

## **APPENDIX M: 2024/25 Summary Updates for Major Capital Projects**

### **Adults and Health**

No change in the forecast position since Quarter 2.

### **Children's Services**

A review of the Special Educational Needs, Schools Basic Need, and Schools Condition programmes have resulted in a revised forecast for 2024/25. The forecasts have slipped by £20.808m from the position reported at Quarter 2. This is mainly due to contractor availability and timing/ planning of works, such as the Schools Condition programme work takes place during the summer holidays when schools are closed. Whilst some smaller schemes will be implemented during the rest of the year.

### **Climate and Place – Other Services**

Flood Prevention schemes for the Taunton area, brought forward from the Somerset West and Taunton capital programme are now likely to commence in the second half of 2024.

### **North Hill Cliff Stabilisation Works**

A contractor has been appointed to complete the design of the North Hill Minehead rock catch fence which is now complete. The rock catch fence will prevent cliff falls causing injury to any persons or property below. The next step is to understand land ownership, biodiversity net gain requirements and submit a planning application for the works.

### **Climate and Place – Economy and Regeneration**

#### **Yeovil Refresh Programme: Public Realm Works**

In Quarter 2 works in Triangle continued and this will now be completed in quarter three. Snagging and final elements of work in other areas continued through quarter two. The remaining live section at the Triangle is expected to be complete by the end of quarter two. The Triangle will see the creation of a new public space. A section in Middle Street remains unfinished due to the presence of a dangerous structure at 47 Middle Street preventing work commencing this remains an issue.

#### **Yeovil Refresh Programme: Active Travel – Cycling and Walking**

Pre-construction preparation including finalisation of build designs were key activities in Quarter 2. These works will commence in quarter three creating new shared cycling and walking facilities in Hendford, upgraded facilities including crossings in Southwestern Terrace/Middle Street/Central Road, drainage and patching on route to Pen Mill station via Yeovil Country Park route. Works will be completed by the close of the financial year in Quarter 4.

## **APPENDIX M: 2023/24 Summary Updates for Major Capital Projects (cont)**

### **Yeovil Refresh Programme: Future High Streets Fund Development projects**

The Acquisition of Glovers Walk was completed. A demolition contractor was appointed to deliver on the grant requirements for the site. Grant agreements were signed and completed on three development projects with a focus on delivery of residential key worker units with ancillary commercial space. Expenditure occurred in Aug and Sept in Quarter. 2 and will be completed throughout remaining quarters of 2024/25 to ensure compliance with FHSF grant agreement.

### **Town Deal Programmes**

#### **Bridgwater Town Deal**

The Bridgwater Town Deal continues to progress the 11 projects into delivery to meet the funding deadline of March 2026.

Within Quarter 2, the programme saw big developments and milestones achieved for the projects, including:

- Celebration Mile Construction started on site in August. Project spend will increase significantly now over the next 12 months while the programme is being delivered.
- The Engine Room completed its construction and held a private event to open the facility. Capital allocation for this project is 95% spent, with only minor snagging to address.
- Carnival went out to market for a main contractor in this time. Once this contractor is appointed, capital spend will increase during 2025 and be delivered before the March 2026 deadline.
- Bridgwater Tidal Barrier secured FBC confirmation from DEFRA, the EA have communicated that now they have received this confirmation, the BTM funding allocation can now be drawn down for mobilisation of works.
- Arts Centre and Town Hall Theatre projects have both been out to market for main contractors. Similar to what has been stated above, project spend will increase in 2025 and be spent/delivered by the March 2026 deadline.
- Dunball – whilst Town Deal allocation of this project was spent in the early phases on this project, the project now has a main contractor and is due to start works in November 2024.

Capital Commitments to these projects are developing, whilst at different paces, the majority of projects will have increased spending in the calendar year of 2025 to deliver the intended outputs that we have agreed with MHCLG.

## **APPENDIX M: 2023/24 Summary Updates for Major Capital Projects (cont)**

### **Bridgwater Levelling Up Fund**

The Levelling Up Fund is progressing at pace. With many cogs turning, designs have been progressing and the design team will now progress designs to RIBA Stage 3 and a submission to the LA for planning permission is due in Jan 2025. From this, procurement on Main Contractor will take place while planning permission is being decided with the Local Authority to ensure in efficiency of time as the project team recognises the tight timescales on this project. Once main contractor is secured, project spend will accelerate significantly with construction works starting on site.

### **Glastonbury Town Deal**

This has been a very busy quarter with project delivery in full swing. The Programme is on target to complete in time and within budget and where needed support is provided to ensure success.

