

Meeting of the Council – 7th October, 2013

Report of the Cabinet

Capital Programme Monitoring

Purpose of Report

1. To report progress with implementation of the Capital Programme.
2. To propose amendments to the Capital Programme.

Background

3. The table below summarises the *current* 3 year Capital Programme updated where appropriate to reflect latest scheme spending profiles.

Service	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Public Sector Housing	41,264	31,629	31,470
Other Adult, Community & Housing	9,598	1,488	550
Urban Environment	32,308	18,660	8,344
Children's Services	21,208	7,431	67
Corporate Resources	2,359	1,066	1,428
TOTAL	106,737	60,274	41,859

Note that the capital programme for future years is in particular subject to government grant allocations, some of which have not yet been announced.

4. In accordance with the requirements of the Council's Financial Regulations, details of progress with the 2013/14 Programme are given in Appendix A. It is proposed that the current position be noted.

Adult, Community and Housing

Tiled House Lane Residential Care Home

5. This home currently provides 49 beds to support intermediate care and specialist dementia care, and plays an important role in supporting hospital discharge. In order to modernise the building it is necessary to replace the boiler and heating distribution system and all windows. The estimated cost of £600,000 can be met from resources received by the Council from the PCT prior to its winding up (£500,000) and the unallocated Adult Social Care capital budget (£100,000).

It is proposed that the expenditure be approved and included in the Capital Programme.

6. Oak Lane Traveller Site

The current capital works at Oak Lane involve a new mains drainage system being installed to replace the old sewage treatment plant as it failed to maintain permissible discharge standards. Works are also being carried out to provide three additional plots on the site.

As a result of conditions imposed by Severn Trent Water to obtain discharge consent to pump to the main sewer, extra works are now required to the mains drainage system at an estimated cost of £82,000. It is also proposed to carry out additional works to the site to resurface the internal roadways and temporary storage area following the completion of all refurbishment works to buildings and site drainage. The cost of these works is estimated to be £60,000. The total extra cost of £142,000 can be funded from existing directorate resources.

It is proposed that this additional expenditure be approved and included in the Capital Programme.

Urban Environment

Mary Stevens Park, Stourbridge

7. The Council has been awarded a Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) grant totalling £2,565,000 for the development and restoration of Heath Pool, the main entrance gates and other ironwork and the bandstand. Improvements will also be made to the war memorial setting and the Tea Gardens, and the former print room will be converted into a café. In addition a heritage ranger will be employed to work with local groups and volunteers to co-ordinate an events and activities programme and to create an archive for the park.

The total project cost is estimated at £2,846,000, with £281,000 of match funding having been secured from the Liveability project, Section 106 funding, the Ernest Stevens Trust and former Area Committee funding.

It is proposed that:

- the Director of the Urban Environment be authorised to accept the HLF grant funding;
- the Director of Corporate Resources be authorised to sign the necessary funding agreements with HLF;
- the capital element of the project be included in the Capital Programme.

Rapid Charging Points for Electric Vehicles

8. The Council has made a successful bid to the Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) for £150,000 to install four rapid charging points in the Borough to support and encourage the use of electric vehicles. The estimated total cost of the project is £200,000 with £50,000 of match funding being provided by Renault-Nissan. There is no capital funding required from the Council.

It is proposed that:

- the Director of the Urban Environment be authorised to accept the funding;
- the project be included in the Capital Programme;
- the Director of the Urban Environment be authorised to agree the locations for the charging points and procure and install the equipment in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport.

Outdoor Gym

9. Following the success of the Outdoor Gyms provided through the Healthy Towns project developed by the (now) Office of Public Health and the Directorate of the Urban Environment, further opportunities to provide additional facilities are being explored. An additional gym can be provided utilising residual project funding of £35,000. Options will be assessed and a site identified in accordance with the Healthy Towns selection criteria.

It is proposed that the project be approved and included in the Capital Programme.

Children's Services

Demographic Growth Capital Fund – Pens Meadow Special School

10. The Council has been awarded £592,000 by the Education Funding Agency (EFA) from the Demographic Growth Capital Fund (DGCF) to create a 45 place post-16 provision at Pens Meadow Special School for learners with learning difficulties and disabilities utilising the adjacent and vacant Shousters building.

It is proposed that the funding allocation be noted and the project included in the Capital Programme.

11. At its meeting held on 18th September, 2013, the Cabinet made recommendations to the Council concerning the capital programme as contained in this report.

Finance

12. This report is financial in nature and information about the individual proposals is contained within the body of the report.

Law

13. The Council's budgeting process is governed by the Local Government Act 1972, the Local Government Planning and Land Act 1980, the Local Government Finance Act 1988, the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, and the Local Government Act 2003.

Equality Impact

14. These proposals comply with the Council's policy on Equality and Diversity.
15. With regard to Children and Young People:
 - The Capital Programme for Children's Services will be spent wholly on improving services for children and young people. Other elements of the Capital Programme will also have a significant impact on this group.
 - Consultation is undertaken with children and young people, if appropriate, when developing individual capital projects within the Programme.
 - There has been no direct involvement of children and young people in developing the proposals in this report.

Recommendations

16. The Council is recommended:
 - That current progress with the 2013/14 Capital Programme as set out in Appendix A be noted.
 - That the expenditure on the modernisation of Tiled House Lane Residential Care Home be approved and included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 5.
 - That the additional expenditure at the Oak Lane Traveller Site be approved and included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 6.
 - That in respect of Mary Stevens Park, Stourbridge, the Director of the Urban Environment be authorised to accept the HLF grant funding; the Director of Corporate Resources be authorised to sign the necessary funding agreements with HLF; and the capital element of the project be included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 7.
 - That in respect of Rapid Charging Points for Electric Vehicles, the Director of the Urban Environment be authorised to accept the funding; the project be included in the Capital Programme; and the Director of the Urban Environment be authorised to agree the locations for the charging points and procure and install the equipment in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transportation, as set out in paragraph 8.

- That the Outdoor Gym project be approved and included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 9.
- That the funding allocation in respect of the post-16 provision at Pens Meadow Special School be noted, and the project included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 10.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. J.', written in a cursive style.

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Leader of the Council

2013/14 Capital Programme Progress to Date

Service	Budget £'000	Spend to 31st July £'000	Forecast £'000	Variance £'000	Comments
Public Sector Housing	41,264	7,045	41,264	-	
Other Adult, Community & Housing	9,598	1,836	9,598	-	
Urban Environment	32,308	6,417	32,308	-	
Children's Services	21,208	1,733	21,208	-	
Corporate Resources	2,359	387	2,359	-	
TOTAL	106,737	17,418	106,737	-	