

**Item: 13**

**Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee: 8 September 2026.**

**Economic Development Grants –Budget Outturn Statement and Delegated Approvals.**

**Report by Director of Enterprise and Resources.**

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## **1. Overview**

- 1.1. This report presents the budget outturn position as at 31 March 2026 in respect of the Economic Development Grants budget, together with all the delegated approvals made during 2025/26.
- 1.2. In March 2025, the Council approved the revenue budget for financial year 2025/26. This included an initial Economic Development Grants budget of £306,400 along with the capability to over-commit by 5%, which increased the budget to £321,700.
- 1.3. During financial year 2025/26, new spending commitments of £268,383 were approved which, relative to the Economic Development Grants budget of £321,700 as detailed in Annex A to this report.
- 1.4. The level of outstanding spending commitments held in the Economic Development Grants Fund, as at 31 March 2026, decreased by £173,666 to £593,163.
- 1.5. Grant approvals made in the period 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026 totalled £268,383, including grants approved under delegated schemes for the same period, totalling £281,700 and are detailed in Annex B to this report.

## **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1. It is recommended that members of the Committee:
  - i. Note that, during financial year 2025/26, new spending commitments of £268,383, relative to the revised Economic Development Grants budget of £321,700, were approved, as detailed in Annex A to this report.
  - ii. Note grant approvals made in the period 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026 totalling £268,383, including grants approved under delegated schemes for the same period totalling £228,383, as detailed in Annex B to this report.

### 3. Exempt and/or Confidential Information

- 3.1. Under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the public should be excluded from the meeting in respect of any discussion relating to Annex B to this report. Annex B contains exempt information as defined in paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

#### For Further Information please contact:

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#### Implications of Report

1. **Financial:** Financial implications are detailed in the report and annexes to the report.
2. **Legal:** Budget monitoring procedures help the Council meet its statutory obligation to secure best value.
3. **Corporate Governance:** Approval of applications for financial assistance from Economic Development schemes of assistance which are within policy guidelines is delegated to the Director of Enterprise and Resources.
4. **Human Resources:** Not applicable.
5. **Equalities:** An Equality Impact Assessment is not required in respect of financial reporting.
6. **Island Communities Impact:** An Island Communities Impact Assessment is not required in respect of financial reporting.
7. **Links to Council Plan:** The proposals in this report support and contribute to improved outcomes for communities as outlined in the following Council Plan strategic priorities:
  - ☒ Growing our economy.
  - ☐ Strengthening our Communities.
  - ☐ Developing our Infrastructure.
  - ☐ Transforming our Council.
8. **Links to Local Outcomes Improvement Plan:** The proposals in this report support and contribute to improved outcomes for communities as outlined in the following Local Outcomes Improvement Plan priorities:
  - ☐ Cost of Living.
  - ☒ Sustainable Development.
  - ☐ Local Equality.
  - ☐ Improving Population Health.
9. **Environmental and Climate Risk:** Not applicable.
10. **Risk:** Not applicable.

- 11. Procurement:** Not applicable.
- 12. Health and Safety:** Not applicable.
- 13. Property and Assets:** Not applicable.
- 14. Information Technology:** Not applicable.
- 15. Cost of Living:** Not applicable.

#### **List of Background Papers**

None.

#### **Annexes**

Annex A: Outturn statement for financial year 2025/26.

Annex B: Approvals for Year to 31 March 2026, including applications approved under delegated powers.

## Annex A: Out-turn statement 2025 / 2026

|                                       | £         | £                |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Annual budget available for approval. |           | <b>321,700</b>   |
| Less previous year commitments.       | (272,044) |                  |
| Less current year commitments.        | (143,845) |                  |
| Ledger totals as at 31 March 2026.    |           | <b>(415,889)</b> |
| Grants approved to date.              | 268,383   |                  |
| Less current year spending.           | (143,845) |                  |
| Current year commitments outstanding. |           | <b>(124,538)</b> |
| Plus previous year commitment.        |           | <b>272,044</b>   |
| Budget.                               |           | <b>53,317</b>    |

### Economic Development Grant Fund.

|                                            | £                |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Opening balance.                           | <b>766,829</b>   |
| Less previous year commitments.            | <b>(272,044)</b> |
| Less reprovioned reserves.                 | <b>(26,160)</b>  |
| Plus current year commitments outstanding. | 124,538          |
| Closing balance.                           | <b>593,163</b>   |
| Fund movement.                             | <b>(173,666)</b> |

### Notes on terminology.

|                                       |                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Previous year commitments.            | Spending made in 2025/26 for grants approved in 2024/25 and earlier, funded by transfer from Economic Development Grants Fund. |
| Current year commitments.             | Spending made in 2025/26 in relation to grants approved in 2025/26.                                                            |
| Grants approved to date.              | Total grants approved in 2025/26.                                                                                              |
| Current year commitments outstanding. | Balance still due to be paid on grants approved during 2025/26 transferred to Economic Development Grants Fund.                |