

## **Commentary on Service Capital Forecasts**

The main reasons for the £13.447m delays in the quarter compared to the approved budget are set out below. These changes generally mean the expected benefits of the capital schemes may not be realised to the original time frame, however in some cases the change only relates to the timing of the expected cash flow without any impact on the deliverables of the scheme.

In addition to the £13.447m above there is an additional £0.612m of delays relating to projects funded by Section 278 developer contributions and £4.200m of delays in Corporate Schemes. The timing of these schemes is largely outside of the control of WCC therefore they are excluded from the analysis below, but details of these schemes can be found in Annexes A to M.

### **Environment, Planning and Transport – £2.547m:**

- A46 Stanks Island (£1.177m) Construction moved to the next financial year due to delays with the supplier completing design and approvals.
- Historic Bridge maintenance (£0.500m) Works pushed back to 2025/26 due to further accident damage at Bidford Bridge.
- Rugby Hunters Lane through route (0.374m) Project is currently on hold due to a number of deliverability issues. Scope of this project will be reviewed by Transport Planning within the next Financial Year.
- There are a number of other schemes with delays which are detailed in the annexes A to M.

### **Fire & Rescue – (£0.104m):**

- Fire Operating Model (R2R) (£0.100m) Balance of expenditure between 2024-25 and 2025-26 being scoped by FRS and Property Services. Addition of funding approved at Cabinet 16/7/24 re adoption of Model A Fire Future Operating Model for building alterations required.

### **Economy and Place - £1.556m:**

- Casualty Reduction - Annual Maintenance 2023-24 (£0.704m) Remaining £700k budget to be spent on the Fosse Way Casualty Reduction Scheme in 2025/26. £3,520 moved to another work order.
- Harbury Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) Extended Pilot EV Charging Points (£0.350m) Unsuccessful procurement (as of 25/11/2024) will require re-evaluation of project. Any spend is now likely to be incurred in FY 25-26.
- There are a number of scheme delays below £0.250m which are detailed in the Annexes A to M.

### **Strategic Infrastructure & Climate Change - £0.892m:**

- Library & Business Centre Nuneaton (CIF) (£0.417m) Q3 comments: Expenditure profile adjusted to reflect payment schedule for Library & Business Centre Professional Fees for completion of RIBA stages 2 & 3 this FY. Remaining spend moved to next FY.
- Development of Rural Broadband (£0.475m) Reduced project expenditure is due to BDUK delaying the reopening of the National Gigabit Voucher Scheme build. The voucher scheme programme will recommence once BDUK has completed their analysis of the Project Gigabit rollout. In addition, whilst the forecast for expenditure on the Superfast Broadband rollout is currently in line with the project's milestone payment process the expenditure forecast may be further reduced in the financial year once the latest change request has been approved by the

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Government body, BDUK. Reduced overall expenditure due to Openreach's recalculation of the Investment Fund payment to BDUK for Phase 1 of the Superfast Project.

### **Children & Families – (£0.012m):**

- Details of rephrasing of spend are available in Annexes A to M.

### **Education Services - £7.584m:**

- Myton Gardens Primary School (£7.523m) - Delays have resulted from the requirement to relocate a badger sett. This is subject to planning. Quotes for the overall scheme have come in higher than the original estimates, WCC property team are reviewing the construction programme to bring scheme back within budget.
- Little Learners, Nuneaton - Installation of Modular Building (£0.270m) Allocation of £38k S106 and £232k Childcare Expansion grant to Provider scheme - delays in contract sign off meaning all payments expected in 2025-26.
- Oak Wood Secondary Nuneaton expansion - new centre at Bermuda Park (£1.128m) The need for additional funding approvals has delayed the project. Additional HN funding £1.025m approved PH 15/11/24.
- Houlton School - S106 Funds for Urban and Civic (£1.660m in year increase) This payment has been brought forward.
- There are a number of schemes delays below £0.250m which are detailed in the Annexes A to M.

### **Public Health - £0.091m:**

- Adult Social Care Modernisation & Capacity (£0.091m) Opportunities still be explored to make best use of this funding. Expenditure not expected to take place before 2025-26.

### **Enabling Services - £0.893m:**

- Maintaining the Smallholdings land bank (£0.391m) Insufficient funds to secure smallholdings in current market. Recommendations to be brought forward through the refresh of the Property and Smallholdings strategies.
- There are a number of scheme changes below £0.250m which are detailed in the Annexes A to M.

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### Expected cost increases above currently approved capital funding.

The following table shows unfunded forecasts on schemes. These have not been included in the forecast spend within the body of the report.

Q3 position

Service	Project	2024/25 Forecast above approved capital allocation (£m)	2025/26 Forecast above approved capital allocation (£m)	Total Forecast above approved capital allocation (£m)
Environment, Planning & Transport	A452 Kenilworth Road to Leamington Spa town centre cycle route – Getting Building Fund	0.074		0.074
Environment, Planning & Transport	A46 Stoneleigh Junction Improvement	4.673		4.673
Environment, Planning & Transport	A426 /A4071 Avon Mill Roundabout Rugby Improvement Scheme	0.063		0.063
Education Services	Myton Gardens-New 2FE (420 place) Primary School with Nursery and SRP		0.656	0.656
Enabling Services	Strategic Site Planning Applications		1.151	1.151
Fire	F&R Training Programme: Paynes Lane Minerva & Response Point	0.019		0.019
<b>Total</b>		<b>4.830</b>	<b>1.807</b>	<b>6.636</b>

- Further work is required for Enabling Services and Education to either mitigate the cost increases identified or identify funding for the projects with currently expected shortfalls.
- In relation to the shortfall on the fire scheme there are negotiations underway.
- The team working on the A46 Stoneleigh scheme are currently exploring various options, in line with issues reported to Cabinet and Council at recent meetings.
- Under Enabling Services, the forecast for strategic site planning applications reflects a potentially significant site remediation cost whose final scope and approach is currently in development.