



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Neath Port Talbot Council

CABINET

4TH December 2024

Report of the Director of Finance

Wards affected – All

Matter for Decision

Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2024/25 – As at end of September 2024

Purpose of Report

To provide Members with information in relation to delivery of the 2024/25 Capital Programme.

Background

On 7th March 2024 Council approved its Capital Programme for 2024/25; the report detailed planned Capital Expenditure totalling £81.901m for the financial year.

The purpose of this report is to update Members as to the delivery of this Programme as at 30th September 2024 and to seek approval for a further updated budget position.

Targeted Achievements

As Members are aware the following achievements are being targeted during this financial year:

- Continuation of the capital Universal Free School Meals Kitchen remodelling works.
- Progress with the regeneration programme including re-development of the former Youth Offending building at Harbourside.
- Continued investment in Disabled Facilities Grants.
- Investment in school buildings and ICT.

- City Deal – progression of the Homes as Power Stations and the remainder of the Supporting Innovation and Low Carbon Growth projects.
- Levelling up (LUF) – progression of the projects at Gnoll Country Park, Pontneddfechan and Princess Royal Theatre.
- Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) – progression of the seven capital schemes as detailed in Appendix 1.

Changes to the approved Budget

The updated Capital Programme now totals £68.834m with the main changes proposed being:

- Grant approvals received of £0.341m, predominantly relating to Social Services projects.
- A budget totalling £1.476m had originally been included in 2024/25 for the City Deal Property Development Fund project. Following a review of the timetable for planned works the updated budget for 2024/25 is now £0.504m with the balance being re-profiled to 2025/26.
- A budget totalling £1.106m had originally been included in 2024/25 for Match Funding for WG & UK Government Funding Streams. £1m has now been re-profiled into 2025/26 and will be used to match fund any future projects that come to fruition during the next financial year.
- In 2024/25 a budget of £7m had been included for Levelling Up Gnoll. £2m has now been re-profiled to 2025/26 due to a delay in approval and mobilisation. Site works have commenced in this quarter.
- A budget totalling £2.181m had originally been included in 2024/25 for the City Deal Homes as Power Stations Project (HAPS). £1.472m has now been re-profiled into future years to reflect the profile of the works required. The HAPS Financial Incentive Fund has been launched and the majority of funding has been allocated.

Further details of the Budget changes are shown at Appendix 3.

A capital programme of c£69m represents a significant positive investment right across the County Borough.

2024/25 Capital Expenditure

Details of capital expenditure as at 30th September 2024 is outlined in Appendix 1 of this report.

Financial Impact

All relevant details are set out in the body of the report.

Valleys Communities Impact

The Capital Programme provides investment in assets across the County Borough.

Workforce Impacts

There are no workforce impacts arising from this report.

Legal Impacts

There are no legal impacts arising from this report.

Risk Management

The capital programme is actively managed by managers and the Capital Programme Steering Group to comply with all relevant planning conditions, legislation, regulations and health and safety.

Consultation

There is no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- Approves the updated proposed 2024/25 budget totalling £68.834m;

- Notes the position in relation to expenditure as at 30th September 2024.

Reason for Proposed Decision

To comply with the Councils constitution in relation to budget virement, re-profiling between financial years and to update the Council's Budget projections for 2024/25.

Implementation of Decision

The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Details of Capital Expenditure as at 30th September 2024

Appendix 2 – Analysis of 'Other' budgets as at 30th September 2024

Appendix 3 – Details of Budget Changes as at 30th September 2024

List of Background Papers

Capital Programme working files

Officer Contact

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Capital Budget and Spend 2024/25 as at 30th September 2024

