

7. CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING

REPORT OF: HEAD OF CORPORATE RESOURCES
Contact Officer: Peter Stuart
Email: peter.stuart@midsussex.gov.uk Tel: 01444 477315
Wards Affected: *None*
Key Decision: No
Report to: Scrutiny Committee for Leader, Resources and Economic Growth
18th January 2017

Purpose of Report

1. This report informs the Committee of progress on some key projects that form part of the Capital Programme.

Recommendations

2. **The Committee is recommended to:**
 - (i) **note the report and its contents.**
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Background

3. The Capital Programme is an important part of the Councils expenditure each year and presents a number of projects which are one-off in nature. In general, the financing of these projects is tightly constrained to comply with the rules regarding the classification of 'capital expenditure.
4. The Scrutiny Committee has asked for this report to enable it to take an overview of the monitoring of projects and their progress towards completion. Cabinet already receive the appropriate financial monitoring information within each Budget Monitoring Report, and it is therefore felt that this report may concentrate on delivery against project plan rather than being expenditure based.

Current position

5. The Capital Programme as set out in Corporate Plans and revised from time to time, has been distilled to highlight those projects which are either longer term, time-bound or more complicated to deliver than the norm. Members are asked to agree this subset at Appendix 1 for monitoring or suggest additions and deletions to that selection.

Issues

6. The projects within Appendix 1 are those selected for a more detailed monitoring and explanation, which has been provided within the text of the report. Officers will be able to offer some supplementary information on the current status, with appropriate notice.
7. Of those projects listed, only one still appears to be proving difficult to implement in a timely fashion, and where the funding is also time-limited. This relates to the proposed new village hall and car park at Finches Field, Pease Pottage. This project is being delayed at the design stage and the S106 funding that will deliver the project is at risk due to this delay. A verbal update can be provided at the Committee meeting.

8. The Office Accommodation project has now finished and has delivered improved offices for almost all staff. Given the age of the offices and the under-investment in their upkeep over a number of years by a variety of owners, the additions to the project for fire safety, ICT cabling upgrades and various electrical works has resulted in an variation of some £92,000 against the total budget. These could not have been foreseen until the project commenced and the various services had been uncovered and assessed for future use.
9. However, the variation is being financed by a £30k contribution from the ICT reserve (for the cabling etc), £30k from the project contingency budget (which we had hoped not to spend) and £32k from reserves. The true variation is therefore nearer £30k on the £588k budget.
10. The other projects in the report are proceeding satisfactorily.

Policy Context

11. Scrutiny as a function is enshrined within the Constitution.

Other Options Considered

12. None.

Financial Implications

13. This report has no such implications.

Risk Management Implications

14. This report has no such implications.

Equality and Customer Service Implications

15. This report has no such implications.

Other Material Implications

16. This report has no such implications.

Background Papers

None