

CHAIRMANS REPORT

FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE 26 SEPTEMBER 2024

The only constant at the moment seems to be “uncertainty”, a scourge on our confidence and productivity and particularly distressing when my personal mantra is “If it’s outside of your control, don’t worry about it”.

The PM has made the call ‘get back to basics’, do core business only, no ‘nice to haves’; yet the uncertainty remains around what that actually means.

As muted last month does it mean we should be pausing our town hall strengthening and Marton Chambers development especially given government intimated they will be checking all our budgets before allocating any further Government funds.

However, I’m told the cost of building supplies have dropped some 30% and builders are now looking for work so it would seem strategic to continue.

Yet it is frustrating to see even in this early stage our spend is less than 10% of our budgeted YTD, it is a serious challenge to deliver these builds done on time and within budget.

Tomorrow RDC is hosting the Regional Growth Summit, where regional Mayors and CE”s meet with the regions key industries, in my mind a vital hui in this era of collaboration with:

- a) Central Government in accessing their Infrastructure fund
- b) Our Council neighbours with regional deals and shared services
- c) Public/private partnerships.

A hui of very important conversations and we rely on our Mayor and CE to pull more than a rabbit out of the hat. I look forward to some positive outcomes.