

The County Farms Estate

Capital Monitoring (Month 7) 2016/17

Report of the County Treasurer

1 Capital Monitoring (Month 7) 2016/17

- 1.1 The Capital Programme presented to Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee on 22nd January 2016 (and subsequently approved by County Council) included schemes totalling £1,671,000.
- 1.2 The programme includes £271,000 for existing Nitrate Vulnerable Zone compliance schemes, and £900,000 in respect of additional scheme priorities.
- 1.3 The remaining £500,000 relates to additional scheme priorities for Decent Homes standards, Energy Act and other associated infrastructure projects.
- 1.4 On 4 July 2016 delegated officer approval gave authorisation to purchase specific plots of land. The resulting purchase saw DCC acquire one plot at a cost of £150,000.
- 1.5 Added to this is scheme slippage of £771,000, resulting in a capital programme of £2,592,000 for 2016/17.
- 1.6 Expenditure and commitments (orders) to date is £1,099,000 with a forecast year end spend of £1,704,000.

1.7 Nitrate Vulnerable Zone Compliance

- 1.7.1 The construction of two previously approved concrete box slurry stores are now complete.
- 1.7.2 Included in the 2016/17 Capital Programme, approved via the Cabinet Member for Resources and Asset Management on 11 August 2016, is a further concrete box slurry store at Lower Alminstone Farm, Woolsery. A tendering exercise has been concluded for this scheme but due to the successful contractors busy work programme, it has been agreed that this scheme will slip to the 2017/18 financial year. The contract has been awarded.

- 1.7.3 A fourth scheme has been designed but approval has not been requested to include this scheme in the 2016/17 capital programme but is likely to be resurrected shortly ready to commence works in spring 2017.
- 1.7.4 A fifth scheme is at a very early feasibility and design stage.
- 1.7.5 Expenditure and commitments to date currently stands at £652,000 with a year end forecast of £773,000 due to anticipated slippage of £900,000.

1.8 **Compensation Payments (Tenants Improvements, etc..)**

- 1.8.1 Forecast spend in respect of existing liabilities stands at £20,000 in accordance with the previously approved programme. This excludes any additional liabilities that may fall due in year or at 25 March 2017.

1.9 **Enhancements and Improvements**

- 1.9.1 Expenditure and commitments to date currently stands at £297,000.
- 1.9.2 Total forecast spend by year end remains on target and amounts to £761,000.

1.10 **Land Acquisitions**

- 1.10.1 On 4 July 2016 delegated officer approval gave authorisation to purchase specific plots of land at auction up to a maximum cost of £485,000.
- 1.10.2 Actual spend was £150,000.

2 **Options/Alternatives**

- 2.1.1 Alternative options have been considered and discounted as they are neither practical nor in the financial best interests of the Authority.

3 **Consultations/Representations/Technical Data**

- 3.1.1 The views and opinions of the Devon Federation of Young Farmers Clubs and the Estate Tenants Association will be presented by the two co-opted members to the committee.
- 3.1.2 No other parties have been consulted and no other representations for or against the proposal have been received.

3.1.3 The technical data is believed to be true and accurate.

4 **Considerations**

4.1.1 The Author is not aware of any financial, sustainability, carbon impact, equality, legal, risk management or public health issues arising from this report.

5 **Summary/Conclusions/Reasons for Recommendations**

5.1.1 The Author has prepared this report in accordance with the Councils capital funding procedures and guidelines.

Mary Davis – County Treasurer

Electoral Divisions: ALL

Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

None

Who to contact for enquiries:

Name: Dan Meek, Director of Property Management, NPS South West Ltd, Venture House, One Capital Court, Bittern Road, Sowton Industrial Estate, Exeter, EX2 7FW

Contact: 01392 351066 or dan.meek@nps.co.uk

Name: Martin Oram, Chief Accountant, County Treasurer's, County Hall, Exeter

Contact: 01392 382418 or martin.oram@devon.gov.uk