

Summary

	Public Works Department.	Other Departments.	Total.
	£	£	£
Expenditure	21,112,116	1,591,632	22,703,748
Recoveries and receipts	6,706,448	593,741	7,300,189

Summary of Votes under the Control of the Minister of Works and Proposed Ways and Means of raising the Necessary Funds, Year ending 31st March, 1947

Vote.	Miscellaneous Receipts.	Loans.	Consolidated Fund.	Special Revenue.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
Railway Construction	45,000	355,000	..	..	400,000
Housing Construction	332,000	7,500,000	..	..	7,832,000
Public Buildings	250,000	550,000	..	..	800,000
Lighthouses and Harbour-works	2,000	38,000	..	..	40,000
Roads, &c.	10,000	340,000	..	..	350,000
Soil Conservation and Rivers Control	80,000	370,000	..	..	450,000
Irrigation, Water-supply, and Drainage	115,000	685,000	..	..	800,000
Main highways	170,000	1,180,000	..	2,150,000	3,500,000
Maintenance of Public Works and Services	2,418,000	..	2,402,500	..	4,820,500
	3,422,000	11,018,000	2,402,500	2,150,000	18,992,500

For the current financial year, 1946–47, a sum of £2,402,500 will be provided from the Consolidated Fund for expenditure on the purchase of plant and on maintenance of public works and services. The expenditure on main highways (including permanent appropriations estimated at £256,225) is estimated to reach £3,756,225, of which a sum totalling £2,406,225 is expected to be raised by way of special revenue and special funds for employment of seasonal workers on highways works.

Miscellaneous receipts (previously shown as credits-in-aid) for all votes are estimated at £3,422,000.

MAIN HIGHWAYS

During the year every effort has been made to overtake arrears of maintenance, and the extent of the resealing carried out exceeded that of the previous year by 134 miles. Extra graders and other roading machinery have recently become available, and with the possibility of securing additional man-power it is hoped that by the end of the approaching paving season there will be considerable improvement in highway surfaces, but much will still remain to be done to restore the highways to the standard which obtained prior to the outbreak of war.

It is unfortunate that the supply position is retarding the bridge-renewal programme, but everything possible is being done to improve matters.

It has been found possible to resume work on some of the improvement schemes that were suspended during the war period, and further improvement works will be put in hand as circumstances require and plant and man-power become available.