

COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR CARLISLE
Meeting date: 15 January 2020
From: Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure

2019/20 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 This Committee's devolved 2019/20 Cash Limited Budget was determined by the County Council on 7 February 2019. 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 allocated Highways Revenue budget for 2019/20 is £1,366,694. The available budget has been increased by £48,547 due to a £48,547 underspend in 2018/19.

The available Highways REVENUE budget for 2019/20 is therefore £1,415,241.

2.3 The allocated Devolved Highways Capital budget for 2019/20 is £3,088,629. The available budget has however been increased by £84,760 due to a £84,760 adjusted underspend in 2018/19.

The available Devolved Highways CAPITAL budget for 2019/20 is therefore £3,173,389.

2.4 The Non-devolved Highways CAPITAL budget for 2019/20 is £842,700.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

3.1 That Local Committee note the revenue and capital budget allocations for 2019/20 and the commitments and expenditure recorded in Appendices 1, 2 and 3.

3.2 That Local Committee note the programme progress information shown in Appendices 1, 2 and 3.

- 3.3 ***That Local Committee note the Highways Revenue budget has been split for use against various budget headings.***

4.0 **BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 The available highways **Revenue** budget for 2019/20 is £1,415,241. 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 2019/20 is £3,184,424. 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 framework contractors, notably for machine-laid road surfacing work and surface dressing.

HCSI Repair Teams – Following a review of the current position £103,000 has been removed from the 2019/20 spend forecast for Highway Condition Safety Inspector (HCSI) Repair Teams.

Members may recall when the 2019/20 budget was agreed it was likely that funding may become available but it was considered prudent, due to the potential variation in this work, to allocate ample funding at the start of the year, to avoid potentially cutting back on projects later in the year, should funding for repairs be needed.

At this stage no reallocation of the underspend has been made. A recommendation will be presented to the Highways and Transport Working Group in February. It is likely this recommendation will be to reallocate funding to Structural Carriageway Works as this was where the funding was taken from initially.

U1181 Crosby-on-Eden Drainage Maintenance – This project has now been postponed until 2020/21 due to the need for Environment Agency requirements. £20,746 will slip from the 2019/20 budget into the 2020/21 programme.

Durranhill Viaduct - An inspection is planned for January (subject to Network Rail agreement). Once the inspection is complete, future work can be programmed.

Longtown Retaining Wall – Our contractors have appointed designers for the work and are liaising with a number of stakeholders due to the sensitivity around the repair of a listed structure next to a natural watercourse.

- 4.3 The **Non-devolved** highways Capital programme for 2019/20 is £842,700. 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, Engineering Safety Schemes, Priority Transport Improvement Schemes and Bridges and Structures.

5.0 OPTIONS

- 5.1 Members can recommend that Local Committee agree and keep under review the Revenue and Devolved Highways Capital Budgets attached as Appendix 1 and 2.

6.0 RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Local Committee Highways budgets as indicated in Appendix 1 and 2 were approved by Council in February 2019.
- 6.2 The Highways Revenue budget is forecast to budget.
- 6.3 The Devolved Highways Capital budget is forecasting an underspend of £160,413 (2%). This is due to one project slipping and the need to reallocate an £103,000 underspend in the HCSI Repair Team programme of work.

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 "Revenue Budget for 2018/2019, the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2018/2019 - 2021/2022, the Capital Programme 2018 – 2023 and any other 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 2019/20 Highways Revenue Budget is forecasting on Budget.
- 8.2 The 2019/20 Devolved Highways Capital budget is forecasting an underspend of £160,413 (2%).

Angela Jones
Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure

December 2019

APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 – Highways Revenue Report
- Appendix 2 – Devolved Highways Capital Report
- Appendix 3 – Non-devolved Highways Capital Report

Electoral Divisions: All

Executive Decision

Key Decision

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

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?

Yes		
	No	
		N/A
	No	
		N/A
	No	
	No	
	No	

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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