Key developments include:

- Abbey Piazza and Sports & Leisure Hub projects – builds well-underway and these are on target to both be completed this financial year.
- Baily's Buildings and St Dunstan's House projects – build contractors started on-site and good progress is being made.
- Clean Energy Project – rooftop solar arrays installed at St Dunstan's School and Brunel care; other arrays being firmed up and rolled out.
- St Brigid's Chapel & Field – contractor procured to build an eco-roundhouse and wilding plans being finalised.
- Enabling Project – land purchased and pre-planning work underway.
- Robert Richards Initiative – preparing for new and improved path works in 2025.

In August 2024, MHCLG approved a Project Adjustment Request (PAR) to reallocate the Enterprise & Innovation Hub project allocation to other projects in the Programme. As a result, this Programme retains its £23.6m Towns Fund grant in full.

### **Firepool Development**

The development of the site at Firepool is continuing with the Northern Boulevard works well under way and the Southern Boulevard will commence shortly.

### **Staplegrave Housing Infrastructure Fund**

This government funding currently has a spend deadline of March 2025. It is anticipated that at least £9m of this can be achieved, with discussions ongoing with government about possible extensions to the spend deadline. If discussions prove unsuccessful, there is a risk of any unspent funding being clawed back.

## **APPENDIX M: 2023/24 Summary Updates for Major Capital Projects (cont)**

### **Climate and Place – Infrastructure and Transport**

#### **Road Structures**

As of April 2024, the Council has begun working with a new set of contractors to deliver its Structural Maintenance Programme (SMP) and is now in the process of developing the capital works programme for the year. This includes finalising design, acquiring road space, diversion routes and works resources for specific schemes.

A key achievement to note is the completion of the surface dressing programme, with over one million square metres of dressing completed. This is the largest surface dressing programme undertaken by the council in six years.

Significant progress has also been made with the surfacing programme, with a full programme in place through to the end of the year. This programme has begun delivering substantial schemes on the A road network with recent work in Bridgwater and Taunton, and major schemes being completed on the C182 (HPC) route and the A38 Bristol Road, Bridgwater.

#### **Bridge Structures**

Urgent and Minor Works Schemes and provision of TM/Site Safety measures are currently being progressed by Walters UK Ltd under our Majors Framework Contract. However, scheme delivery has slowed both on inhouse schemes and external consultant schemes due to a number of reasons including resourcing issues.

#### **Traffic Signals**

The Traffic Signals Recovery Programme continues to work through the high priority crossing upgrade requirements. The traffic signals at Charlton Crossroads in Shepton Mallett, has been completed ahead of schedule.

Works at upper High Street in Taunton have been completed. The Taunton works are to be funded from the Future High Street Funds which will be vired across from Economy and Planning once the final costs are known.

Future works include Hurdle Way, Taunton (due to commence on 11 November) and design work has begun for signal improvements on the A39 Junction, Street.

#### **Rights of Way**

Some minor slippage is reported from the quarter one position (£0.072m into 2025/26). Significant projects are being delivered or have completed in Trull, Pitminster and Mudgley.

#### **A38 Chelston Link**

A38 Chelston Link Resurfacing project has progressed through the pre-construction phase. However, the main construction is now not scheduled to commence until the second half of 2024/25. This is due to the tendering process and availability of road space with several Highways England works planned within the local area.

## **APPENDIX M: 2023/24 Summary Updates for Major Capital Projects (cont)**

### **Blue Anchor Coast Protection**

The Blue Anchor Coast Protection scheme has been completed. There is some expenditure expected in 2024/25, with final costs to be settled.

### **Community Services**

#### **Octagon Theatre**

The revised Octagon Theatre project was approved by Full Council in May and has been added back into the capital programme. A revised business case is to be submitted to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport in Autumn 2024, with a final business case to be submitted in February 2025, so the majority of spend on this project has been refiled into 2025/26.

### **Ports and Harbours**

Quotes for the Navigation Markers have been obtained and it is hoped that the project will be completed in year.

### **Resources and Corporate Services**

#### **Corporate ICT Investment**

Planned expenditure on Device, Mobile and Network Infrastructure refreshes, along with Sheltered Housing ICT Provision is expected to be achieved in year.

### **Property Services**

The Property Services General consists of a number of schemes, which have been reviewed during Quarter 2 resulting in a number of projects that are complete or are brought forward from legacy districts for which no owner can be identified being written off with a net underspend of £1.539m being reported for the quarter. The review of all capital projects will continue through Quarter 3 focussing on the allocation of the total budgets by project.

### **Strategy, Workforce, and Localities**

No change in forecasts to report in this area.