

Boston Borough Council – Q3 Finance Capital Report for 2025-26

Finance Summary

- As of 31 December 2025 capital spend was £14.023m against a revised full year budget of £37.422m.
- Towns Fund projects account for the largest portion of the revised capital budget at £14.849m with forecast full spend in year.
- Amendments to the 2025/26 approved capital budget equate to £1.141m.
- The majority of the capital programme is financed through external grant funding.
- The 5-year capital programme shows planned spending across various projects including Disabled Facilities Grants, IT infrastructure, Towns Fund, LUF and BPF projects.

Section 2 – Finance

Section 2.1 Capital Programme in Year

Section 2.2 Capital 5-year Programme

Section 2.1 – Capital Programme in Year

Table 1 details the revisions to the capital programme and progress against the 2025/26 approved programme including the projected forecast outturn to 31 March 2026.

Table 1 – Capital Programme 2025/26						
Scheme	Approved Budget 2025/26 £'000	Changes to Approved Budget £'000	Revised Budget 2025/26 £'000	Actuals to December 2025 £'000	Forecast Outturn 2025/26 £'000	Variance (underspend)/overspend at Q3 £'000
Disabled Facilities Grant	885	-	885	513	785	(100)
Vehicle Replacements	536	(306)	230	230	230	-
Information Technology Infrastructure Refresh	412	(174)	238	110	205	(33)
Swimming Pool Support Fund	198	-	198	198	198	-
Uniform	291	-	291	5	231	(60)
Unit 4 Implementation	47	-	47	-	47	-
Affordable Housing Commuted Sum	1,074	-	1,074	-	-	(1,074)
Capital Enhancements	604	(204)	400	375	400	-
Depot Purchase	150	-	150	24	150	-
Homelessness Prevention Van	7	-	7	5	5	(2)
Market Regeneration	23	-	23	23	23	-
Boston Council Chamber Mics	33	-	33	33	33	-
Markets – Trailers	-	13	13	-	13	-
Temporary Accommodation	-	25	25	-	25	-
Total Projects (Excl Towns Funds, UKSPF, LUF & BPF)	4,260	(646)	3,614	1,516	2,345	(1,269)

Table 1 – Capital Programme 2025/26

Scheme	Approved Budget 2025/26 £'000	Changes to Approved Budget £'000	Revised Budget 2025/26 £'000	Actuals to December 2025 £'000	Forecast Outturn 2025/26 £'000	Variance (underspend)/overspend at Q3 £'000
Towns Fund - Leisure	7,895	-	7,895	1,061	3,395	(4,500)
Towns Fund - Mayflower	3,600	-	3,600	3,600	3,600	-
Towns Fund - St Botolph's Library	57	-	57	-	57	-
Towns Fund - Healing the High St (incl. Shodfriars)	2,433	-	2,433	771	2,433	-
Towns Fund - Boston Station	864	-	864	-	864	-
Total Towns Fund Projects	14,849	-	14,849	5,432	10,349	(4,500)
UKSPF (Capacity building projects for local groups)	275	-	275	173	264	(11)
UKSPF Rural (Community projects aimed at reducing the cost of living)	129	-	129	97	129	-
Total UKSPF Projects	404	-	404	270	393	(11)
LUF - Civic Hub	5	-	5	5	5	-
LUF - Crown House	6,025	-	6,025	2,070	3,142	(2,883)
LUF - Public Realm	4,940	-	4,940	2,564	3,622	(1,318)
Total LUF Projects	10,970	-	10,970	4,639	6,769	(4,201)
BPF - Boston United Football Sports Complex	1,450	-	1,450	113	450	(1,000)
BPF - Affordable Homes (Quadrant Housing Development)	1,752	-	1,752	1,123	1,752	-
BPF - Haven Wharf	2,800	-	2,800	-	-	(2,800)
BPF - PE21 Rosegarth Square	398	-	398	398	398	-
BPF - Community Organisations Package	690	-	690	414	690	-
BPF - Boston Connected	570	(470)	100	-	100	-
BPF - Boston Community Research Project	370	-	370	114	370	-
BPF – St Botolph's Church Visitor Offer	50	(25)	25	4	25	-
Total BPF Projects (excl Boston Leisure)	8,080	(495)	7,585	2,166	3,785	(3,800)
Grand Total	38,563	(1,141)	37,422	14,023	23,641	(13,781)

The revised capital budget as of 31 December 2025 is £37.422m, derived from the combination of the 2025/26 approved budget of £38.563m, new in-year approved spend, slippage into future years and decommitted spend. The overall expenditure as at quarter 3 is £14.023m.

