

ANGUS COUNCIL

ITEM No 5

ROADS COMMITTEE – 8 MARCH 2001
FINANCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE - 13 MARCH 2001
POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 20 MARCH 2001

GENERAL FUND REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS 2001/02 -
E-GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES AND SKID RESISTANCE AND ROAD SAFETY WORKS

JOINT REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND DIRECTOR OF ROADS

ABSTRACT

This report seeks approval for the transfer of funds from the Local Capital Fund to meet expenditure pressures which could not be accommodated in setting the 2001/02 revenue and capital budgets. In addition it is proposed to transfer Renewal and Repair Fund resources to the Roads 2001/02 revenue budget. Additionally, the report seeks approval for these transferred resources to be used to fund e-government initiatives and a programme of skid resistance and aligned road safety works in financial year 2001/02.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Roads Committee is asked to :

- (a) Note the proposed transfer of resources from the Local Capital Fund (£430,000) and Roads and Transport Renewal and Repair Fund (£100,000) to the Roads 2001/02 revenue budget as outlined in this report;
- (b) Note the Director of Roads will bring forward a report to the next meeting of the Roads Committee providing details and costing of a programme of skid resistance works.

The Finance and Information Technology Committee is asked to :

- (a) Approve the transfer of £100,000 of resources from the Local Capital Fund to the Information Technology Renewal and Repair Fund to provide funding for e-government initiatives the Council may wish to take forward in financial year 2001/02;
- (b) Approve a transfer of £430,000 of resources from the Local Capital Fund to the Roads 2001/02 revenue budget;
- (c) Approve a transfer of £100,000 of resources from the Roads and Transport Renewal and Repair Fund to the Roads 2001/02 revenue budget;
- (d) Note that these transfers of resources to the Roads 2001/02 revenue budget totalling £530,000 will be utilised as Capital Funded from Current Revenue on a programme of skid resistance and road safety works in Angus.

The Policy and Resources Committee is asked to note the contents of this report.

2. INTRODUCTION

Members will recall the various contributions to the Council's Special Funds agreed as part of the 2001/02 Council Tax setting process at the Special Budget Meeting of Angus Council on 15 February 2001. The Convener of Finance and Information Technology indicated at that meeting that in addition to these sums it was proposed to transfer resources from the Local Capital Fund to provide funding for a number of budget pressures not able to be accommodated in the 2001/02 revenue or capital budgets. This report sets out in more detail the various adjustments to be made within the Council's Special Funds and mainstream budgets. The report also outlines in broad terms what these additional resources will be used for.

3. LOCAL CAPITAL FUND – CURRENT POSITION

Current projections anticipate a cash balance of some £1,251,000 being available on the Council's Local Capital Fund at 31 March 2001. From this sum commitments for ongoing Local Capital Fund projects of £418,000 will require to be met in 2001/02 and beyond. An uncommitted balance of some £833,000 (before consideration of earned interest on the cash balance in 2001/02 and beyond) is therefore projected to be available at 31 March 2001.

The Local Capital Fund has allowed a number of important projects to be taken forward through the provision of match funding to externally sourced resources and thereby augmented the programme of capital works carried out in Angus. However, there are, at present, more pressing financial priorities facing the Council and it is, therefore, proposed that resources are made available from the Local Capital Fund to meet a number of the priority budget pressures which could not be accommodated in the 2001/02 revenue and capital budgets.

4. E-GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

It is proposed that, as intimated at the Special Budget Meeting, £100,000 is provided from the Council's Local Capital Fund for the Modernising Government Agenda in respect of e-government initiatives. This sum will be transferred to the Information Technology Renewal and Repair Fund for this purpose.

Further reports will be submitted to the Finance and Information Technology Committee when details of the e-government initiatives to be taken forward by the Council have been more fully determined.

5. ROADS AND TRANSPORT SKID RESISTANCE AND ROAD SAFETY WORKS

Report 1236/00 to the Roads Committee of 23 November 2000, "Skidding resistance on A and B class roads SCRIM survey results", outlined an estimated cost of £1,500,000 to undertake remedial works in connection with improving skid resistance.

It is proposed that some £450,000 is utilised in 2001/02 in order to commence a phased approach to these skid resistance works and the balance of some £80,000 is used to address aligned road safety matters. This is a total funding requirement of £530,000. However, due to the capital nature of these works they are not considered to be wholly suitable for funding specifically from the Roads and Transport Renewal and Repairs Fund.

In order to facilitate the appropriate funding of these works it is proposed that :

- the £430,000 of Local Capital Fund resources identified at the Special Budget Meeting for replenishment of the Roads and Transport Renewal and Repairs Fund be transferred to the Roads 2001/02 revenue budget to be utilised as Capital Funded from Current Revenue (CFCR) for the purposes of skid resistance and aligned road safety works;
- a further £100,000 (providing a total budget provision of £530,000) from the Roads and Transport Renewal and Repairs Fund be transferred to the Roads 2001/02 revenue budget to be utilised as CFCR for the purposes of skid resistance and aligned road safety works.

The Director of Roads will bring forward a report to a future meeting of the Roads and Transport Committee providing details and costing of a programme of skid resistance works to be met from this funding.

6. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are no human rights implications as a result of this report.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The proposals outlined above would have the following impact on the Council's Funds etc. :

	£
Transfers Out	
Local Capital Fund	(530,000)
Roads and Transport Renewal and Repairs Fund	(100,000)
Total Transfers Out	(630,000)
Transfers In	
Roads and Transport Revenue Budget 2001/02 (Skid resistance works)	530,000
Information Technology Renewal and Repairs Fund (E-government initiatives)	100,000
Total Transfers In	630,000
Net Position	Nil

In overall terms the position is financially neutral as the transfers are self balancing.

8. CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, Director of Law & Administration, Director of Planning and Transport and Director of Information Technology have been consulted on the contents of this report.

9. CONCLUSION

Expenditure pressures in relation to replenishment of the Roads and Transport Renewal and Repair Fund (£430,000) and the Modernising Government Agenda (£100,000) could not be accommodated within the Council's 2001/02 revenue budget. It is proposed, therefore, that funding for these pressures be provided from available balances within the Council's Local Capital Fund.

In addition the report proposes the transfer of £100,000 of resources from the Roads and Transport Renewal and Repairs Fund to the Roads 2001/02 revenue budget.

The Roads department are to undertake a programme of skid resistance works on the Council's A and B class road network and aligned road safety works. In view of the capital nature of these works it is proposed that £530,000 is transferred to the Roads 2001/02 revenue budget to be utilised as CFCR to finance these works.

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.

