

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL

PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

13 August 2008

Agenda Item	
Report No	

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2008/09 – 2011/12

Report by Director of Planning & Development

SUMMARY

This report sets out a proposed capital programme for the period 2008/09 to 2011/12, taking account of the indicative allocations agreed by the Highland Council on 26 June 2008. Council on 4 September 2008 will consider a revised capital programme following consideration by Strategic Committees.

1. Background

- 1.1 On 26 June the Council agreed indicative allocations for Strategic Committees to prioritise revised capital programmes. The allocations cover the years up to and including 2011/12. The Council had previously agreed the Budget Working Group's approach to the capital programme review, which sought to update the current programme to take account of revised costings, inflationary price rises, exceptional new pressures and revised project phasing to ensure realistic and deliverable profiles. Officers have been working on revised programme proposals in line with this approach over the past few months.
- 1.2 The indicative allocations agreed by the Council were as shown below, with 2008/09 adjusted to take account of the capital carry forward from 2007/08 as per the Council's annual accounts for that year.

£million	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	Total
Indicative allocation	1.1	1.4	0.6	0.7	3.8

2. Other Funding

- 2.1 Based on the enclosed programme, further specific funding streams have been identified to support projects. Officers will continue to seek to identify and secure match funding for projects, for example, work with community groups to access LEADER funding, Forestry Commission grant for woodlands, etc., Members should note, however, that it is proving increasingly difficult to secure match funding from public sector partners for projects. Recent changes to the rules over capital spend on property not owned by the Council will assist in securing income when undertaking core footpath network works.

3. Programme for Administration

3.1 The capital programme has been recently re-categorised to better reflect its purpose and specifically how it seeks to:

- support the regeneration of Highland's small towns and villages.
- improve the Highland tourism product.
- upgrade the P&D Service properties and facilities.
- assist with the delivery of a core footpath network.

When developing projects the team engage with and work closely with community and interest groups and seek to access external funding whenever possible.

3.2 It can therefore be stated that the capital programme delivers on the Council's commitment to:

- accelerate economic development and increasing the standard of living of the Highland community.
- maintain and develop an active interest in the heritage and history of the Highlands.
- support the greater involvement of Highland residents in shaping the future of their communities.
- work through the Highlands and Islands European Partnership and the Scottish Government to secure the maximum benefit for the Highlands from European funding programmes for the region.
- consult with community and interest groups in a meaningful and realistic manner.
- Assist with the regeneration of Caithness and Sutherland.

4. Asset Management Planning and Supporting Information

4.1 Members will be aware of the corporate approach the Council is taking to developing asset management planning (AMP) through the formation of an asset management team. The work of this team will take some two years to deliver.

4.2 The P&D Service is currently introducing an asset management module to its Uniform software package. This module together with revised working practices will be used to better inform its maintenance responsibilities and programme works for the 550 approx. sites and facilities (for example, countryside sites, footbridges, signposts, interpretation panels, footpaths etc.) it manages. In part this will influence future capital programme commitments when works are required to assets which can not be accommodated within the revenue maintenance programme. It will also usefully assist the Service when contributing to the work of the asset management team as referred to above.

5. Revenue Consequences

- 5.1 The estimated revenue consequences of the proposed capital programme are as set out in the enclosed annex. These costs reflect the additional or revised running and maintenance costs as a result of the proposed capital expenditure. While future revenue budgets should ideally provide for these estimated costs, in practice these costs need to be accommodated within the existing maintenance budget as this budget has not been increased annually to reflect the extra commitments made. However, as and when possible, the project works undertaken have sought to reduce future maintenance liabilities.

6. Delivery

- 6.1 The nature of the works promoted under the capital programme are typically relatively small in value but correctly require detailed engagement with community and interest groups when they are being developed. Meaningful and realistic consultation takes time and has contributed in the past to delays in the capital programme. While staffing issues will in the short term affect the capacity of the team to deliver the 2008/09 programme on time, a proposed review on how community consultation is undertaken together with a reduction in the number of projects promoted annually and more use of term contracts, will help ensure the programme is delivered on time.

7. RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 The Committee is recommended to:
- (a) Consider this report, and
 - (b) Agree the proposed capital programme, which will then be considered by the Council on 4 September 2008.

Signature:

Designation: Director of Planning and Development

Date: 5 August 2008

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HIGHLAND COUNCIL CAPITAL PROGRAMME - 7/8 to 11/12

REVENUE CONSEQUENCES £000

SERVICE:	Planning and Development
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			7/8	8/9	9/10	10/11	11/12
Project	Revenue Consequences Description e.g. staff costs, maintenance, client income	To be met from e.g. external funding, budget savings.	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
All projects	Maintenance estimate	Existing Maintenance Budget	18.48	34.85	30.3	34.25	59.49
Total			18.48	34.85	30.3	34.25	59.49

