

Capital Update on Activity and Finance

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

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1 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of all the capital schemes within the Brigade and their current status.

2 Recommendations

The Committee is asked to:

- a) Note the progress so far on current schemes; and
- b) Consider and make recommendations to the Fire Authority on those schemes highlighted in Section 4 of the report.

3 Background

Quarterly reporting on Finance and Activity within Capital Schemes proved to be a successful method of monitoring the capital programme during 2008/09. Reporting therefore will continue as last year with updates to Members on a quarterly basis at Strategy and Resources Committee.

This first report provides an update on current schemes and makes recommendations for two schemes to be amended.

4 Progress

A number of schemes have either been completed or are likely to slip or overspend; these are detailed below.

The Small Fires Unit, the Performance Management System and Fire Alarm Installation schemes, all carried over from the previous year, have now been completed with under spends of £4.5k, £4k and £10k respectively.

The current budgetary allocation for the Boat and Vehicle scheme is unlikely to cover the cost of the preferred vehicle and therefore an increase of £15K is required to be approved.

The Appliance replacement scheme is currently delayed and FireBuy are pursuing the manufacturers on our behalf.

The light pumping unit scheme has been suspended because of the unfavourable exchange rates with the Euro, however the borrowing approval of £300k has been retained for when the rate improves.

Following a review by Officers, Members are asked to agree the recommendation to delete the scheme 'Retaining Approval for WL scheme' in both 2009/10 and 2010/11 (amounting to £150k in total) in light of the collapse of the plan to build a new Telford College of Arts and Technology (TCAT) building which would incorporate Wellington Fire Station. It should also be noted that at the April 2009 Fire Authority Meeting, Members agreed in principle for the purposes of capital budget planning to allocate £1,000,000 in 2013/14 for works at Wellington.

Members are also asked to approve that the BA Set Upgrade scheme in 2010/11 be moved back to later years (to be reviewed in 2011/12) as the upgrade available does not currently meet user needs.

All other schemes are progressing and details are included within the appendix.

As yet a large number of schemes are unable to report any projected under or over spend, as schemes have not yet started. As reporting on the Capital Schemes progresses throughout the year, further information is expected.

5 Financial Implications

The financial implications are as outlined within the report.

6 Legal Comment

Within the Strategy & Resources Committee's Terms of Reference, the Committee have the authority to monitor budgeting and financial performance, consider any actions proposed by officers and make recommendations to the Authority, where appropriate, including reporting any virements to the Authority for approval.

7 Equality Impact Assessment

Officers have considered the Service's Brigade Order on Equality Impact Assessments (Personnel 5 Part 2) and have decided that there are no discriminatory practices or differential impacts upon specific groups arising from this report. An Initial Equality Impact Assessment has not, therefore been completed.

8 Appendix

Update on Capital Schemes

9 Background Papers

There are no background papers to this report.

Implications of all of the following have been considered and, where they are significant (i.e. marked with an asterisk), the implications are detailed within the report itself.

Balanced Score Card		Integrated Risk Management Planning	
Business Continuity Planning		Legal	
Capacity		Member Involvement	
Civil Contingencies Act		National Framework	
Comprehensive Performance Assessment		Operational Assurance	
Efficiency Savings		Retained	
Environmental		Risk and Insurance	
Financial	*	Staff	
Fire Control/Fire Link		Strategic Planning	*
Information Communications and Technology		West Midlands Regional Management Board	
Freedom of Information / Data Protection / Environmental Information		Equality Impact Assessment	*

Schemes carried over into 2009/10

Name of Scheme	Amount outstanding at end 2008/09	Total spend to end March 2009	Spend in 2009/10	Payments due in 09/10	Payments due in subsequent Years	Projected Under or over spend	What is the Scheme End Date?	SRO and PM Or Point of Contact	Update
Asset Tracking System	£14.5k	£39k	£1.5k	£16k	Nil	£3k over spend	March 2010	Andrew Kelcey David Groucott	Project is progressing with regular updates to Policy Group. The end date of this project has been extended as the quality of the end product is a higher priority than a definitive end date.
Boat and Vehicle	£20k	£1k	£0k	£35k	Nil	£15k over spend	March 2010	Martin Timmis Andrew Kelcey	Users and specialist are currently drawing up the final specification of the towing vehicle on behalf of Resources Director. The current budgetary allocation is unlikely to cover the cost of the preferred vehicle and the scheme is expected to be over spent by £15k. A contribution from revenue has been requested.
Training Improvements	£85.5k	£36.5k	£0k	£85.5k	Nil	Nil	March 2010	Andrew Kelcey Louise McKenzie	Delay in finalising Bishops Castle Drill Tower has delayed start on CA, WM, and BN
Fire Alarm Installation	£25k	£5k	£0k	£15k	Nil	£10k under spend	March 2010	Andrew Kelcey	A payment of £15k is due on this scheme after which it will be complete leaving a £10k under spend.

