

EXECUTIVE

15 JULY 2021

Report Title	Capital Programme Update 2021/22
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Lead Member(s)	Councillor Lloyd Bunday, Portfolio Holder for Finance and Transformation

Key Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Forward Plan Reference (if yes to Key Decision)	
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 that have come forward for inclusion in the Council's Capital Programme. Approval of the funding will allow the schemes to move forward to procurement and delivery.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report contains details of the schemes which have already received scrutiny and approval by the S151 Officer and which are key to the delivery of priorities and needs within North Northamptonshire.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Executive Committee approve the following changes into the capital programme totalling £2.877m:

- a) East Kettering (Hanwood Park) Off-site Junctions (Junctions D and E) £2.843m funded from Section 106 (S106) contributions.
- b) Xpress Merge electoral register scheme £34k funded from capital receipts.

Further detail on each of these schemes is included in section 5 below.

3.2 Reason for Recommendations:

- The local authority has a legal obligation to deliver S106 related works in accordance with the signed S106 agreement;
- The recommended course of action will allow the timely progression of capital works;
- The recommended course of action will enable one electoral register for North Northamptonshire. This is a directive from the Cabinet Office.

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 come from Government grants and contributions, capital receipts from surplus land and buildings, revenue contributions and borrowing. The report provides an update to the approved Capital Programme.

5. Detail on Recommendations and updates to the Capital Programme

5.1 **East Kettering (Hanwood Park) Off-site Junctions (Junctions D and E) - £2.843m.** This is a new scheme which involves works to two Kettering junctions which are currently operating at or over capacity in highway modelling terms and are in urgent need of improvement.

Junction D – Pytchley Road/London Road/Barton Rd, Kettering.

Junction E – Barton Road/Windmill Avenue, Kettering.

5.2 This scheme will provide necessary highway mitigation for the Hanwood Park (East of Kettering) Garden Community. The improvement works are required as part of the planning permission for this strategic development. Without the works the local road network and consequently the lives of residents within Kettering would be detrimentally affected. The works will be entirely funded via S106 contributions from the Hanwood Park development and are due Autumn 2021.

5.3 Expenditure on the scheme is forecast to occur in 2021/22.

5.4 Further detail on this scheme is provided elsewhere on the agenda for this Committee, including the request to formally approve the scheme.

- 5.5 **Xpress Merge – One Electoral Register Project - £34k.** Following the establishment of the North Northamptonshire Council on 1st of April 2021, Cabinet Office issued a directive to the new Council to merge the four existing elections registration and management systems located in Corby, East Northamptonshire, Kettering and Wellingborough into one elections registration system and one elections management system. The available timeslot to undertake this work is August 2021.
- 5.6 There are currently four elections teams, each with two separate election systems that are used to manage their day-to-day operations, namely Xpress Register used to manage and maintain the electoral registers and the Xpress election management system used to manage and maintain the elections.
- 5.7 The Council will seek to include this as part of the LGR related costs which it is seeking to fund through a capital direction from Government. The cost will be met through the application of capital receipts.

6. Implications (including financial implications)

6.1 Resources and Financial

The budget requirements are funded from external grants/contributions linked to the development (ie S106 contributions) or capital receipts. There is no requirement for the Council to undertake borrowing to support either of these schemes.

6.2 Legal

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

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.

If any overspends or emerging pressures are identified during the year then mitigating actions will be sought and management interventions undertaken.

Details of pressures, risks and mitigating actions implemented will be provided as part of the finance monitoring reports as the year progresses.

There is a risk that delays and cost increases may arise as a result of COVID-19 restrictions and changes arising from EU Exit. Generally this relates to the supply and price of materials with projects requiring increased lead in times.

There is a risk in relation to funding, particularly S106 where works may be required to take place in advance of S106 triggers/funding being payable. This occurs where a road or school is needed to provide infrastructure for the first

residents/businesses utilising the site. Where this is the required, the Council will fund costs at risk in relation to the funding being received to reimburse its costs.

6.4 Consultation

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

Consultation, where relevant, is detailed as part of the respective separate report elsewhere on the agenda.

6.5 Climate Impact

The climate impact would be considered and managed via the relevant planning process.

6.6 Community Impact

These proposals can be considered to have a positive impact on the community as the Capital Programme delivers the infrastructure to support and connect communities.