	Current Budget £'000	Revised Budget £'000	Actual @ 30 th September £'000	Comments
Education, Leisure & Lifelong Learning				
Capital Maintenance - ELLL	1,411	1,411	1,331	
Capital Maintenance for Schools	924	524	135	
Previous Years Grants				
Abbey Primary	452	452	242	
Universal Primary Free School Meals (Kitchen Remodelling Works)	2,508	2,508	479	
Supporting Learners with Additional Needs (Building works/Equipment)	896	896	1	Allocation agreed and spend to continue in Q3.
Childcare Offer Grant – Small Grants, Cwmavon, YGG Blaendulais, Ystalyfera & Project Managment	1,864	1,090	394	
Community Focused Schools (Hubs and Skills Centres at various locations)	3,110	3,110	108	Contractors appointed. Works to commence in early Autumn.
Sustainable Schools Challenge – YGG Rhosafan Replacement School	600	600	259	
Hwb IT for Schools	686	509	0	Goods due to be ordered.
Leisure Investment (including re-roofing works, window works and external fabric repairs)	252	252	152	
Pontardawe Arts Centre Cinema	1,826	1,826	382	On site works progressing.

	Current Budget £'000	Revised Budget £'000	Actual @ 30th September £'000	Comments
Other – Education & Leisure (see Appendix 2 for further breakdown)	972	1,126	394	
Environment				
Highways and Engineering Maintenance	2,416	2,512	1,103	
Drainage Grants	588	625	283	
Match funding for grants (including flood prevention)	100	100	0	Awaiting a drainage grant offer letter and budget will then be allocated to match fund the scheme.
Additional major engineering works Norton/Bevan Terrace	988	988	181	Both projects on site.
Decarbonisation Strategy (DARE)	213	0	0	
Local Transport Fund – (multiple locations)	1,476	1,476	222	Projects progressing.
Road Safety (multiple locations)	1,124	1,124	264	Projects progressing.
Active Travel	716	716	79	Projects progressing.
Covid Recovery	206	17	0	Various schemes, projects progressing.
Covid Recovery - Catch Up, Clean Up, Green Up Capital Works	2,702	2,576	934	Majority of works expected to be completed in year.
Major Bridge Strengthening - A474 Neath	100	0	0	
Health & Safety	882	782	348	

	Current Budget £'000	Revised Budget £'000	Actual @ 30th September £'000	Comments
Neighbourhood Improvements	193	193	61	
Pavilions	114	114	47	
Disability Access	134	134	90	
Port Talbot PDR 2 (Network Management Maintenance Works)	600	617	617	
Waste Fleet Relocation Works	5,905	5,905	3,448	
Godre'rgraig Site Clearance and Land Remediation	392	392	27	
Coal Tip Safety	5,631	5,706	2,724	
Vehicle Replacement Programme	1,115	1,115	344	
Environment Street Scene Works	859	733	212	
Sgwd Gwladys Pathway	0	180	0	Works to commence in Autumn.
Regeneration: Match Funding for WG & UK Government Funding Streams	1,106	106	0	Spend dependant on grants received. Grants awarded to be to be reviewed as part of the Q3 budget monitoring process and budget updated if required.
Regeneration: Neath Abbey Visitors Parking	375	375	10	
Regeneration: Crown Buildings	391	69	69	
Regeneration: Place Making 4	750	750	27	
Regeneration: Commercial Property Grant	250	150	58	
Regeneration: Redevelopment of the Former Youth Offending Team	799	774	54	

	Current Budget £'000	Revised Budget £'000	Actual @ 30th September £'000	Comments
Regeneration: Other (see Appendix 2 for further breakdown)	854	417	129	
City Deal: South Wales Industrial Transition from Carbon Hub (SWITCH) Building at Harbourside	50	373	191	
City Deal: Advanced manufacturing production facility at Harbourside	200	10	0	On going site discussions.
City Deal: Low Emission Vehicles (LEV)	311	50	10	
City Deal: Air Quality Monitoring	264	264	28	
City Deal: Hydrogen Stimulus	509	162	0	Payment to University of South Wales to be made in October.
City Deal: Property Development Fund	1,476	504	4	Waiting to receive grant claims from external businesses.
City Deal: Homes as Power Stations	2,181	709	96	
Levelling Up: Gnoll Country Park	7,000	5,000	302	Site works commenced in August.
Levelling Up: Pontneddfechan	500	400	164	
Levelling Up: Port Talbot Centre Regeneration	500	500	329	
Shared Prosperity Fund: Valley Industrial Units	3,456	3,456	294	Contractor appointed.
Shared Prosperity Fund: NPT Heritage, Culture & Tourism Fund	1,216	1,226	239	Schemes due to complete December 2024/February 2025.
Shared Prosperity Fund: Sustainable Communities Growth Fund	300	90	0	2 capital projects approved.

