

AVON FIRE AUTHORITY

MEETING:	Avon Fire Authority
MEETING DATE:	Wednesday, 21 June 2023
REPORT OF:	Statutory Finance Officer
SUBJECT:	2022/23 Capital Final Outturn

1. **SUMMARY**

This report provides an updated capital monitoring report for the current financial year, based upon spending at the end of March 2023.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Fire Authority is asked to:

- a) Note the outturn spending position against the 2022/23 Capital Programme.

3. **BACKGROUND**

- 3.1. The Fire Authority review the final year end Capital position to ensure the correct figures are provided within the Annual Accounts. The actual position is slightly lower than the previous forecast provided to the Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee in April as there was a slight delay to some of the Premises works, however, these have now commenced in 2023/24.
- 3.2. The Capital Programme approved for 2022/23, including adjustments for the final 2021/22 carry over is £7.741m. The Capital Finance Report and the updated values can be found in **Appendix 1**.

4. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The table below shows a summary of the approved Capital Programme for 2022/23 to 2024/25 including the adjustment for carry over from 2021/22.

Capital Programme 2022/23 to 2024/25

Capital Programme 2022/23 to 2024/25	2022/23 Approved Programme	2021/22 Brought Forward	Revised 2022/23 Programme	2023/24 Approved Programme	2024/25 Approved Programme
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Capital Funding	7,331	410	7,741	6,331	3,437
Capital Expenditure	7,331	410	7,741	6,331	3,437

5. KEY OPERATIONAL UPDATES

5.1 The Fire Authority invested in the following material assets during the year:

Premises - £1.47m

- This expenditure includes costs related to the completion of the redevelopment of Avonmouth Fire Station (£807k) and further design work on the rectification works at Bedminster and redevelopment of Bath and Weston stations of £301k.
- The significant underspend against budget follows the pausing of the Bedminster, Bath and Weston projects - inflationary pressures and other uncertainties have necessitated a review of options with these projects.
- Other premises projects included the installation of further electric vehicle points, drainage works and several refurbishment scoping and design plans.

Fleet - £2.56m

- £2.06m has been spent on the appliance replacement programme and £401k on ancillary vehicles.

Operational Equipment - £0.12m

- Industrial PPE washing machines (to decontaminate protective wear - £42k) and other operational and safety equipment (£78k) such as training mannequins and rescue dry suits.

5.2 **Capital Budget underspend:**

The budgets for several capital items were not spent in the year primarily due to the impact of inflation and national and global issues impacting the labour market and supply chains, and some have been carried forward into 2023/2024 and beyond:

Premises:

- The underspend of £2.12m follows the pausing of the Bedminster, Bath and Weston projects - inflationary pressures and other uncertainties have necessitated a review of options with these projects.

Fleet:

- The majority of the underspend of £0.50m related to supply issues which have delayed completion of the appliances order until 2023/2034.

Operational Equipment & Control:

- The majority of the underspend of £0.44m related to delays to the Control systems upgrade, following national delays to Control projects and supply chain issues.

Transformation Programme:

- The 2022/2023 investment in new and improved IT systems and projects relating to the Transformation programme (originally budgeted at £0.29m), in particular the Provision of Operational Risk Information System (PORIS) has been deferred to 2023/2024.

IT:

- Lower than expected IT spend has resulted from delays to the IT infrastructure project and issues sourcing hardware in the current economic climate.

6. RISKS

- 6.1 This report primarily relates to CR20 (Funding and Resource Pressures), CR17 (Building Asset Condition & Physical Security) for the Premises programmes, CR19 (Change and Transformation) and CR13 (Loss of IT Systems) for the ICT programme.

7. LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- a) AFA report: 05.10.2022 (paper 11 – 2022/23 Capital Programme Update)
- b) PRSC report: 20.04.2023 (paper 10 – 2022/ 23 Capital Programme Update)

9. APPENDICES

1. Capital Financial Summary 1 April 2022-31 March 2023

10. REPORT CONTACT

Verity Lee, Statutory Finance Officer, Claire Bentley, Head of Finance