

## FINANCE MONITORING REPORT – OCTOBER 2021

To: Highways and Transport Committee

Meeting Date: 7th December 2021

From: Steve Cox – Executive Director, Place & Economy  
Tom Kelly – Chief Finance Officer

Electoral division(s): All

Key decision: No

Forward Plan ref: N/A

Outcome: The report is presented to provide Committee with an opportunity to note and comment on the forecast position for 2021/2022.

Recommendation: The Committee is asked to review, note and comment upon the report,

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### Member contacts:

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## 1. Background

- 1.1 The appendix attached provides the financial position for the whole of Place & Economy Services, and as such, not all of the budgets contained within it are the responsibility of this Committee. To aid Member reading of the finance monitoring report, budget lines that relate to the Highways and Transport Committee are unshaded and those that relate to the Environment and Green Investment Committee are shaded. Members are requested to restrict their questions to the lines for which this Committee is responsible.

## 2. Main Issues

- 2.1 Revenue: The report attached as Appendix A is the Place & Economy Finance Monitoring Report as at the end of October 2021. Place and Economy is currently forecasting a £31K underspend at year end.
- 2.2 In Business Planning, funding of £3.8m was allocated as an estimate of the financial impact on the service of Covid, of which £0.8m is required for the purpose given. The remainder is being used to offset pressures within Place & Economy, and for Highways and Transport this relates to the Guided Busway litigation costs which are forecast to be £3.2m this financial year compared to the £1.3m budget allocated. Costs of litigation remain in line with expectations overall, this variance represents progress of the case and alongside a case management conference scheduled this financial year.
- 2.3 Capital: The capital position is detailed in Appendix 6 and the in-year forecast underspend is £12.1m compared to the £13.2m assumed slippage approved in the Business Plan at Full Council in February 2021. Appendix 7 details all the slippage but the main changes since last month within Highways and Transport are:-
- Slippage of £1.3m on Delivering the Strategy Transport Aims- Highway Schemes is due the funding allocation and programme not being agreed until September 2021, and together with the required involvement of the various district councils and the complexity of the projects this will mean that just under half the of expenditure will slip into next financial year. It is anticipated that agreement to next year's allocation and programme will be made earlier, so that this year's slipped schemes plus next year's full programme will be delivered and spent within year.
  - Slippage of £0.9m on Countywide Safety Fencing Renewals. The construction phase of the A505/ M11 Duxford safety fencing renewals has been delayed due to design complexities and coordination with National Highways. The scheme is now expected to be delivered in 22/23.

The capital programme will continue to be monitored closely to identify and report and further changes due to supply chain issue, winter weather or road capacity limitations.

#### 4. Alignment with corporate priorities

##### 4.1 Communities at the heart of everything we do

There are no significant implications for this priority.

##### 4.2 A good quality of life for everyone

There are no significant implications for this priority.

##### 4.3 Helping our children learn, develop and live life to the full

There are no significant implications for this priority.

##### 4.4 Cambridgeshire: a well-connected, safe, clean, green environment

There are no significant implications for this priority.

##### 4.5 Protecting and caring for those who need us

There are no significant implications for this priority.