

Appendix C: Capital Monitoring

Table 1 – General Fund

CAPITAL PROJECTS	Original Budget	Current Budget	Forecast Outturn	Variance
	£m	£m	£m	£m
GENERAL FUND				
Disabled Facilities Grant	1.140	1.589	1.679	0.090
Adults TOTAL	1.140	1.589	1.679	0.090
Primary Expansions	-	0.167	0.167	-
Schools Modernisation Programme	1.368	1.608	1.406	(0.202)
SEN Resources Expansion	1.220	1.527	1.127	(0.400)
Special School Expansion-Primary,Secondary & Post	1.013	5.818	4.904	(0.914)
Secondary Expansion Programme	-	0.005	0.005	-
Schools Devolved Capital	0.119	0.119	0.119	-
Childcare expansion	-	0.220	0.220	-
Children's Services TOTAL	3.720	9.464	7.948	(1.516)
Capital Works following Stock Condition Survey	0.400	0.400	0.055	(0.345)
B4899 Localities Strategy North (Britwell)	-	0.150	0.094	(0.056)
Thames Valley University Site	-	-	-	-
Asset Disposal	1.912	0.908	0.708	(0.200)
Cornwall House-Fire Strategy	-	0.900	0.130	(0.770)
Strategic Asset Management Plan	2.000	2.000	0.015	(1.985)
Flood Defence (Sponge City)	1.537	1.671	1.513	(0.158)
Zone 1 - Sutton Lane Gyratory (MRT)	-	0.210	0.281	0.071
Zone 4 - Stoke Road (Stoke Rd TVU junction)	-	2.118	0.956	(1.162)
Langley High Street Improvements LEP	-	0.186	0.131	(0.055)
A4 Safer Roads	-	0.890	0.859	(0.031)
A4 Cycle Lane	-	5.285	3.906	(1.379)
Electric Vehicle Network	1.117	1.274	-	(1.274)
Car Club	-	0.100	-	(0.100)
Carbon Management - Public Sector Decarb. Scheme	-	0.022	-	(0.022)
Reading Archives - Extension (SBC Contribution)	0.055	0.243	0.022	(0.221)
Cemetery Extension	-	0.100	0.070	(0.030)
Upton Court pathway	-	0.075	0.075	-
Cippenham Bridges	-	0.150	0.150	-
Swimming Pool Support Fund	-	0.295	0.295	-
Additional Transport & Highways Grant funded projects	2.489	2.489	1.843	(0.646)
Patching, surfacing and highway replacement works	-	0.261	0.261	-
LTP Implementation Plan	0.139	0.288	0.173	(0.115)
DSO Replacement Fleet	0.500	1.200	1.123	(0.077)
DSO Food/Fibre vehicles and Caddies	0.400	0.400	0.400	-
Destination Farnham Road	7.482	2.360	2.186	(0.174)
Parlaunt Road	-	-	-	-
Burnham Station	0.400	0.400	0.376	(0.024)
Regeneration, Housing & Environment TOTAL	18.431	24.375	15.622	(8.753)
IT Infrastrucure Refresh	-	-	0.045	0.045
Finance & Commercial TOTAL	-	-	0.045	0.045
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	23.291	35.428	25.294	(10.134)

Table 2 – HRA

CAPITAL PROJECTS	Original Budget	Current Budget	Forecast Outturn	Variance
	£m	£m	£m	£m
HRA				
RMI Capital Programme				
Commissioning of Repairs Manitenance and	0.250	0.250	0.100	(0.150)
Boiler Replacement and heating	0.618	0.618	0.617	(0.001)
Kitchen & Bathroom Replacement	1.000	1.000	1.000	-
Electrical Systems	0.328	0.328	0.328	-
External rendering, repairs and redecoration of housing	0.985	1.295	0.500	(0.795)
Garage & Environmental Improvements	0.500	0.500	1.022	0.522
Capitalised Repairs	0.103	0.103	0.102	(0.001)
FRA & Asbestos Removal Works	2.000	2.000	2.000	-
Major Aids & Adaptations	0.308	0.308	0.307	(0.001)
De-carbonisation Works	8.171	8.171	5.505	(2.666)
RMI Capital Programme Total	14.263	14.573	11.481	(3.092)
Planned Maintenance Capital				
Windows and Door Replacement	0.328	0.328	0.679	0.351
Roof Replacement	2.000	2.000	2.600	0.600
Structural	0.083	0.083	0.355	0.272
Security & Controlled Entry Modernisation	0.407	0.407	0.407	-
Capitalised voids	0.062	0.062	0.061	(0.001)
Planned Maintenance Capital Total	2.880	2.880	4.102	1.222
Affordable Homes				
Garrick House	1.000	1.000	0.808	(0.192)
Empty Property Acquisitions	1.500	1.500	1.500	-
The Foyer, Beacon House	3.300	3.300	-	(3.300)
Rigby Lodge	1.750	1.750	1.750	-
Total Affordable Homes	7.550	7.550	4.058	(3.492)
HRA TOTAL	24.693	25.003	19.641	(5.362)

