

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME DETAIL

1.1 Community Buildings Investment

The Kingshill House Trust continues to be keen to take on the freehold interest of Kingshill House (Community Buildings Investment). Discussions are ongoing and a transfer date of 2021/22 is now anticipated. It is expected that a report will be taken to a future meeting of Strategy and Resources Committee to approve, in principle, the terms for a transfer once they have been.

1.2 Stratford Park Lido

The preparation work has been undertaken by the consultants regarding submission of a bid. This work has now been completed but due to Covid-19 has not been followed up. Their recommendation is to submit bids into alternative funding before a submission is made to HLF. These bids will support the submission to the HLF as well as catering for any possible changes that might be recommended following the Stratford Park review. Due to the impact of Covid-19, this has now been re-profiled to 2021/22.

1.3 Canal

Following the announcement of the National Lottery Heritage Fund grant award in October, the necessary preparatory work is well underway. This includes land acquisition, detailed design work and the Missing Mile planning application. Volunteer work has been delayed due to the impact of Covid-19.

1.4 Market Town Centers Initiative Fund.

The Distribution of Market Towns Funding was agreed at the January 2019 by Strategy and Resources Committee. In order to be able to distribute the funds to the relevant Town Councils, written confirmation has been sought that they would spend the funds as agreed. Some responses were received after the relevant financial year, resulting in a variance against the profiled budget, this will be taken into account in 2021/22.

1.5 Multi- Service Contract – Vehicles

The 2020/21 budget was revised in-line with the Ubico fleet replacement programme this incorporated slippage from previous years along with budget re-profiled from future years. Overall the Capital programme is still on schedule, but the pandemic has affected manufacturers which meant a small number of vehicles were delivered beyond the end of March 2021. Any slippage as a consequence of this will be re-profiled into next financial year.

1.6 Stroud District Cycling and Walking Plan

The allocated budget for 20/21 remained unspent and is requested to be carried forward. This was due to some delays in implementing projects which are being coordinated by Gloucestershire County Council. Despite this, progress has been made on the Nailsworth – Dudbridge track relating to bridge repairs and resurfacing some missing sections. Requests for contributions to this work are expected Q1 2021/22. Previous allocations will remain in place to be allocated as work progresses. Future expenditure are expected to be aligned with the draft Local Cycling and Walking Plan (LCWIP) and established greenway projects.

1.7 Stratford Park Acquisition of Machinery

The transfer of grounds maintenance contract for Stratford Park and Brimscombe Cemetery to Ubico was approved on the 14 April 2020 by Officer decision in consultation with group leaders and Chairs of the relevant Committees. £95k capital funding was allocated to the project (£81k fleet mobilisation and £14k for site enhancements.) from within the current MTFP and is fully spent in 2020/21, which allowed the mobilisation of the contract on 1 December 2020. Currently the £14k remains unspent, whilst works options are reviewed further. It is anticipated to be fully utilised on 2021/22.

1.8 Wallbridge Gateway

A preliminary design for the scheme has been discussed with Stroud Town Council, however, the detail of the design has not been progressed since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. The implementation of the final scheme is now therefore anticipated for completion by summer 2022. It is recommended in light of this information, that the budget is therefore proposed to be re-profiled to 2021/2.

1.9 Brimscombe Port Mill Works

The Office spaces and common areas of the Mill required improvement and refurbishment prior to re-letting at a total projected contract cost of £437k, of this £325k is deemed Capital expenditure. These works have been completed and we await issue of practical completion and agreement of the final account.

A settlement of £68k in respect of dilapidations has been reached with the former tenant of suites 4, 5 & 6 and consultants have been instructed to recover dilapidations costs from the former tenant of suites 7,8 & 9 where the current projection is £35-40k

All costs will be funded from the Brimscombe Port funding transferred from SVCC at transfer.

1.10 Brimscombe Port Redevelopment

The underspend for 2020/21 is mainly due to fact that the procurement process has not started. These costs will now be spent in 2021/22. Approval to proceed with the procurement of a developer partner was granted by Strategy and Resources on the 4 March 2021 and planning permission for the infrastructure was received on the 24 March 2021. Now that these are in place the procurement process can commence together with the demolition of the buildings across the Port in accordance with the current key milestones.

1.11 Electric Vehicle Acquisition

The County group have met regarding installing electric vehicle points across the county. However due to the Covid-19 pandemic the group has not met recently. A plan is being drawn up, but nothing has been agreed and will now hopefully commence in 2021/22.

1.12 ICT Investment Plan

The underspend is due to the planned works to upgrade the Wi-Fi solution at Ebley Mill and other sites, this work has been delayed until 2021/22 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The underspend will be transferred to the transformation programme for 21/22.

1.13 Water Source Heat Pumps

The Capital project to install the Water Source Heat Pumps at Ebley Mill and Brimscombe Port was approved by Council on the 16th July 2020. The spend in this financial year is £78k

for the cost of planning fees and the contractor's final design fees in order to bring the schemes to the construction phase.

Works have commenced on both sites and are due for completion in August 2021 at Brimscombe Port Mill and October 2021 at Ebley Mill.

1.14 Affordable Housing (Support to Registered Providers)

This is funding to provide occasional grant assistance to housing associations. It is requested that the remaining budget from 2020/21 will be carried forward into 2021/22.

1.15 Better Care Fund Projects

This is funding made available from the Better Care Fund (administered by Gloucestershire County Council).

1.16 Disabled Facilities Grant Scheme

This funding is provided through the Better Care Fund, with any underspends being returned to the countywide pot to fund other projects.

1.17 Green Homes LADS Park Homes

A Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) funded scheme to install insulation and air source heat pumps in park homes in off-gas rural areas. This scheme covers Gloucestershire and South Gloucestershire.

It is requested that the remaining funding at year end carry forward into 2021/22, with an extended deadline of 30 June now in place. There is additional funding secured for the 2021/22 financial year.

1.18 Health through Warmth Grants

This is funded by the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and like Warm Homes covers the whole county. The funding for the Health through Warmth is predominantly used for insulation and heating systems to increase thermal efficiency in homes of people with cold or damp related health issues. Where possible this used in conjunction with the Warm Homes funding. A delay due to Covid-19 lockdowns has led to an underspend in this year.

1.19 Park Homes

Prior to the announcement of the Green Homes LADS scheme for park homes, funding had been agreed from the Better Care Fund. From the commencement of the Green Homes LADS scheme, that funding has been prioritised and no additional spend was made from the Better Care Fund in this year.

1.22 Warm Homes

This is funding for central heating systems in homes across Gloucestershire, for which SDC is leading. It is externally funded by National Grid, through Affordable Homes Solutions.

The scheme was due to end in 2020/21, however, due to slippage because of Covid-19 discussions are underway to try and extend the scheme. Any slippage to 2021/22 can only be spent up to the external funding level received.