

Item 10 - Question TimeResponse to Mr A Baxter

The additional £1M allocated for roads maintenance from the Strategic Change and Development Fund last financial year (Council decision 27 June 2013) was not reported separately but was used as part of the overall Roads Maintenance Budget (totalling some £20.7M in 2013/14). The £1M was allocated to deal with additional drainage and surface treatment works but was monitored overall as part of the Roads Maintenance Budget – in other words it was not subject to a separate monitoring line in the budget.

During August 2013 the current Chief Executive Alistair Dodds (accompanied by the new Chief Executive designate, Steve Barron and the Director of Finance, Derek Yule) spoke to the Director of TECS, Neil Gillies, indicating the importance of TECS delivering a balanced budget at the end of the financial year. In order to achieve this out-turn, Neil Gillies and Richard Guest took the decision to tell each Area Roads and Community Works Manager to hold back some £200k each from their overall Roads Maintenance allocation as contingency sums against potential high spends over the winter season.