1 Adults (£0.090m o/s)

1.1 Adults Social Care has one capital project re the Disabled Facilities Grant. This is forecast to spend £1.679m, £0.090m overspend against budget, but is fully funded by the grant from MHCLG. The forecast is based on 2023/24 spending trends, an updated spend schedule is expected from the supplier in mid-October.

2 Children's (£1.516m u/s)

Children's capital projects are forecasting 1.516m underspend against revised budget. The main projects within Children's have mainly commenced over the summer holidays but there have been a number of delays so there is an expectation for spend to increase significantly in Quarter 3.

- 2.1 There are 2 large projects within Children's (SEND and Haybrook College) that are awaiting Cabinet approval, these may require forecast adjustment and carry forward of budget into 2025/26. The forecasts will be adjusted when more is known on start dates for these projects.
- 3 RHE – Property (£3.356m u/s)
 - 3.1 Capital works from stock condition surveys have been delayed. The surveys have been granted ECP approval and have started, the capital works required following these surveys will likely commence in 2025/26, £0.345m underspend to be carried forward.
 - 3.2 Asset Disposal cost of sales forecast is £0.200m below budget. This is to reflect the revised asset disposal programme and sales expected for this financial year.
 - 3.3 The Britwell Localities Strategy is forecasting £0.056m underspend. There were originally works included in this project that are non-essential that will no longer be needed. Costs of this project are reimbursed from the NHS.
 - 3.4 Cornwall House project is delayed due to issues with gaining quotes from contractors. The majority of this budget will be carried forward into 2025/26, underspend for this year of £0.770m.
 - 3.5 The Strategic Asset Management Plan (formerly known as the Estates Strategy) is still being finalised. This budget will be carried forward into 2025/26, underspend for 2024/25 of £1.985m.
- 4 RHE – Environment (£1.805m u/s)
 - 4.1 Electric Vehicle Network and Car Club projects are now due to commence in 2025/26 due to capacity. The £1.4m underspend will be carried forward to next year. Grant funding allocated and application due to be approved by the funder in November 2024. The funder will then pay 100% of funding (£2.233m) to the Council. An open Tender procurement is due to run November 2024 to March 25, with contract and spend to start in 2025/26.
 - 4.2 Car club projects are dependent on the EV Network timeline. Project includes >£5.000m funding from Concessionaire, and £0.157m of other grant funding, as well as at least £0.766m of S.106 developer contribution funding.
 - 4.3 Flood Defence project is forecasting £0.2m underspend. Onward grant agreements are being finalised with the 2 external project partners, funds cannot be transferred until agreements are in place, which has caused delays to the project spend.

- 4.4 In addition, £0.300m – £0.500m of project spend for 2024/25 is linked to Destination Farnham Road scheme. The project is 100% government grant funded, this underspend will need to be carried forward into 2025/26 and the project to run through to end of 2026/27.
- 4.5 The grant administrator, the Environment Agency, is undertaking a national programme review to reduce project level contingencies in final three years of the project. The project is currently carrying ~30% contingency, and so there is a risk of funder budget reduction of £0.500m - £1.000m from remaining project budget of £5.000m. A meeting with the grant funder taking place in mid-October. Lack of resources within the Council and across project partners is a significant risk to project delivery as well.
- 4.6 The Cemetery programme comprises two elements: replacement water pipes in the old section of the cemetery to minimise repair and leak costs; and installation of concrete plinths for grave headstone foundations in the new raised section of the cemetery to complete unfinished work following the expansion.
- 4.7 The water pipe project has been delayed due to active badger setts in close proximity to the proposed routing and officers will explore whether an alternative route would be more expedient given the delays and constraints.
- 4.8 The programme is unfunded, but there is now only approximately 12 months capacity in existing cemetery sections for all-faith burials, so the Service will explore a phased roll-out of plinth construction, which while likely to be most costly overall, would enable provision ahead of critical need.
- 4.9 The Swimming pool fund programme is on track to be completed by end of March 25 the current risk is low-medium in terms of delivery.
- 4.10 The Carbon Management PSDS programme is also set to be completed and signed off by the end of March 25. The current risk is low in terms of delivery.
- 4.11 The Reading Archives project forecast underspend of £0.2m. This will now be split over 3 financial years up to 2026/27, this will be profiled accordingly during budget setting for next year.
- 5 RHE – Highways and Transport (£3.591m u/s)
 - 5.1 Zone 4 Stoke Road, £1.162m underspend. The final construction works have been shifted to mid-August 2024 therefore invoices for the works will start coming in end of August with the bulk of the works being invoiced in September and November. The rest of the works to be delivered as part of the A4 Cycle Lane scheme.
 - 5.2 The department has requested a funding transfer into the A4 Cycle scheme to ensure we do not double commit the monies and for ease of budget tracking – to be used in 2025/26. Total amount to be transferred £0.720m

