

Capital Slippage - 2022/23

The annual Revenue Budget setting process requires the Council to put forward a 10 year Capital Programme of estimated future expenditure. It is only expenditure that is funded through Revenue that is approved through the budget setting process. Capital Expenditure funded through Earmarked Reserves, S106, Grants, Borrowing or External Contributions all require a business case to be submitted to Members for approval.

The table below shows the incomplete elements of capital projects still outstanding at year end but not included in the 2023/24 budget and therefore recommended to be carried forward.

Scheme	2022/23 Budget	2022/23 Actual	Funded By	Over/(Underspend)	Recommended c/f	2023/24 Original Budget	2023/24 Total Budget	
Agile Working		191,697	Borrowing	191,697		2,150,000.00	2,150,000.00	
Replacement dog and litter bins	25,000	16,258	Borrowing	-8,742	0	25,000	25,000	
Chipping Norton Roof Replacement			Borrowing	0		1,000,000	1,000,000	
Ubico Fleet - Replace Vehicle Hire Costs	1,080,000	488,327	Borrowing	-591,673	0	2,000,000	2,000,000	a
Update to Planning System (Ibox)			Borrowing			150,000	150,000	
Update to Finance System (ABW)			Borrowing	0		25,000	25,000	
Town Centre Shop building renovation project	51,197	3,354	Borrowing	-47,844	0	0		b
Electric vehicle charging points	200,000		Borrowing	-200,000	200,000		200,000	c
Land Purchase at Cogges		76,054	Borrowing	76,054				
Investment Strategy for Recovery	22,599,538	9,542,112	Borrowing	-13,057,426	0	5,000,000	5,000,000	d
CCTV - Upgrading	300,000	44,365	Capital Receipts	-255,635	255,635		255,635	e
Shop Mobility - Replacement stock	10,000		Capital Receipts	-10,000	10,000		10,000	
Cottsway - Blenheim Court Growth Deal	170,500	170,500	External Contribution	0				
Cottsway - Lavender Place Growth Deal	99,000	99,000	External Contribution	0				
Affordable Housing in Witney (Heylo)	1,761,875	1,549,750	External Contribution/S106	-212,125	212,125		212,125	f
Improvement Grants (DFG)	807,750	887,981	Grant	80,231		800,000	800,000	
Carterton Leisure Centre PSDS Project	1,300,000		Grant	-1,300,000	1,300,000		1,300,000	g
Deployment of High Speed Broadband	1,230,366	1,187,041	Reserves	-43,325	0			
IT Provision - Systems & Strategy	100,000	67,260	Revenue Contribution	-32,740	0	100,000	100,000	
Council Buildings Maintenance Programme	200,000		Revenue Contribution	-200,000	0	200,000	200,000	h
IT Equipment - PCs, Copiers etc	40,000	9,069	Revenue Contribution	-30,931	0	40,000	40,000	
Community Grants Fund	200,000	171,208	Revenue Contribution	-28,792	0	200,000	200,000	
Madley Park playing Fields Project	6,165	6,742	S106	577				
Windrush Public Art		11,344	S106	11,344				
Weavers Fold			S106			378,000	378,000	
Play Parks	100,000		S106	-100,000	100,000		100,000	i
EVCP Woolgate	167,000		S106	-167,000	167,000		167,000	j
Chipping Norton Creative	28,297	20,000	S106	-8,297	8,297		8,297	
Carterton Connects Creative (Swinbrook s106)	44,500		S106	-44,500	44,500		44,500	
Raleigh Crescent Play Area (s. 106)	75,000		S106	-75,000	75,000		75,000	
Developer Capital Contributions		749,231	S106	749,231				
	30,596,188	15,291,292		-15,304,896	2,372,557	12,068,000	14,440,557	

Comments:

- a. The delivery lead times of new Ubico vehicles have remained challenging over the course of the year. At the year end there are £379k of vehicles ordered in the year that we expect will be delivered in 23/24. The long delay between order and delivery has been a constant for the last 3 years and centres around supply chain issues for a small number of key components. The vehicle replacement programme is regularly updated to mitigate these supply chain issues as much as possible. A major replacement programme of c£5m is due in 24/25 where the Waste team will work closely with Ubico to manage this as efficiently as possible.
- b. The Town Centre shop renovation project is now part of the Agile Working Programme and is therefore removed from the Capital Programme as a separate item in 23/24. The project is managed by the Agile Working Steering Group and they estimate that the Programme will be complete by the end of the 23/24 financial year.
- c. The provision of Electric Vehicle charging points in the wider District is still under discussion under the leadership of the Assistant Director of Property and Regeneration.
- d. The purchase of Marriotts Walk Shopping Centre as a regeneration project will enable the Council to protect our existing High Street retailers and stimulate a regeneration of the central Witney area through locality upgrading and the management of new tenants to compliment rather than compete with existing traders. Opportunities of this nature do not come up very often and the combination of very strict PWLB lending criteria and high interest rates make it very difficult to find investment opportunities with a sufficient level of return to comply with our adopted Investment Strategy requirements. These requirements ensure that any project invested in does not impose any additional revenue burden on the Council at a time when we are facing a significant budget gap from 24/25 onwards.
- e. The first stage of upgrading the CCTV system has been implemented in 22/23 with the installation of a new operator system. This project is expected to continue in 23/24 subject to Member approval of the business case.
- f. The affordable housing scheme in Witney delivered in partnership with Heylo completed in 22/23 with a final contract payment payable in 23/24
- g. The PSDS project to decarbonise Carterton Leisure Centre is progressing and has evolved over 22/23. It is likely that the cost will be higher than the £1.3m included in the Capital Programme and may not be covered completely by the grant funding. Any additional capital expenditure and potential ongoing revenue implications will be the subject of a business case for Member approval in 23/24 when the total ongoing impact of the project on the Council's budget is known. At that point we could choose not to proceed and apply for a future funding round instead.
- h. The Corporate Buildings Maintenance programme was partly offset by the Agile Working Programme in 22/23. This item in the Capital Programme is intended for the planned and reactive maintenance costs of the Council's operational buildings and will fluctuate year on year.
- i. Draft Heads of Terms have been drawn up to transfer the ownership of a number of play areas to Witney Town Council. Throughout the year there has been £50k of maintenance and repair works done which has been funded through growth to the revenue budget included for 22/23.
- j. It is hoped that the Council can utilise S106 monies in 23/24 to fund installation of EVCP in the Woolgate car park to encourage the switch to electric vehicles in line with the Council Priority to respond to the ecological and climate crisis.