Small Fires Unit	£20k	£0k	£15.5k	£0k	£0k	£4.5k under spend	May 2009	Cllr Jean Jones Dave Bishton	Work to alter the L4P at Market Drayton has now been completed and the vehicle is now on the run. There is a current under spend of £4.5k however further internal costs may be allocated to this scheme.
Retained Duty Service availability system	£25k	£0k	£0k	£25k	Nil	Nil	March 2010	Paul Raymond Jon Wagstaff	Currently exploring alternative providers linked to savings with mobilising system.
Appliance Replacement	£93k	£647k	£4k	£89k	Nil	Nil	Fleet replacement programme	Andrew Kelcey	The scheme is currently delayed and FireBuy are pursuing the late delivery of vehicles on behalf of the Service.
Performance Management System	£4.5k	£60.5k	£0.5k	£0k	Nil	£4k under spend		Alison Pritchard Steve Worrall	Track and Resourcelink have now been rolled out and no further spend is anticipated within this scheme, leaving an under spend of £4k.

Schemes in 2009/10

Capital Schemes to be managed using Prince2

Name of Scheme	Amount	Spend to date	Payments due in 09/10	Payments due in subsequent Years	Projected Under or over spend	What is the Scheme End Date?	SRO and PM Or Point of Contact	Update
Retained Duty Service Availability System	£25k	£0k	£25k	£0k	£0k	March 2010	Paul Raymond Jon Wagstaff	Currently exploring alternative providers linked to savings with mobilising system.
Document Management (Intranet)	£40k	£0k	£40k	£0k	£0k	March 2010	Steve Worrall John Rix	This scheme is linked to the Airwave refresh and will be used to purchase Sharepoint which will form part of the overall solution.
Scanning for all files (Document Storage)	£60k	£0k	£60k	£0k	£0k	March 2010	Steve Worrall Helen Jones	This project will be carried out as one of the workstreams within the Shrewsbury Building Programme. The PID for the Project has already been approved by the SRO.
Shrewsbury Building Programme (IRMP)	£900k	£0k	£900k	£0k	£0k	April 2011	SY Building Programme Team	Shrewsbury Building Programme has been established with 6 major workstreams identified. Work on this is continuing with regular updates to the Sponsoring Group and Policy Group.

Other Capital Schemes 2009/10

Name of Scheme	Amount	Spend to date	Payments due in 09/10	Payments due in subsequent Years	Projected Under or over spend	What is the Scheme End Date?	SRO and PM Or Point of Contact	Update
Training Facilities	£50k	£0k	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Ongoing building programme	Andrew Kelcey Louise McKenzie	To be considered following the review of the training facilities asset management plan as part of the Shrewsbury Building Programme.
Building Improvements	£165k	£0k	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Building programme	Andrew Kelcey	This scheme is allocated for the refurbishment of Cleobury Mortimer which is currently in the planning process and due to start Jan 10. Payments for this scheme will slip into 2010/11, however as yet amounts are unknown.
Fire Kit Replacement	£250k	£0k	£250k	Nil	Nil	March 2011	Andrew Kelcey Dave Groucott	Specification being developed. Purchase not likely before December 2009.
Light Pumping Unit	£300k					unknown	Andrew Kelcey Martin Timmis	This scheme has been suspended due to unfavourable exchange rates with the Euro however the borrowing approval has been retained.
Appliance Replacement	£370k	£0k	£370k	Nil	Nil	Fleet replacement programme	Andrew Kelcey Martin Barclay	The scheme is currently delayed and FireBuy are pursuing the late delivery of vehicles on behalf of the Service
Retaining approval for WL scheme	£100k	£0k				See Comment	Andrew Kelcey	Members are asked to approve the cancellation of the scheme and agree that the funding be transferred to the Capital Reserve (see scheme in 2010/11 also)

Schemes in 2010/11

Capital Schemes to be managed using Prince2

	Name of Scheme	Amount	Department	SRO and PM Or Point of Contact	Comment
	Shrewsbury Project (IRMP)	£3090k (rebuild of HQ)	Programme Team	Programme Team appointed	End date June 2011

Other Capital Schemes

	Name of Scheme	Amount	Department	SRO and PM Or Point of Contact	Comment
	Training Facilities	£50k	Training	Andrew Kelcey, Louise McKenzie	This scheme will be used to deliver the Training Facility Asset Management Plan
	Appliance Replacement	£185k	Fleet	Andrew Kelcey, Martin Barclay, Martin Timmis	A replacement vehicle is currently being investigated for Oswestry Fire Station. Any material changes would need to be included within the IRMP consultation process for 2010/11.
	Building Improvements	£65k	Tech Services	Andrew Kelcey	This scheme will be used to complete the work at Cleobury Mortimer
	Fire Kit Replacement	£250k	Tech Services	Andrew Kelcey	This scheme is continued from the previous year
	BA Set upgrade	£250k	Tech Services	Andrew Kelcey	Members are asked to approve that this scheme be moved back to later years (to be reviewed in 2011/12) as the upgrade available does not currently meet user needs.
	Retaining approval for WL scheme	£50k	Tech Services	Andrew Kelcey	See previous comment

Schemes in 2011/12

	Name of Scheme	Amount	Department	SRO and PM Or Point of Contact	Comment
	Building Improvements	£65k	Tech Services	Andrew Kelcey	Building programme
	Training Facilities	£50k	Training	Andrew Kelcey, Louise McKenzie	As previous year
	Appliance Replacement	£555k	Fleet	Andrew Kelcey, Martin Barclay	Fleet replacement programme
	Water Carriers	£120k	Service Delivery	Martin Timmis, Andrew Kelcey	This scheme will be dependent upon the outcome of the appliance replacement scheme in 2010/11