

CSF Slippage/Expenditure Brought Forward Items

Text for 2003/04 Capital Monitor: April 2003 to February 2004

1. **EXTERNALLY FUNDED SCHEMES (BASIC NEED)**

The following text sets out why the a number of Basic Need allocations awarded to the authority over the last three years have still to be assigned to specific capital projects. Any proposals requiring member approval will be brought forward to Cabinet.

1.1 **BASIC NEED 2002/03**

1.1.1 **Harpenden and St Albans Secondaries – unallocated £1,050,000**

- £340,000 has been allocated from this budget to support the successful Targeted Capital bid to expand St George's by one form of entry.
- £100,00 has been allocated to Beaumont to supplement the Specialist School funding to provide four additional language rooms.
- £610,000 has been allocated to Sandringham school to provide additional teaching accommodation to make up the shortfall in basic classrooms for the school now that it has expanded to 6FE (180 per year group). (This is part of an £850,000 scheme).

1.1.2 **Stevenage Secondaries – unallocated £970,000**

The Authority has submitted a bid for funding to the DfES under the new programme "Building Schools for the Future". The Authority did not receive funding for the first wave in 2005/06 of the programme, but the DfES have said that the second and third wave will be announced in the Autumn and our bid will be reconsidered then.

Consideration of the unallocated £970,000 will be made in light of the "Building Schools for the Future" announcement.

1.2 **BASIC NEED 2001/02**

1.2.1 **Bushey Primaries – unallocated £250,000**

There was initially £490,000 in this allocation but £240,000 was spent two years ago at Little Reddings Primary School to provide 2 additional classrooms. This enabled the school to raise its admission limit from 51 to 60 and thus made it much easier to deliver the Key Stage 1 pledge (no infant child should be in a class of more than 30).

As there is no immediate need for any additional primary places in the area the rest of the allocation has been used to provide a new Speech and Language Unit at Cowley Hill Primary in Borehamwood, serving the whole area and the replacement of a temporary mobile classroom unit with permanent accommodation at Sarratt Village School.

1.2.2 St Albans Secondaries – unallocated £260,000

This has been allocated to support the successful bid for Targeted Capital to expand St Georges in Harpenden. (There is a total of £600,000 from the 2001/02 and the 2002/03 basic need approvals for St Georges).

1.2.3 Sandon Primary – unallocated £100,000

This allocation is for the area and because at the present time there is greater pressure for places at one of the other local villages the allocation is still being held to fund any additional accommodation required.

1.3 BASIC NEED 2000/01

1.3.1 South West Herts – unallocated £1,100,000

This allocation was initially well over £2m. A significant amount was spent at Queens School to provide additional places on the Bushey side of Watford and at the same time the Authority began negotiations with Rickmansworth School (Foundation) to create more places. However, Rickmansworth School eventually decided that there was not sufficient funding available to enable them to increase capacity by a form of entry.

The Authority is now in discussion with St Clement Danes School to see if they could use the “basic need” and some additional DfES funding to take an extra form of entry. Until these discussions are concluded (and they involve feasibility studies to cost the necessary works) it is not possible to allocate the remaining “basic need”.

2. EXTERNALLY FUNDED SCHEMES (NDS MODERNISATION FUND)

The two-year £11.3 million Modernisation programme (including £1.1 million of Condition grant) is forecasting slippage totalling £2,290,000 against the following four schemes:

2.1.1 Barnwell – slippage £540,000

This scheme was been put on hold whilst further discussions took place concerning secondary provision in Stevenage and to prepare a bid for “Building Schools for the Future” funding, which was submitted to the DfES at the end of October. The Authority did not receive funding on the first wave of the programme, but the second and third waves will be announced in the Autumn Term.

2.1.2 Hemel Hempstead VIth Form – slippage £500,000

Poor ground conditions have led to additional costs and delays with this scheme but the contractors started on site in February and the scheme is due for completion by September 2004.

2.1.3 Queens – slippage £500,000

This scheme was to be part-funded by sponsorship arranged by the school but the external sponsor pulled out causing delays whilst the scheme is re-worked and a revised financing package put together, work on site will not now commence before 2004/05.

2.1.4 Broxbourne – slippage £750,000

This scheme is now moving forward together with additional funding from the successful Targeted Capital Bid. It is expected that work will begin on site before the end of 2004.

3. EXTERNALLY FUNDED SCHEMES (SCHOOLS ACCESS INITIATIVE) - slippage £1,600,000

£1,600,000 of slippage is being reported for the first time this year. This funding is all allocated to a range of projects at schools with access needs prioritised on the basis of asset management plan data. The delay is because of a shortage of building surveyors, needed by contractors and consultants, to oversee the work. The current programme of access improvements is spread over three years and all projects, including those that have slipped, will be completed by the end of 2004/05.

4. COUNTY FUNDED SCHEMES

4.1. 2003/04 Learning Support Units – slippage £350,000

Capital works have been completed at six of the LSUs. The remaining works, all of which are slightly larger scale building projects than the earlier ones, are expected to be completed in the first half of 2004/05.

4.2 2002/03 Heathcote Secondary – slippage £465,000

This scheme was put on hold to enable further discussions to take place concerning secondary provision in Stevenage and to prepare a bid for “Building Schools for the Future funding”, which was submitted to the DfES at the end of October. The Authority did not receive funding on the first wave of the programme, but the second and third waves will be announced in the Autumn Term.

4.3 2002/03 - savings/underspend £175,000

Savings totalling £175,000 have been offered up, consisting of the £100,000 allocation for pump-priming work to resolve the secondary places issues in Harpenden and £75,000 for Park ESC scheme which had been delayed to pursue a more comprehensive review of ESC accommodation.

4.4 2001/02 Bowmansgreen – expenditure brought forward (£363,000)

The Bowmansgreen scheme was brought forward last year because of the expected development of the former Napsbury Hospital site for housing. The school will increase from an intake of 51 per year to 60 (2FE) when the houses are built (using Section 106 funding from the developer) and it was necessary to carry out these improvement works to replace the five mobile classrooms (“phase one” which has now been completed) ahead of the expansion works.

5. ANNUAL PROVISIONS – savings/underspend £848,000

Savings totalling £848,000 have been found from uncommitted annual provisions schemes for Minor Works, Health & Safety, Furniture & Equipment and School Meals equipment and offered up to help offset the overall 2003/04 CSF revenue budget overspend position.

TOTAL VARIANCES DESCRIBED IN TEXT ABOVE	£9,095,000
Other Variances of less than £50k each	£105,000
TOTAL VARIANCE REPORTED	£9,200,000