	Current Budget £'000	Revised Budget £'000	Actual @ 30th September £'000	Comments
Shared Prosperity Fund: Open Call (Research Development & Innovation)	136	136	0	Claims were received in September; verification checks are currently ongoing and payments are expected in October.
Shared Prosperity Fund: Valleys & Villages	1,557	1,449	312	12 capital projects approved, schemes due to complete December 2024/February 2025.
Shared Prosperity Fund: Supporting Local Business	1,720	1,720	720	
Shared Prosperity Fund: Local Business Priority Fund	1,000	1,000	0	Offers have been made/due to be made on 20 projects. 1st claim to be paid out on 1st October and 4 other claims have been received and currently being processed.
Shared Prosperity Fund: Community Facilities Improvement Fund (CFIF)	500	697	17	38 projects now approved and projects due to complete by December.
Other – Environment (see Appendix 2 for further breakdown)	1,115	1,139	374	
Social Services Health & Housing				
Capital Maintenance	215	215	44	
NPT Rent Rescue Maintenance	181	181	40	
Homecare Electric Vehicles	55	55	55	

	Current Budget £'000	Revised Budget £'000	Actual @ 30th September £'000	Comments
Enable – Support for Independent Living	281	281	54	
Disabled Facilities Grants	2,987	3,047	1,402	
Other – Social Service & Housing	242	442	132	
Other Services				
School IT/ Vehicle Financing	790	790	695	
Software License	760	760	755	
Civic Accommodation Modernisation	219	100	0	Accommodation Strategy being finalised.
Income Generation Proposals	250	0	0	
Other - Corporate Services	28	28	0	Goods due to be ordered.
Contingency	1,500	1,100	0	
Total	77,979	68,834	21,465	

Analysis of 'Other' Budgets as at 30th September 2024

	Original Budget £'000	Revised Budget £'000	Actual @ 30 th September £'000	Comments
Other Education, Leisure & Lifelong Learning				
Margam Castle Stonework Repairs	106	106	92	
Margam Park Insurance Works	29	29	0	New project works to commence soon.
Margam Orangery Hot Water Boiler Plant Works	35	35	0	New project works to commence soon.
Margam Park Fire Protection Works	180	180	0	New project works to commence soon.
Margam Park Improvement Works	55	55	0	Works ongoing.
Racetrack at Cwrt Herbert	266	265	0	Site works commencing soon.
Tennis Court - Port Talbot Memorial Park	82	82	82	
Tennis Court - Parc Y Llyn Cwmavon	86	86	86	
Aberavon Leisure Centre Equipment	81	81	81	
Dyfed Road Site Clearance	0	0	36	

	Original Budget £'000	Revised Budget £'000	Actual @ 30th September £'000	Comments
Welsh Medium YGG Trebannws	0	0	4	
Direct Food Support Fund	52	97	0	Works ongoing.
Gnoll Park Bottom Pond Dam Works	0	40	0	Orders raised.
Library Headquarters New Boiler	0	70	13	
Total	972	1,126	394	

