

SCRUTINY COMMISSION - 23TH JULY 2008**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES****FIRST REVIEW OF THE 2008/9 CAPITAL PROGRAMME****Purpose**

1. To provide members with an early indication of any major issues with delivery of the 2008/9 capital programme.

Background

2. This report is the first in a planned series of four monitoring reports. The report largely concentrates on known major issues associated with the new starts component of the programme and is not based upon a detailed review of every project within the programme.

Children & Young People Service

3. Bottesford Belvoir High School
The major extension and refurbishment to Bottesford Belvoir High school is on target to commence on the 14th July 2008 with completion planned by August 2009.
4. Melton John Ferneley High School
The replacement school for Melton John Fernley is making good progress and work is on target to commence in October 2008. Completion is scheduled for August 2010.
5. New Post 16 Centre
Detailed design work is underway with planned start date of July 2009 to complete in 2011.
6. Melton Longfield High School
Detailed design work is now currently underway, however, considerable difficulties in determining the scope of the project have delayed the start until January 2009. Phased completion of the Year 7 areas and the sports hall are anticipated in time for September 2009 as originally planned. As a consequence of the delay, payments in 2008/9 are forecast to be £3.4m lower than the original estimate.
7. North West Area Special School
Work to build the new North West Area Special School is on target for completion by December 2008 as planned. As reported in previous reviews during 2007/8 there is the possibility of reduced costs compared with the available resources following confirmation of the contract price. The final position is subject to confirmation of the

need to utilise the contingency provision within the contract sum and this will not be known until December 2008. The project is funded by 80% Targeted Capital Grant and part may have to be repaid. Advice from the DCSF will be sought once the position is known,

8. Oadby Gartree High School
The final phase of works at Oadby Gartree High school involving the demolition of the former school and reinstatement of the land has been completed. This completes the Council's major programme to replace four Intergrid type high schools, totalling £48m, over the past four years. A fifth intergrid replacement at Enderby Brockington, managed by the Diocese of Leicester has also been completed. The County Council contributed £1.75m to this project.
9. NOF PE & Sports Programme
The final project, to build a new sports hall at Redmile Primary school, is due to commence in summer 2008 and complete in January 2009.
10. Youth Capital Fund Programme
The Youth Capital Fund Programme will continue over the next three years, £0.9m will be allocated to projects that are identified directly by young people across Leicestershire.
11. Children Centres
Twenty four new children centres are due to be completed by February 2009, as part of the phase 2 programme. Work has begun to identify an additional 15 Children's Centres by March 2011, as part of the phase 3 programme.

Highways and Transport

12. Earl Shilton Bypass
It is estimated that £8.5m will be spent in this financial year. As previously reported, the overall cost of the scheme is forecast to be £1.7m more than the original estimate. A request for additional grant funding will go to DfT, after approval by the regional assembly in September 2008. The overall completion date is still set to be February 2009.
13. Enderby Park & Ride
It is estimated that £2m will be spent in this financial year. The original estimate of £5.3m in the 2008/09 capital programme was produced in December 2007, since then a revised start date has been scheduled resulting in re-profiling of the expenditure of the scheme. However the proposed completion date of August 2009 has not changed.
14. Birstall Park & Ride
Cabinet approved an additional £600K funding to the 2008/09 capital programme for the above scheme. This has been allocated from the Leicester & Leicestershire Housing Market Area New Growth Point Programme. The additional funding will be used for advance design and preparation work for the scheme during 2008-09.

Adult Social Care

15. Replacement of Mountsorrel Day Centre
Following the completion of two sites at the Loughborough United Reform Church & Shepshed Methodist Church, there is currently a feasibility study being carried out on a potential third site which is to be a high dependency unit. A search is continuing for suitable locations for the fourth and fifth units.
16. Learning Disabilities Respite Care – Wigston
Work on the new respite care facility in Wigston will be accelerated from 2009/10. The phasing of the costs is being clarified.

Community Services

17. Oadby Library
Oadby library replacement is on course to open by the end of 2008.
18. Newbold Verdon Library
Construction of the new library is expected to start in September 2008.
19. Leicester Forest East Library
There is likely acceleration of works on the Leicester Forest East library from 2010/11; works may start before the end of this financial year.

Corporate Resources

20. ESPO Building
Cabinet has approved additional funding to the capital programme to refurbish the former ESPO building. This will enable the building to accommodate the new shared services employee service centre. The estimated total cost is £1.5m. Work is scheduled to be completed within the current financial year.
21. County Hall
As part of the Accommodation review, the Pen Lloyd building is likely to require alterations to enable some offices to become open plan. This will have an impact on the 2009/10 capital programme and further details on this will be reported when known.
22. Replacement of Sports Facilities
Finalising the sale of the playing fields is imminent and revised plans will be submitted for planning approval. At present it is expected that the expenditure allocated in the 2008/09 capital programme will be spent in this financial year.
23. Corporate Microsoft License
Microsoft Corporate Licensing will now be paid for over three years instead of two, as originally forecast. Therefore it is proposed that £74K will be carried forward from this financial year into the 2009/10 capital programme and £107K will be carried forward from 2009/10 into 2010/2011.

Capital Receipts

24. The current state of the property market could impact on the achievement of receipts.

Conclusion

25. The report sets out the key issues at this early stage but a clearer picture will emerge when the second review is undertaken and reported in November 2008.

Recommendation

The Commission is asked to note this report.

Equal Opportunities Implications

None.

Background Papers

None.

Circulation under Sensitive Issues Procedure

None.

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