

## ANGUS COUNCIL

## FINANCE &amp; INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – 11 MARCH 2003

## ADDITIONAL SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE FUNDING

## REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

**ABSTRACT**

This report advises of extra revenue and capital funding being made available by the Scottish Executive.

**1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Committee :-

1. Note the award of revenue funding of £0.387 million in 2002/03 from the Scottish Executive for the purposes of improving local roads;
2. Note the award of additional funding of £0.040 million from the Scottish Executive for the purposes of upgrading the Council's closed circuit television system;
3. Note the award of additional funding of £0.788 million in 2003/04, £1.647 million in 2004/05, £1.647 million in 2005/06 from the Scottish Executive for the purpose of investing in school buildings;
4. Note that further reports will be brought to appropriate Committees detailing how the respective Directors propose to utilise this additional funding;
5. Agree that the £0.387 million awarded for improving local roads be added to the Roads & Transport Renewal & Repair Fund to facilitate its use in 2003/04.

**2. BACKGROUND**

The Scottish Executive has issued a number of press releases over the past month. These have outlined that local authorities across Scotland are to receive additional capital and revenue funding over a number of financial years in respect of improving local roads, upgrading of closed circuit television and investing in school buildings. Members may be aware of these matters from local press reports but the purpose of this report is to formally confirm the level of resources allocated to Angus Council.

**3. IMPROVING LOCAL ROADS**

The Scottish Executive formally announced in a letter dated 27 February 2003 that additional revenue grant totalling £15 million is to be distributed among Scottish local authorities in 2002/03. Angus Council's share of this total is £0.387 million. Whilst this grant is not ring-fenced and there is no time limit or use restrictions, the Executive has stated that "Ministers are keen that the resources should be allocated towards additional expenditure on local roads and bridges."

Given the lateness in the financial year of this announcement it is not possible, or in the interests of Best Value, to expend this additional resource prior to the financial year end. It is proposed, therefore, that this sum be contributed to the Roads and Transport Renewal and Repair Fund which will permit a planned programme of works to be prepared for 2003/04. The proposed programme of works will be the subject of a further report by the Director of Roads to the Roads Committee.

**4. UPGRADING OF CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION**

A press release by the Scottish Executive on 12 February 2003 indicated that a total of £2.5 million of additional funding is to be distributed to local authorities for the purpose of upgrading closed circuit television systems. Angus Council's share of this total is £0.040 million. Official notification is still awaited from the Scottish Executive regarding this funding award as well as clarification of the financial year it is to be provided for and whether the award is revenue grant or Section 94 Consent.

The press release states that Angus Council's additional resource is intended for the replacement of camera lenses and upgrading of the system for digital recording and automatic number plate recognition. A further report by the Chief Executive will detail proposals for utilisation of this additional funding and clarify the outstanding issues.

**5. INVESTMENT IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS**

A press release by the Scottish Executive on 3 February 2003 indicated that the following additional funding is to be made available for the purposes of investment in school buildings :-

	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06
	£ million	£ million	£ million
National Totals	36.700	76.700	76.700
Angus Council	0.788	1.647	1.647

Official notification is still awaited from the Scottish Executive regarding this funding award. It has been informally indicated by Executive officers that a degree of flexibility may be available in the use of this funding between revenue or capital but this will not be clarified until official notification is received. A further report by the Director of Education will detail proposals for utilisation of this additional funding and clarify the outstanding issues once further information is received.

**6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The additional funding from the Scottish Executive for specifically targeted service areas is in addition to the budgets already set by Angus Council for 2003/04 at the Budget Setting Meeting on 13 February 2003. These will obviously be beneficial for the level of service which can be provided in these activities.

**7. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

There are no human rights implications arising from this report.

**8. CONSULTATION**

The Chief Executive and Directors of Law & Administration, Roads, Property and Education have been consulted during the preparation of this report.

**9. CONCLUSION**

Angus Council has been awarded additional capital and revenue funding over a number of financial years in respect of improving local roads, upgrading of closed circuit television and investing in school buildings. Further reports will be submitted by the relevant directors detailing how these resources are to be utilised.

DAVID S SAWERS  
Director of Finance

**NOTE:** No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above Report.

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