	Original Budget £'000	Revised Budget £'000	Actual @ 30th September £'000	Comments
Other Regeneration				
6 Station Road Renovation Works	167	0	0	
Byass Works Site Investigation Works	7	7	0	Spend linked to innovation district master plan.
Aberavon Aquasplash Upgrade Phase 3	51	51	32	
Public Realm Works Neath Town Centre	169	50	5	
Soar Maes Yr Haf Congregation Chapel - Phase 1 - Acquisition	91	91	4	
Employment & Business Start Up Space - Units at Sandfields Business Centre	183	32	0	Project at design stage.
The Cross Pontardawe - Repair Works	25	25	0	Repair works to commence shortly.
Mardon Park IT Infrastructure Works	90	90	88	
Heritage Works	71	71	0	Various projects at different stages of development.
Total	854	417	129	

	Original Budget £'000	Revised Budget £'000	Actual @ 30th September £'000	Comments
Other Environment				
Ystalyfera Landslip	0	0	17	
Resilient Roads Fund Castle Drive Cimla	17	7	0	Project complete, final invoices due to be paid.
Electric Vehicle Charging Facility	33	33	0	Project complete, final invoices due to be paid.
Margam Country Park EV Charging and Public Facilities	0	0	17	
49 Manor Way Retaining Wall	0	40	0	Project at design stage.
Additional Highway Improvements Water Street	4	4	10	
Additional Highway Works	83	83	0	Works ongoing.
Maintenance - Structures and Council Owned Tips	112	62	1	Works ongoing, spend to continue in October.
Safe Routes in Communities	50	50	3	
Cymmer Viaduct	15	15	0	Works at planning stage.
Passenger Transport Vehicles	145	145	145	
Margam Cemetery interim works	0	30	1	Works ongoing.

	Original Budget £'000	Revised Budget £'000	Actual @ 30th September £'000	Comments
Milland Road Footbridge	100	0	0	
Sports Wales – Lighting Programme	121	135	134	
Giants Grave Site Cabin Works	28	28	0	Works due to commence.
Cwmavon Landslip	150	150	0	Discussion on going around site access.
Neath Transport Hub	0	0	3	
The Technology Centre	0	0	2	
Neath Civic Centre Hot Water & Heating Failure	0	100	17	
Plaza Cinema	0	0	2	
Milland Road Car Park Retaining Wall	75	75	2	Works complete, awaiting final invoice.
Waste Strategy - Digital in Cab Data System/Feasibility Works	182	182	20	
Total	1,115	1,139	374	

Capital Budget Changes to 30th September 2024

Budget Changes	£'000	Comment
Approved Budget 30th June 2024	77,979	
Budget Changes		
Education, Leisure & Lifelong Learning		
Capital Maintenance for Schools Previous Years Grants	-400	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.
Childcare Offer Grant – Small Grants, Cwmavon, YGG Blaendulais, Ystalyfera & Project Management	-774	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.
Hwb IT for Schools	-177	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.
Other – Education & Leisure Direct Food Support Fund	44	New grant awarded.
Other – Education & Leisure Gnoll Park Bottom Pond Dam works	40	New scheme funded from contingency as below.
Contingency Gnoll Park Bottom Pond Dam works	-40	To fund Gnoll Park Bottom Pond Dam works as above.
Other – Education & Leisure Library Headquarters New Boiler	70	New scheme funded from contingency as below.
Contingency Library Headquarters Boiler Works	-70	To fund a new boiler at Library Headquarters as above.
Environment		
Highways and Engineering Maintenance Waunceirch School - removal of the laybys	-41	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.

Budget Changes	£'000	Comment
Highways and Engineering Maintenance Dulais River Bridge - Structure No 700	-38	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.
Highways and Engineering Maintenance Fabian Way Outfall/Elba Crescent - West	165	New project funded from commuted sums monies.
Highways and Engineering Maintenance Fabian Way Drainage Design Progression	10	New project funded from commuted sums monies.
Drainage Grants Caenant Terrace	37	New grant awarded.
Decarbonisation Strategy (DARE)	-213	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.
Covid Recovery Seafront Car Parks Barriers	-10	Realignment of revenue and capital budgets.
Covid Recovery Neath Civic Rooftop Nature Reserve	-135	Realignment of revenue and capital budgets.
Covid Recovery Living Walls	-25	Realignment of revenue and capital budgets.
Covid Recovery Cimla Common	-19	Budget realigned see below.
Covid Recovery - Catch Up, Clean Up, Green Up Capital Works Surfacing in Valleys areas 24-25	19	Budget realigned see above.
Covid Recovery - Catch Up, Clean Up, Green Up Capital Works Traffic orders	-45	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.
Covid Recovery - Catch Up, Clean Up, Green Up Capital Works Improvements to Public Toilets	-100	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.
Major Bridge Strengthening - A474 Neath	-100	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.
Health & Safety	-100	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.

