
7a Budget Matters 2009/10

- Purpose of Report

To provide the Board with an update on spend and programming of the Partnership's budgets and to alert the Board to any matters arising.

- Background

The Board has requested that a general report be submitted to each Board meeting monitoring budget expenditure, identifying any potential budget issues and reporting on any particular expenditure requests. The report is prepared jointly by the Nestrans office and Aberdeenshire Finance officers.

The Partnership's combined revenue and capital budget for 2009/10 amounts to £4,353,000.

- Issues

Current Revenue & Capital Budget

Appendix 1 to this report sets out a summary monitoring statement of expenditure to 28 February 2010. This shows expenditure of £2,186,581, which is broadly in line with expectations at this time of year. This represents expenditure to date of 74% of the Revenue Budget and 40% of the Capital. The lesser expenditure on Capital projects is due to the majority of the construction projects being undertaken towards the end of the financial year, following completion of the necessary earlier design processes. Many of these schemes have also been delayed due to adverse weather conditions, therefore although the projects are all now nearing completion, invoices have yet to be received.

Monitoring of the Capital Budget has however shown a predicted underspend, which is mainly due to tenders coming in at lower prices than experienced in previous years and some reductions in the additional lengths of cycleway that it has been feasible to construct this year. It is proposed to use this underspend by allocating contributions of £11,135 towards the purchase of car club vehicles for Aberdeen City, £48,000 to install a zebra crossing at Market Place Inverurie and £75,000 to each Council to assist with strategic road maintenance that has been necessary as a result of the recent lengthy periods of below freezing conditions. Contributions to resurfacing of strategic routes that have been undertaken this financial year by both Authorities have been identified should the Board be in agreement. This adjustment would allow the forecast spend on the Capital programme to remain at £3,114,000 and match the available grant.

We are not aware of any significant issues affecting the Revenue budget other than those that have been identified in earlier reports

- Recommendations

The Board is requested to

1. Note the 2009/10 Revenue budget and Capital programme monitoring report as at 28 February 2010 and approve the additional capital expenditure that has been instructed.

JA/26 March 2010