- 5.3 A4 Cycle Lane, £1.379m underspend. The tender exercise is being undertaken with the main works expected to start date January 2025. Officers will however progress the utility diversion works. Once the programme of works has been established from the tender return, officers will then project the expected spend from end of November to the end of the financial year, with the remaining budget to be utilised 2025/26.
 - 5.4 Additional Transport & Highways Grant funded projects, £0.646m underspend in capital. This grant can be spent in both revenue and capital, the forecast reflects the expected capital spend. The remainder of the grant will be spent in revenue, this is reviewed quarterly and funding is transferred to revenue to compensate approved spend.
 - 5.5 DSO Replacement Fleet, £0.077m underspend. Vehicles have been sourced and the budget is now being spent. Any unspent budget will be requested to carry forward to 2025/26 to continue replacing the fleet.
 - 5.6 DSO Food/Fibre vehicles and Caddies – DEFRA have awarded Slough additional funding of £2.176m for this project to be spent by March 2026. Work is underway on the profiling of this funding across financial years.
 - 5.7 Destination Farnham Road, £0.174m underspend. There has been minimal spend on the DFR Scheme due to the design works being undertaken and some surveys. Part of the DFR scheme to be undertaken at the same time as the A4 Cycle Lane construction works, with works due to escalate in Q4.
 - 5.8 There is a risk that carried forward grants will need to be returned to the external funder, particularly for the Destination Farnham Road project. This is currently being mitigated by keeping them informed with plans and progress, no issues so far.
 - 5.9 A number of the major infrastructure schemes overlap, particularly on the A4. As a result, we are planning the works to ensure we undertake one programme of works rather than having multiple phases of works with unnecessary disruption to the network. Quarterly meetings are held with the DfT to keep them updated on projects and they monitor the highway infrastructure projects on behalf of all Government Departments. They haven't expressed any concerns yet over the delay in implementation, but our next monitoring meeting is in October, and we will ensure they are fully informed and seek their written support of our approach.
- 6 Finance and Commercial (£0.045m o/s)
- 6.1 IT Equipment will be purchased through the capital programme via RCCO. The budget for this is within revenue and has been approved by Cabinet.

7 HRA (£5.362m u/s)

- 7.1 The HRA capital spend up to the end of September 2024 is £3.579m. The forecast for 2024/25 is £19.640m, £5.362m underspend against budget.
- 7.2 Decarbonisation works is forecasting £2.668m underspend. The original budget was set based on an estimate, this forecast reflects the actual work that is expected in 2024/25. This is partially offset by spend in other areas that are related to Decarbonisation works such as roof replacements (£0.600m overspend), net forecast on Decarbonisation totals £2.068m underspend.
- 7.3 There is a request for a £2.000m virement from the Decarbonisation budget to Roof Replacement. This has been reviewed alongside the HRA business plan and this budget will not be needed against the Decarbonisation project, the Roof Replacement works will form part of this work but splitting the budget to a separate line will make it more transparent.
- 7.4 The Foyer has been forecast down to zero, £3.300m underspend for 2024/25. This purchase is no longer expected to happen. This budget will be carried forward into 2025/26 to potentially purchase the 2 L&Q blocks we currently lease Eltham Avenue & Moor Furlong.
- 7.5 There are various other under and overspends within the Planned Maintenance and RMI areas which are expected to net off.
- 7.6 The capital projects are committed, and we anticipate increased spend to meet targets in the second half of the financial year. We have highlighted the risks at amber as Cardo is the sole contractor delivering these works. We have arranged on-going discussions with Cardo to ensure they meet their targets and increase capacity where necessary to complete our programmes.