The Towns Fund projects represent the largest specific group at £14.849m, 40% of total revised capital budget followed by Levelling Up Funding (LUF) £10.970m which represents 29%. Others make up the remaining £11.603m, 31% of total revised capital budget including Boston Partnership Funding (BPF).

Progress against approved budgets

- **Disabled Facilities Grants** – Forecasting use of current year’s original grant allocation with remaining use of grant expected in future financial years.
- **Information Technology Infrastructure Refresh** – Analysis on current ICT stock and service leading to decision to increase lifecycle leading to decommitments within the current year budget.
- **Affordable Housing Commuted Sum** – Budget required to be rephased into 2026/27 and 2027/28. Draft funding agreement seeks completion of properties prior to payment.
- **Capital Enhancements** – Works on fire protection measures and costs are progressing as approved within the Quarter 1 report. Forecast for other works are currently paused as decision on priorities are ongoing.
- **UKSPF** – MHCLG rules in the management of UKSPF by Lead Local Authorities allow for the transfer of revenue funding to capital funding at will within each quarterly reporting period, though not vice versa and once a transfer has been undertaken and reported, the capital expenditure must remain categorised as such. North East Lincolnshire Council, acting on behalf of Greater Lincolnshire County Combined Authority (who have succeeded South Holland as Lead Local Authority for the management of UKSPF in line with the Greater Lincolnshire devolution deal), have confirmed that this flexibility is retained at District level. The projected outturn here will be covered by an underspend in revenue, already reported to GLCCA, and the budgets accordingly revised to balance in the next quarter.
- **Boston Leisure** – Construction progress is continuing on site with groundworks and new extension foundations underway ahead of steel frame installation commencing in next Quarter. Expenditure reprofiled to reflect updated sequencing of works, particularly groundworks and roofing.
- **LUF – Crown House and Public Realm** – More detailed cash flows received from contractors, projects still on track to complete in 2026/27.
- **BPF – Boston United Football Sports Complex** – Formally entered into a contractual agreement in September 2025 to support the construction costs of the sports complex and south stand which will complete the new community stadium. Construction commenced in October 2025, foundation works have all been completed and steelwork has now commenced with the completion of the main steel frame target by March 2026. Roof construction target scheduled for April 2026 with overall completion of the project due end of 2026.
- **BPF – Haven Wharf** – Project is still not in contractual agreement and is awaiting agreement from Boston College to proceed.
- **BPF – Boston Connected** – Ministerial approval received in October 2025 that the project can be delivered internally which will aim to enhance Boston’s tourism offerings, improve connectivity and create a more positive experience for both visitors and residents. The recruitment and procurement processes are underway for the project with tenders being developed and advertised by March 2026 in readiness for project delivery thereafter.

2025/26 Funding

Table 2 details the Capital Programme financing and the projected forecast outturn to 31 March 2026.

Table 2 – Capital Programme Financing				
All Projects	Approved Budget 2025/26 £'000	Revised Budget 2025/26 £'000	Outturn 2025/26 at Q3 £'000	Variance (under)/ over at Q3 £'000
Prudential Borrowing	(1,335)	(486)	(393)	93
External Grants	(35,386)	(34,891)	(22,279)	12,612
Capital Reserve	(738)	(684)	(684)	-
Other Reserves	(30)	(30)	(28)	2
S106	(1,074)	(1,074)	-	1,074
Capital Receipts	-	(257)	(257)	-
Totals	(38,563)	(37,422)	(23,641)	13,781

Capital Financing - The current capital programme is financed from reserves and internal borrowing in line with the Capital Strategy.

Table 3 details the changes to the approved capital budget for 2025/26.

