

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

INFORMATION

Agenda Item No 8

meeting date: 19 SEPTEMBER 2019
 title: CAPITAL MONITORING 2019/20
 submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
 principal author: ANDREW COOK

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To provide members with information on the progress of this Committee's 2019/20 capital programme, for the period to the end of July 2019.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives – none identified.
- Corporate Priorities – to continue to be a well-managed council, providing efficient services based on identified customer need.
- Other considerations – none identified.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 One new capital scheme for this Committee, totalling £20,000, was approved by the Special Policy and Finance Committee and Full Council at their meetings in February 2019 and March 2019 respectively.

2.2 In addition to the original estimate budget, there was one 2018/19 capital scheme that was not completed by 31 March 2019 and had unspent budget of £81,750 available at that date. The unspent budget is known as slippage. This slippage was transferred into the 2019/20 capital programme budget, after approval by this Committee in June 2019.

2.3 As a result of the above, the total approved budget for this Committee's capital programme of two schemes is £101,750. This is shown at Annex 1.

3 CAPITAL MONITORING 2019/20

3.1 The table below summarises this Committee's capital programme budget, expenditure to date and variance, as at the end of July 2019. Annex 1 shows the full capital programme by scheme. Annex 2 shows scheme details, financial information and budget holder comments to date for each scheme.

BUDGET					EXPENDITURE	
Original Estimate 2019/20 £	Budget Moved from 2018/19 £	Slippage from 2018/19 £	Additional Approvals 2019/20 £	Total Approved Budget 2019/20 £	Actual Expenditure including commitments as at end of July 2019 £	Variance as at end of July 2019 £
20,000	0	81,750	0	101,750	0	-101,750

3.2 At the end of July 2019 there had been no spend on the two schemes, as follows:

- **Gateway Signs for Whalley, Longridge and Clitheroe (-£20,000):** The Council is engaged in a dialogue with Lancashire County Council (LCC) regarding the process and the permissions required which will determine the number and location of the signs. Following this, quotes will be obtained for the signs and they can be purchased and installed. The aim is to complete the scheme by March 2020, dependent on the time taken to obtain permissions from LCC.
- **Economic Development Initiatives (-£81,750):** There are no current schemes in progress which are likely to be funded from this economic development capital pot. A number of site opportunities are being explored and will be the subject of future reports.

4 CONCLUSION

4.1 At the end of July 2019 there had been no spend on the two schemes in this Committee's capital programme.

4.2 At this stage:

- the aim is to complete the Gateway Signs scheme by March 2020, but this is dependent on the time taken to obtain the permissions required; and
- there are no current schemes in progress which are likely to be funded under the Economic Development Initiatives scheme but a number of site opportunities are being explored.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

ED9-19/AC/AC
6 September 2019

For further background information please ask for Andrew Cook.
BACKGROUND PAPERS – None

Economic Development Committee - Capital Programme 2019/20

Cost Centre	Scheme	Original Estimate 2019/20 £	Budget Moved from 2018/19 £	Slippage from 2018/19 £	Additional Approvals 2019/20 £	Total Approved Budget 2019/20 £	Actual Expenditure including commitments as at end of July 2019 £	Variance as at end of July 2019 £
GWSGN	Gateway Signs for Whalley, Longridge and Clitheroe	20,000	0	0	0	20,000	0	-20,000
ECDVI	Economic Development Initiatives	0	0	81,750	0	81,750	0	-81,750
Total Economic Development Committee		20,000	0	81,750	0	101,750	0	-101,750

Gateway Signs for Whalley, Longridge and Clitheroe

Service Area: Tourism and Events

Submitted by: Mark Beveridge

Brief Description of the Scheme:

The Economic Development Committee has requested that a bid be submitted for gateway signs to be erected on the major roads into the three settlements. These signs are approx 1.5m high x 1m wide, they can have an iconic image which represents an area plus a tag line, such as "Welcome To..". The exact number of signs would need to be determined following a site visit by an approved contractor. The signs have to meet Highway Authority regulations which mean that some smaller roads would not be suitable for these large signs. Costs include the cost of the signs, fitting of the signs, foundations work, making good the ground and traffic management.

The £20,000 budget will be used to fund as many signs as can be accommodated within budget. Budget Working Group and Corporate Management Team recommended that an external quote be sought for this work, including installation.

Revenue Implications:

These signs would be RVBC responsibility and cleaning and maintenance would fall to the Council, approx £1,000 per annum broad estimate.

Timescale for Completion:

2019/20.

Capital Cost:

	£	Actual Expenditure including commitments as at end of July 2019 £	Variance as at end of July 2019 £
Total Approved Budget 2019/20	20,000	0	-20,000
ANTICIPATED TOTAL SCHEME COST	20,000		

Progress – Budget Holder Comments:

July 2019: The Council is engaged in a dialogue with Lancashire County Council (LCC) regarding the process and the permissions required which will determine the number and location of the signs. Following this, quotes will be obtained for the signs and they can be purchased and installed. The aim is to complete the scheme by March 2020, dependent on the time taken to obtain permissions from LCC.

