

CORPORATE AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – INFORMATION ITEM - 20TH FEBRUARY 2024

SUBJECT: 2023/24 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE MONITORING REPORT

(PERIOD 9)

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR EDUCATION AND

CORPORATE SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To inform members of the projected capital expenditure for the 2023/24 financial year.

2. SUMMARY

2.1 This report provides details of actual and projected capital expenditure based on information available as at month 9 of the 2023/24 financial year.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Members are asked to note the contents of this report.

4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 To ensure that members are advised of projected spend for the 2023/24 Capital Programme.

5. THE REPORT

- 5.1 The approved core Capital Programme for the 2023/24 financial year totals £47.289m, consisting of £11.636m for the General Fund and £35.653m for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). The total Capital Programme budget for 2023/24 is £162.555m, this includes the 2022/23 slippage brought forward of £90.982m and additional in-year funding of £24.284m. Appendix 1 provides a summary by service as at period 9.
- 5.2 Actual expenditure as at period 9 has been reviewed and budget holders have provided updates on forecast spend for the remainder of the financial year. Schemes totalling £88.416m have been identified that relate to planned activity that will not be delivered in 2023/24, or schemes that are scheduled for delivery in future years. Consequently, these will be carried forward as slippage into future years. Members will note from Appendix 1 that the majority of the slippage relates to the Business

Enterprise Renewal Team (26%); Education (22%); Community and Leisure Services (16%); and Private Housing (10%).

- 5.3 As part of the Mobilising Team Caerphilly work, the capital programme has been reviewed. The capital budget going forward will be profiled over multiple financial years in line with forecast expenditure to ensure a robust and deliverable programme and allow for detailed financial performance and slippage to be reported on. As a consequence of this, the capital monitoring reports will change significantly for 2024/25 and will provide members with more detailed information in relation to both current and future projects.
- 5.4 Members are asked to note the following explanations for the significant capital variances and subsequent budget slippage into future years:
 - Within Corporate Services, there is £4.732m that is currently unallocated to specific projects.
 - £14m of the Education slippage is in relation to monies set aside for planned 21st Century Schools Band B projects. Current projects that are in progress are the Trinity Fields extension, Centre for Vulnerable Learners, Llanfabon Primary School, Plasyfelin Primary School and Ysgol y Llawnt.
 - £2.715m of the Education slippage is in relation to Welsh Government (WG) Education grants that were received late in the financial year. Works have been identified but will take place during the summer of 2024.
 - Community and Leisure Services have £12.681m allocated in relation to the Caerphilly Health and Wellbeing Centre, this project will be delivered across multiple financial years.
 - Within the Business Enterprise Renewal Team there are a number of Caerphilly Placemaking projects which will be delivered across multiple financial years e.g. The Leisure quarter and Pentrebane Steet. However, the majority of the slippage is in relation to the Ness Tarr site for which we received a £20m interest free loan from WG in 2020. There are ongoing discussions taking place to determine how these monies will be spent.
 - As stated in the Capital Outturn Report, Private Housing's slippage has accumulated since Covid due to a backlog of applications for grants as a result of not being able to appoint contractors. A report is due to go to Cabinet in 2024 to provide further details on how the Private Housing slippage is to be spent.
- 5.5 The £8.372m slippage on HRA is due to the delay in progressing the Post Asset Management Strategy (PAMS) programme due to resource issues.

6. ASSUMPTIONS

The details set out in the report are based on actual expenditure between 1st April 2023 and 31st December 2023 and projected expenditure to 31st March 2024.

7. SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

7.1 This report is for information purposes, so the Council's Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) process does not need to be applied.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 As detailed throughout the report.

9. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no personnel implications arising from this report.

10. CONSULTATIONS

10.1 There are no consultation responses that have not been reflected in this report.

11. STATUTORY POWER

11.1 Local Government Acts 1972 and 2003.

Author: Rhiann Williams - Group Accountant- Treasury and Capital

E-mail: willirh@caerphilly.gov,uk

Consultees: Richard Edmunds - Corporate Director of Education and Corporate

Services

Stephen Harris - Head of Financial Services and S151 Officer

Leanne Sykes - Deputy S151 Officer

Andrew Southcombe – Finance Manager, Corporate Finance Cllr E. Stenner – Cabinet Member for Finance and Performance

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Period 9 2023/24 Financial Summary