



DEVON & SOMERSET FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY

REPORT REFERENCE NO.	RC/09/10
MEETING	RESOURCES COMMITTEE
DATE OF MEETING	16 NOVEMBER 2009
SUBJECT OF REPORT	CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING 2009/10 to 2011/12
LEAD OFFICER	Head of Physical Assets
RECOMMENDATIONS	<i>That the report be noted.</i>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	This report represents the current monitoring position for the capital programme 2009/10 to 2011/12 as originally approved by the Authority at its meeting on 16 February 2009 with revisions approved at the Authority meeting of 28 September 2009.
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	Financial details are contained within the report.
EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	There is no specific impact in the report, although many of the asset schemes involve improvements to equality of service provision.
APPENDICES	A. Capital Programme 2009/10 to 2011/12 approved 28 September 2009.
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS	None

INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report represents a monitoring position against the Capital Programme 2009/10 to 2011/12 approved by the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority (DSFRA) at its meeting on 16 February 2009. Revisions to the capital programme to take account of 2008/09 actual outturn and current status were approved by the Authority on 28 September 2009. The revised schedule appears as Appendix A.
- 1.2 As referred to earlier in the agenda for this meeting, the Capital Programme Working Party met on 5 November 2009 and considered the current capital programme and the issues surrounding the setting of the future 2010/11 to 2012/13 capital budget.

2. CURRENT PROJECTS 2009/10

(a) Estate Development - Exeter Stations

- 2.1 Both stations are now operational in line with planned dates with only the removal of the temporary station and some external works being carried out at Danes Castle until November. Good feedback has been received for both stations and the projects have gone well. Danes Castle is within budget and Middlemoor has been completed with significant savings to the budget. The Pynes Hill office accommodation has been vacated and staff have relocated to the two stations. The backup Devon Control centre has been moved from Pynes Hill to Hestercombe and the Pynes Hill accommodation is officially due to be released in November.

(b) Other Projects/Ring-Fenced Maintenance

- 2.2 At its budget meeting on 16 February 2009 the Authority approved a total budget of £1.62m for Other Projects and Ring Fenced Maintenance in 2009/10 as follows:

Budget Heading	£
Other Projects ¹	870,000
Ring-fenced Maintenance	750,000
TOTAL	1,620,000
1. The £870,000 represents the proportion of the two-year government capital grant, totalling £2m, allocated for use in 2009/10	

- 2.3 Projects to be funded from these combined budgets were reported to the Authority meeting on 16 February 2009 as follows:

Scheme	Detail	£
Taunton	Phase 2 of internal refurbishment	150,000
Yeovil	Phase 2 of internal refurbishment	100,000
New drill towers	Teignmouth, Exmouth, Dulverton, Totnes, Shepton Mallet or Crownhill	60,000
Station extensions	Ivybridge	160,000
	Dawlish	160,000
	Street	160,000
	Bovey Tracey	160,000
DDA, DAW, BA, Drying Room, Community access works	Honiton	60,000
	Lynton	100,000
	Martock	30,000
	Chumleigh plus new roof	60,000
	Sidmouth	120,000
	STC Phase 2	65,000
Torquay	Phase 2 of training structure	175,000
New boiler	Crownhill, Camels Head or Torquay	45,000
TOTAL		1,605,000

- 2.4 These current year capital projects are well established and in various stages of development and anticipated to be largely completed within the current financial year. Due to uncertainty over the future training strategy, the training drill tower item (£60,000) is being held over currently. The boiler projects (£45,000) would now benefit from being held over until after the winter season.
- 2.5 The Authority has previously been informed of the issues surrounding the lack of welfare facilities and in particular the lack of shower facilities, but also drying rooms and BA servicing facilities, on some retained stations, resulting from an HSE visit to Hatherleigh. An additional sum of £300,000 was approved by the Authority at its meeting on 27 May 2009. The programme of shower installations and the refurbishment of Hatherleigh is progressing largely to plan, excepting Kingston which was known to have particular difficulties.
- 2.6 Funding additional to that currently approved would be required to further accelerate this programme of welfare improvements and it is possible that the HSE would not see the existing timescales as being appropriate to meet these welfare needs in a timely manner.
- 2.7 At its July meeting the Capital Programme Working Party recommended that the current position regarding welfare provision upgrades for fire stations be noted at this stage and the issue be revisited by the Working Party as part of its consideration of proposals for inclusion in the 2010/11 capital programme.

