment been undertaken?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		N/A
Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		N/A

**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**  
*[including Local Committees]*

*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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