HIGHLAND COUNCIL CAPITAL PROGRAMME - 2007/08 to 2011/12
DRAFT PROGRAMME £000

SERVICE: **PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT**

Ward	Capital Programme Details Project	Rev. Cons. (RC)	LC / NYLC	Costing status	Income status	2008/09			2009/10			2010/11			2011/12			Total		
						Gross	Income	Net	Gross	Income	Net	Gross	Income	Net	Gross	Income	Net	Gross	Income	Net
Pan Highland	Community Woodlands	RC	NYLC	1	Est	31		31	25		25							90	21	69
Pan Highland	Core Footpath Network Development	RC	NYLC	1	Est	217	40	162	150	50	100	150	50	100	150	50	100	733	210	508
																		20		20
	Village & Small Town Regeneration Projects																			
19	Auldearn High Street Regeneration	RC	NYLC	4	Est	20		20										65		65
13	Beauly Square	RC	NYLC	1	Est				22		22	40		40				62		62
5	Brora Village Centre Streetscape Project	RC	NYLC	1	Est	80		80										80		80
22	Business Improvement Districts - Fort William (BWG approved specific allocation)	RC	NYLC	1	Est				50		50							50		50
15 17	Business Improvement Districts -Inverness (BWG approved specific allocation)	RC	NYLC	1	Est	50		50										50		50
9	Dingwall High Street Phase 1	RC	NYLC	1	Est	70	10	60										70	10	60
9	Dingwall High Street Phase 2	RC	NYLC	1	Est									150		150		150		150
9	Dingwall High Street Streetscape (BWG approved specific allocation)	RC	NYLC	1	Est				250		250							250		250
7 9	Dingwall-Invergordon All Abilities Route	RC	NYLC	5	Est													1		1
5	Dornoch High Street Streetscape	RC	NYLC	3	Est	110		110										110		110
8	Fearn Environmental Improvements (Capital Flexibility approved by BWG)	RC	NYLC	5	Est													25		25
13	Fort Augustus Village Enhancements	RC	NYLC	1	Est	85	15	70	30		30							115	15	100
6	Gairloch Village Enhancements	RC	NYLC	1	Est	88	20	68	50		50							138	20	118
8	Inver Village Enhancements	RC	NYLC	1	Est									35	5	30		35	5	30
22	Inverloch Village Centre Regeneration	RC	NYLC	1	Est							157		157				207		207
6	Kyle of Lochalsh High Street Streetscape	RC	NYLC	2	Est	170		170										170		170
10	Munlochy Village Enhancements	RC	NYLC	1	Est									50	10	40		50	10	40
19	Nairn High Street Streetscape	RC	NYLC	2	Est				486		486							486		486
2	Thurso High Street Streetscape	RC	NYLC	1	Est	60		60	100		100							160		160
6	Strathcarron Village Centre	RC	NYLC	5	Est													10		10
6	Ullapool Environmental Improvements	RC	NYLC	1	Est				59	15	44							59	15	44
3	Wick High Street Regeneration	RC	NYLC	1	Est				60		60	150		150				210		210
3	Wick Riverside All Abilities Access Route	RC	NYLC	5	Est													62		62
11	Portree Regeneration Phase 2	RC	NYLC									55		55	145		145	200		200
22	FortWilliam Improvements	RC	NYLC											50		50		50		50
	Tourism Related Projects																			
12 22	Access in Lochaber Partnership (BWG approved specific allocation)	RC	LC	5	Ten													24		24
2 3 4	Caithness Heritage Access Project	RC	NYLC	1	Est	44		44	60	10	50							134	10	124
22	Glen Nevis Infrastructure (BWG approved specific allocation)	RC	LC	5	Ten													70		70
21	Nethy Bridge Gateways	RC	NYLC	1	Est	30	5	25										30	5	25
6	Strathpeffer Spa Gardens Refurbishment	RC	NYLC	5	Est													24		24
1	Tongue/Melness Car Parking Upgrades- Interpretation/Signage etc	RC	NYLC	1	Est									50	13	37		50	13	37
Pan Highland	Visitor Signage and Interpretation	RC	NYLC	1	Est	95	15	65	75	15	60	75	15	60	75	15	60	343	60	268
4	Watten gateways	RC	NYLC	1	Est	30	5	25										30	5	25
5	Dornoch Mercat Cross Enhancement					35	5	30										35	5	30
	Property Upgrading Projects																			
22	Dorlin Car Park Upgrade	RC	NYLC	5	Est													8		8
4	Dunnet Pavilion Upgrade	RC	NYLC	1	Est	40	5	35										67	5	62
22	Inclined Plane, Ballachulish	RC	NYLC	2	Est									41	20	21		41	20	21
19	Nairn Tradespark Wood New Car Park	RC	NYLC	1	Est	15		15										15		15
10	North Kessock A9(N) Upgrade	RC	NYLC	5	Est													27		27
10	North Kessock Access Route Upgrade	RC	NYLC	5	Est													16		16
1	Smoo Cave, Durness	RC	NYLC	2	Est													30		30
11	Storr Woodland Restructuring & Enhancements	RC	NYLC	1	Est				120	50	70	50	20	30				170	70	100
8	Tarbat Ness SSSI Environmental Improvements	RC	NYLC	1	Est							60	20	40				60	20	40
	TOTAL					1,240	120	1,120	1,537	140	1,397	737	105	632	796	113	683	4,882	519	4,333