(c) Fleet and Equipment - Replacement Appliances

- 2.8 Eight appliances have been delivered from the 2008/09 approved capital programme and a further one is due in November.
- 2.9 Progress with the five aerial platform appliances ordered from the 2008/09 approved capital programme is on schedule and deliveries are planned to commence early in the new year.
- 2.10 Orders for three fire appliances have been placed from the 2009/10 approved programme and are due for delivery in February 2010. Build slots have been reserved for further orders of two Targeted Response Vehicles (TRV) and seven additional appliances. This is in line with the Service Operational Unit's resource review programme corporate project, whereby the TRVs will be a pilot in consideration of new working concepts towards greater efficiency and effectiveness.

(d) Fleet and Equipment - Specialist Operational Vehicles

- 2.11 From the 2008/09 approved budget, chassis for the two special rescue vehicles have been ordered and the body build is in negotiation. Similarly the tele-hoist is in the tender process. The CFS Education Unit chassis has been ordered and the body build will be by tender for possible delivery in March 2010. The welfare unit is on hold pending further operational consideration of requirements. No specials have been identified from the 2009/10 budget at this time.

(e) Fleet and Equipment - Equipment

- 2.12 The equipment requirements from the 2009/10 budget and the slippage from last year are still awaiting final specification. It is anticipated that the budgets will be fully spent by the year end, however. The hardware equipment for the MIQUEST asset tracking system has been specified and will be ordered shortly.

3. IMPACT ON CAPITAL FINANCING COSTS

- 3.1 Due to the schemes on hold and a relatively small drift over the next year end for estates active schemes, a slippage of £371,800 is currently forecast. It should be emphasised that although the slippage will result in a decrease in debt charges in 2010/11, thereby reducing the revenue budget in that year, there will not be any overall affect on individual scheme budgets, which remain within budget.
- 3.2 A saving of the order £500,000 has been made on the overall scheme for Middlemoor. As a consequence of the overall capital programme affordability issues facing the Authority in future years, it is hoped that this sum will be taken into account in setting the capital programme budget for 2010/11 and beyond and discussions with the Capital Programme Working Party have already begun in this regard.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 Project spend is in accordance with budget throughout and no overall overspend is anticipated. In fact a significant underspend has been reported for the Middlemoor project.
- 4.2 The capital programme budget setting process for 2010/11 is imminent and discussions have already begun with the Capital Programme Working Party. This is a complex area this year due to organisational change, budget issues of affordability and significant pressures on the asset portfolio. Further reports will be presented to the Resources Committee in due course regarding these matters.

DEREK WENSLEY
Head of Physical Assets

Revised Capital Programme (2009/10 - 2011/12)

PREV YEARS (£000)	2009/09 (£000)	PROJECT	2009/10 (£000)	2010/11 (£000)	2011/12 (£000)	Project Total incl. prev years (£000)
		<u>Estate Development</u>				
661	1,589	Exeter Middlemoor	1,702	150		4,102
61	1,023	Exeter Danes Castle	1,856	103		3,043
	245	Other Projects				
		Funded Capital grant	870	1,193		2,063
		Allocation			1,000	1,000
	415	Maintenance ring fenced	750	750	750	2,665
		Welfare facilities on stations	300			300
		Diversity & Equality grant	34			34
		USAR training facility enhancement	35			35
		2008/09 slippage	530			530
	624	2007/08 slippage				
	3,896	Estates Sub Total	6,077	2,196	1,750	
		<u>Fleet & Equipment</u>	-			
	930	Appliance replacement	2,034	880		3,844
	267	Specialist Operational Vehicles	392			659
		Vehicle replacement programme	870	3,140	2,000	6,010
	81	Equipment	319	319	319	1,038
26	22	Asset Management Plan (Miquest) software	177			225
		2008/09 slippage	252			252
	400	2007/08 slippage				
	170	BA cylinder replacement				
	1,870	Fleet & Equipment Sub Total	4,044	4,339	2,319	
	5,766	Overall Capital Totals	10,121	6,535	4,069	