Budget Changes	£'000	Comment
Port Talbot PDR 2 (Network Management Maintenance Works)	17	Increase in budget to reflect project costs.
Coal Tip Safety	75	Additional grant awarded.
Sgwd Gwladys Pathway	180	New scheme funded from contingency as below.
Contingency Sgwd Gwladys Pathway	-180	To fund Sgwd Gwladys Pathway works as above.
Environment Street Scene Works	-126	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.
Regeneration: Match Funding for WG & UK Government Funding Streams	-1,000	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.
Regeneration: Crown Buildings	-322	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.
Regeneration: Commercial Property Grant	-100	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.
Regeneration: Redevelopment of the Former Youth Offending Team	-25	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.
Regeneration: Other 6 Station Road Renovation Works	-167	Project complete.
Regeneration: Other Public Realm Works Neath Town Centre	-119	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.
Regeneration: Other Employment & Business Start Up Space - Units at Sandfields Business Centre	-151	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.
City Deal: South Wales Industrial Transition from Carbon Hub (SWITCH) Building at Harbourside	323	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend– no loss of funding.
City Deal: Advanced manufacturing production facility at Harbourside	-190	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend– no loss of funding.

Budget Changes	£'000	Comment
City Deal: Low Emission Vehicles (LEV)	-261	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend– no loss of funding.
City Deal: Hydrogen Stimulus	-347	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend– no loss of funding.
City Deal: Property Development Fund	-972	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend– no loss of funding.
City Deal: Homes as Power Stations	-1,472	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend– no loss of funding.
Levelling Up: Gnoll Country Park	-2,000	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend– no loss of funding.
Levelling Up: Pontneddfechan	-100	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend– no loss of funding.
Shared Prosperity Fund: NPT Heritage, Culture & Tourism Fund	10	Realignment of revenue and capital budgets.
Shared Prosperity Fund: Sustainable Communities Growth Fund	-210	Realignment of revenue and capital budgets.
Shared Prosperity Fund: Valleys & Villages	-108	Realignment of revenue and capital budgets.
Shared Prosperity Fund: Community Facilities Improvement Fund (CFIF)	197	Realignment of revenue and capital budgets.
Other – Environment Resilient Roads Fund Castle Drive Cimla	-10	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.
Other – Environment 49 Manor Way Retaining Wall	40	New scheme funded from contingency as below, part of the budget has been Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.
Contingency 49 Manor Way Retaining Wall	-80	To fund 49 Manor Way Retaining Wall works as above.

Budget Changes	£'000	Comment
Other – Environment Maintenance - Structures and Council Owned Tips	-50	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.
Other – Environment Margam Cemetery interim works	30	New scheme funded from contingency as below.
Contingency Margam Cemetery interim works	-30	To fund Margam Cemetery interim works as above.
Other – Environment Milland Road Footbridge	-100	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.
Other – Environment Sports Wales – Lighting Programme	14	Increase in budget to reflect project costs.
Other – Environment Neath Civic Centre Hot Water & Heating Failure	100	New project.
Social Services Health & Housing		
Disabled Facilities Grants	60	New grant awarded.
Other – Social Service & Housing Hillside Sports Hall	200	New grant awarded.
Other Services		
Civic Accommodation Modernisation	-119	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.
Income Generation Proposals	-250	Re-profiled to 2025/26 to reflect planned spend.
Updated Budget as at 30th September 2024	68,834	