Table 3 – Changes to Approved Capital Budget		
Project Description	Amount £'000	Approval
Vehicle Replacements	(306)	Vehicle orders have been placed, lead-in time for delivery pushes scheme into 2026/27, rephasing required.
Information Technology Infrastructure Refresh	(174)	£144k to be decommitted as current available resources along with asset life extensions reduce requirements for investment. £30k to be rephased into 2026/27 as programme of replacements are managed.
Capital Enhancements	(204)	Rephasing of scheme into 2026/27 as per Progress against approved budget.
Markets – Trailers	13	Proforma approved by S151 Officer.
BPF – Boston Connected	(470)	Rephasing of scheme into 2026/27 as per Progress against approved budget.
BPF – St Botolph’s Church Visitor Offer	(25)	Rephasing of scheme into 2026/27 as per Progress against approved budget.
Temporary Accommodation	25	Proforma approved by S151 Officer
Grand Total	(1,141)	

Section 2.2 – Capital 5-year Programme

Table 4 details the 5-year capital profiling for each scheme.

Table 4 – Capital Programme

Scheme	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Disabled Facilities Grant	885	785	785	785	785
Vehicle Replacements	230	306	219	200	-
Information Technology Infrastructure Refresh	238	295	549	100	100
Swimming Pool Support Fund	198	-	-	-	-
Uniform	291	-	-	-	-
Unit 4 Implementation	47	17	-	-	-
Affordable Housing Commuted Sum	1,074	-	-	-	-
Capital Enhancements	400	215	-	-	-
Depot Purchase	150	-	-	-	-
Food Waste	-	3,135	-	679	-
Homelessness Prevention Van	7	-	-	-	-
Boston Crematorium	-	-	525	-	-
Market Regeneration	23	-	-	-	-
Boston Council Chamber Mics	33	-	-	-	-
Markets – Trailers	13	-	-	-	-
Temporary Accommodation	25	25	-	-	-
Total Projects (Excl Towns Funds, UKSPF, LUF, BPF & Pride in Place)	3,614	4,778	2,615	2,301	885
Towns Fund – Leisure	7,895	5,592	-	-	-
Towns Fund - Mayflower	3,600	-	-	-	-
Towns Fund - St Botolph's Library	57	-	-	-	-
Towns Fund - Healing the High St (incl. Shodfriars)	2,433	-	-	-	-
Towns Fund - Boston Station	864	-	-	-	-
Total Towns Fund Projects	14,849	5,592	-	-	-
UKSPF (Capacity building projects for local groups)	275	-	-	-	-
UKSPF Rural (Community projects aimed at reducing the cost of living)	129	-	-	-	-
Total UKSPF Projects	404	-	-	-	-
LUF - Civic Hub	5	-	-	-	-
LUF - Crown House	6,025	900	-	-	-
LUF - Public Realm	4,940	600	-	-	-
Total LUF Projects	10,970	1,500	-	-	-
BPF - Boston United Football Sports Complex	1,450	-	-	-	-
BPF - Affordable Homes (Quadrant Housing Development)	1,752	-	-	-	-
BPF - Haven Wharf	2,800	-	-	-	-
BPF - PE21 Rosegarth Square	398	-	-	-	-
BPF - Community Organisations Package	690	-	-	-	-
BPF - Boston Connected	100	470	-	-	-
BPF - Boston Community Research Project	370	-	-	-	-
BPF – St Botolph's Church Visitor Offer	25	25	-	-	-
Total BPF Projects (excl Boston Leisure)	7,585	495	-	-	-

Table 4 – Capital Programme

Scheme	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Town Centre Revitalisation	-	125	651	571	571
Heritage & Culture Activation	-	31	219	198	198
Green Spaces & Connectivity	-	-	219	158	158
Safety & Security	-	160	439	485	485
Community Capacity Building	-	23	132	119	119
Youth Engagement	-	23	88	79	79
Pride in Place – Impact Fund	-	1,500	-	-	-
Total Pride in Place	-	1,862	1,748	1,610	1,610
Grand Total – All Projects	37,422	14,227	4,363	3,911	2,495
Capital Financing					
Prudential Borrowing	(486)	(7,914)	(1,293)	(979)	(100)
External Grants	(34,891)	(6,243)	(2,533)	(2,395)	(2,395)
Capital Reserve	(684)	(54)	-	-	-
Other Reserves	(30)	-	-	-	-
S106	(1,074)	-	-	-	-
Capital Receipts	(257)	(16)	-	-	-
	(37,422)	(14,227)	(4,363)	(3,911)	(2,495)