Economic Development Initiatives

Service Area: Regeneration and Housing

Submitted by: Colin Hirst

Brief Description of the Scheme:

The project is to establish a general source of pump-priming and pre-investment funding to support the delivery of the Council's economic priorities. The bid particularly seeks to support our high growth sectors in the provision of land and premises or tourism infrastructure where applicable. The Council needs to be able to develop and respond to initiatives that will support delivery of business growth. In order to develop schemes, funding needs to be available to undertake works in areas such as valuation and feasibility assessments, due-diligence, initial planning and design work. As projects progress funding needs to be available to support acquisition, marketing and development. Specific funding for land or premises would be the subject of separate bids as required.

Projects include identifying options to deliver employment land, schemes to support high growth business opportunities and necessary infrastructure to support our rural business base including tourism.

Revenue Implications:

Unspecified – general revenue costs would be anticipated to be contained within existing budgets.

Timescale for Completion:

Key milestones will depend upon the individual projects developed.

Capital Cost:

	£	Actual Expenditure including commitments as at end of July 2019 £	Variance as at end of July 2019 £
Original Estimate 2019/20	0		
Slippage from 2018/19	81,750		
Total Approved Budget 2019/20	81,750	0	-81,750
Actual Expenditure in 2018/19	0		
ANTICIPATED TOTAL SCHEME COST	81,750		

Progress - Budget Holder Comments

July 2019: There are no current schemes in progress which are likely to be funded from this economic development capital pot. A number of site opportunities are being explored and will be the subject of future reports.

March 2019: There was no expenditure on this Committee's capital scheme in 2018/19, because no appropriate development opportunities have arisen in-year which have required funding from this capital scheme.

Economic Development Committee – Capital Programme 2019/20

December 2018: A number of site opportunities are being explored in more detail, as per the report elsewhere on this agenda. At this stage, no specific scheme costs are being charged to this Economic Development Initiatives capital budget, but there is always the possibility that a valuation or assessment in-year may require expenditure in relation to acquisition at short notice.

September/October 2018: A number of site opportunities are under preliminary investigation and will be reported to this Committee in due course. It is anticipated that this capital scheme be considered to help support any emerging initiatives that arise as a result of that report.

August 2018: Development opportunities to bring forward land for employment will be reported to this Committee in due course. It is anticipated that this capital scheme be considered to help support any emerging initiatives that arise as a result of that report.

December 2017: There has been no spend on the scheme in-year, with costs for support work being charged to revenue budgets rather than capital. Development opportunities to bring forward land for employment are being reviewed and will be reported to this Committee in due course. It is anticipated that this capital scheme be considered to help support any emerging initiatives that arise as a result of that report. It is recommended that the 2017/18 revised estimate is reduced to nil and the £100,000 budget is moved to 2018/19.

July 2017: Development opportunities to bring forward land for employment are being reviewed and will be reported to this Committee. It is anticipated that this capital scheme be considered to help support any emerging initiatives that arise as a result of that report.

December 2016: There are no appropriate economic development opportunities in progress currently which are likely to be funded from this economic development capital pot before the year-end. It is recommended that the revised estimate is reduced to nil and the £100,000 budget is moved to 2017/18.

September/October 2016: No change from July 2016 comments - There are no appropriate economic development opportunities in progress currently which are likely to be funded from this economic development capital pot.

July 2016: There are no appropriate economic development opportunities in progress currently which are likely to be funded from this economic development capital pot.

May/June 2016: The one site acquisition proposal being seriously considered will not now go ahead, as resolved by Policy and Finance Committee. There are no other appropriate economic development opportunities in progress currently which are likely to be funded from this economic development capital pot.

March 2016: One site acquisition investment was being considered in 2015/16, but no confirmation was in place for the acquisition to go ahead at year-end. Slippage of the 2015/16 underspend is requested to fund both the pump prime costs associated with the site acquisition being considered and any further economic development opportunities that may arise.

January 2016: The site acquisition approved by this Committee in October 2015 is the one economic development opportunity in progress currently that will require investment support funding from the Economic Development Initiatives budget. At this stage, the actual timing of the site acquisition and any support costs to be funded from this budget is not confirmed. Any unused budget from 2015/16 will be moved into 2016/17 as slippage.

September 2015: The District Valuer has secured initial agreement with land owners on values and details are being progressed to acquire a site. Expenditure has been drawn from other revenue budgets to fund pre-investment works so far.

July 2015: The Council has instructed the District Valuer to negotiate the purchase of some land on one scheme and we are currently awaiting the outcome of this. Expenditure has been drawn from other revenue budgets to fund pre-investment works so far.

Economic Development Committee – Capital Programme 2019/20

September 2014: The Council continues to seek land for potential economic development. Expenditure has been drawn from revenue budgets to fund pre-investment works to date.

July 2014: The Council continues to seek land for potential economic development.

March 2014: Projects have not reached a stage where capital is required. Expenditure has been drawn from other revenue budgets to fund pre-investment works.

September 2013: Work on the scheme has been undertaken, however expenditure has been revenue based rather than capital.

July 2013: An area of land has been identified and measures are being taken to secure the land for industrial development.

March 2013: The Council is continuing pursuing the acquisition of land for employment purposes.

September 2012: No further progress since June 2012.

June 2012: Initial discussions have been held with relevant landowners. The District Valuer has been instructed to prepare valuation advice on potential sites. This advice has been received and is being given further consideration. The Asset Management Group has considered site options. An options report will be prepared once options are determined. Expenditure will be required on feasibility reports once an option is agreed and on pre-acquisition and due diligence processes.