

EXECUTIVE

22nd JUNE 2021

Report Title	Capital Programme Update Report – Approvals into the Capital Programme
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Lead Member	Councillor Lloyd Bunday – Portfolio Holder for Finance and Transformation

Key Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there public sector equality duty implications?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information (whether in appendices or not)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Applicable paragraph number for exemption from publication under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1974	

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to request approval for capital schemes which were either identified as part of the Development Pool approved by the North Northamptonshire Shadow Executive as part of the February 2021 budget papers, or for other schemes that have come forward since, to be approved into the Capital Programme.
- 1.2. This will then allow the schemes to move forward to delivery.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report contains details of changes to the capital investment programme regarding schemes and projects which are key to the delivery of priorities and needs within North Northamptonshire.

3. Recommendations

3.1 It is recommended that the Executive approve the following changes to the Council's capital programme totalling £1.936m:

- a) Schools Minor Works 2021-22 of £1.936m funded from the Department for Education (DfE) School Condition Allocation Grant

Further detail on the scheme is included in section 5.

3.2 Reason for Recommendations:

- The recommended course of action will allow the timely progression of capital works.
- To enable the Council to continue to fulfil its statutory obligation of maintaining its school estate.

4. Report Background

4.1 The Capital Programme is the Council's plan for investing in assets to efficiently deliver its statutory services, and to improve the local infrastructure of North Northamptonshire, with the benefits lasting over a number of years.

4.2 Resources for the capital programme come from Government grants and contributions, capital receipts from surplus land and buildings, revenue contributions and borrowing.

4.3 This report provides an update to the capital programme approved as part of the budget setting process in February 2021.

5. Detail on Recommendations and updates to the Capital Programme

5.1 **Schools Minor Works 2021-22** – Identified within the Development Pool and to be moved into the Committed Programme – budget approval £1.936m which will be funded by the Department for Education (DfE) 'School Condition Allocation' grant.

5.2 The 'School's Minor Works' scheme commissions condition surveys on property within the Local Authority's school estate to determine the works required. As at 1st June 2021, the Council has the responsibility of maintaining 37 schools in North Northamptonshire.

5.3 Each condition survey provides a comprehensive report on the fabric of the school building and site, and any work required to ensure that each building remains 'safe, warm and dry'. Surveys classify any remedial work required into one of four categories identified below:

- 1: Urgent - works required immediately or within one year;
- 2: Essential – required within 2 years;
- 3: Desirable – required within 5 years;
- 4: Desirable – works not anticipated to be required within 5 years

- 5.4 As with previous tranches, it is proposed that funding is provided for remedial works to address condition issues inclusive of categories 1 and 2, where possible. This will ensure the Council maintains the upkeep of school sites and buildings that it holds a statutory obligation for maintaining and helps to mitigate further deterioration to the fabric of the surveyed schools.
- 5.5 Any works undertaken through the ‘Schools Minor Works’ budget will be delivered as part of a rolling programme of condition surveys at maintained schools in the Local Authority.
- 5.6 Expenditure on the scheme is forecast to be 50% or £0.968m 2021-22 with the remaining 50% in 2022-23 due to the need for condition surveys, preliminary works and procurement of main works before works can be completed, also allowing for school operation and weather conditions.
- 5.7 Further detail is provided in a report elsewhere on this agenda.

6. Implications (including financial implications)

6.1 Resources and Financial

- 6.1.1 These works are funded from external grants. There is no requirement for the Council to undertake borrowing to support this scheme.

6.2 Legal

- 6.2.1 The council must utilise funding and deliver schemes in line with the restrictions and requirements as set out in the agreements linked to that funding.

6.3 Risk

- 6.3.1 The deliverability of the 2021-22 Capital Programme is monitored by each accountable project manager and senior officer. There is further review throughout the financial year reported through the Executive Committee.
- 6.3.2 If any overspends or emerging pressures are identified during the year then mitigating actions will be sought and management interventions undertaken.
- 6.3.3 Details of pressures, risks and mitigating actions implemented will be provided as part of the finance monitoring reports as the year progresses.

6.4 Consultation

6.4.1 The 2021-22 Capital Strategy and Capital Programme were subject to consultation prior to approval by the North Northamptonshire Shadow Authority in February 2020.

6.4.2 Consultation, where relevant, on each of the schemes is detailed as part of the respective separate reports elsewhere on the agenda.

6.5 **Climate Impact**

6.5.1 Any capital works would have a climate impact but this would have been managed via the relevant planning process.

6.6 **Community Impact**

6.6.1 These proposals can be considered to have a positive impact on the community as the investment supports maintenance of the schools.

7. **Background Papers**

None.