

(ix) Mr D Macpherson

To the Chair of the Economy & Infrastructure Committee

Can you please give an update of the spend on roads and the expected underspend by the end of this calendar year and the financial year end?

As at the end of July 2021, the capital roads spend in the financial year is shown at just under £7M. Full details of this were detailed in the report to the Economy & Infrastructure Committee on 1 September. This figure is however believed to be understated due to the time lag between works being undertaken and spend appearing in the ledger. It is considered that an up-date on Capital Roads spend at the end of October (at the end of the main surface dressing and capital restructuring works season), will provide a more accurate position of progress in achieving this year's spend, and enable forecasting of any potential underspend at year end.

It is the case that some of the Strategic Roads Projects (e.g., Infirmary Bridge) we are not able to complete this year but will be carried forward to 22/23. This is also the case for the recent additional award of £9M from the Health & Prosperity fund, some of which may require to roll forward to 22/23 due to the timing of this financial year and the availability of contractors and materials. Please note that any underspends in this year's allocations will be carried forward into the next financial year.