

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2023/24

Head of Service:	Brendan Bradley, Head of Finance
Wards affected:	(All Wards);
Urgent Decision?(yes/no)	No
If yes, reason urgent decision required:	N/A
Appendices (attached):	Appendix 1 – Proposed Capital Programme Appendix 2 – Capital Appraisal form for Bid 7 Appendix 3 – Capital Appraisal form for Bid 10 Appendix 4 – Capital Appraisal form for Bid 12

Summary

This report summarises the proposed 2023/24 capital programme and a provisional programme for 2024/25 to 2027/28. The Committee's approval is sought for the programme to be submitted to Council in February 2023.

Recommendation (s)

The Committee is asked to:

- (1) submit the capital programme for 2023/24 as identified in section 3 of this report to the Council for approval on 14 February 2023;**
- (2) note the provisional forecast of schemes for the capital programme for 2024/25 to 2027/28;**
- (3) note that schemes subject to external funding from Disabled Facilities Grants only proceed once funding has been received.**

1 Reason for Recommendation

- 1.1 To seek the Committee's approval to submit the proposed capital programme for 2023/24 to Council in February 2023 and to inform of the schemes included in the provisional forecast for 2024/25 to 2027/28.

2 Background

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- 2.1 The Capital Strategy was last agreed by Full Council on 15 February 2022 at which time the capital programme was approved for 2022/23. Schemes for 2023-2027 were provisional pending the annual budget review and an annual assessment of funds for capital investment.
- 2.2 Strategy and Resources provided the Capital Member Group (CMG) with a remit for the preparation of a capital programme for 2023/24. Under this remit, CMG assessed all capital bids and recommended a programme for approval to the Policy Committees.
- 2.3 The programme assumed funding from capital receipts, revenue funding, and government grants. The proposed level of investment for the 2023/24 programme is £1,414k, of which £250k is to be funded from a planned contribution from revenue. Combined with funding from the Disabled Facilities Grants, this will allow the forecast available capital receipts to remain at £3.48m at the end of this period. The agreed minimum threshold of capital receipts is £1m.
- 2.4 The receipts forecast assumes a £250k revenue contribution to fund capital schemes in 2023/24, which is subject to the revenue budget being approved at Council in February 2023. The full contribution proposed is £500k, but only half of this is assumed for the core programme, because £250k is anticipated to be required to fund capital expenditure on the ICT programme of works, as detailed in paragraph 2.11 of the ICT Strategy report to Strategy & Resources Committee in March 2022.

3 Core Programme 2023/24

- 3.1 CMG recommended that the following schemes should be considered by this Committee for inclusion in the capital programme in 2023/24, subject to the Committee approving the project appraisals.

Capital Scheme	Proposed Budget 2023/24 £'000	Expected Funding Source
The Disabled Facilities Grant Programme	785	Central govt grant
Bourne Hall - Patio for outside seating area for café	98	Budgeted revenue contributions
Playhouse Theatre – Installation of Solar PV	130	Capital Receipts
Total Community and Wellbeing Committee	1,013	

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3.2 Disabled Facilities Grant is received annually from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. The Council has a statutory responsibility to administer the grant. The grant is typically used to make residential adaptations to enable vulnerable residents to maintain independence and remain in their own homes. Such interventions can prevent the need for NHS and or sheltered housing services. The grant is typically used to:

- Widen doors and install ramps;
- Improve access to rooms and facilities – eg stairlifts; downstairs bathroom;
- Provide a heating system;
- Adapt heating or lighting controls to make them easier to use.

4 Provisional Forecast 2024/25 to 2027/28

4.1 CMG also considered the provisional forecast for the subsequent four years, which has been compiled through drawing information from the Asset Management Plan for buildings and other known capital expenditure requirements.

4.2 The 2024/25 to 2027/28 provisional forecast for Community and Wellbeing currently comprises the following sums, with individual schemes shown at Appendix 1:

Provisional Forecast	2024/ 25	2025/ 26	2026/ 27	2027/ 28	Deferred from previous years	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Disabled Facilities Grants	785	785	785	785	0	3,140
Bourne Hall	0	0	0	0	970	970
Ewell Court House	0	0	0	85	50	135
Epsom Playhouse	0	100	70	0	375	545
Wellbeing Centre	0	0	0	0	99	99
Total Community and Wellbeing Committee	785	885	855	870	1,494	4,889

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- 4.3 The provisional forecast provides an illustration of the Council's anticipated capital expenditure need from 2024/25 to 2027/28 but is not an exhaustive list as future schemes may be identified through other workstreams such as the Climate Change Action Plan and Annual Plan cycle.
- 4.4 Similarly, some schemes may be removed from the programme if strategic asset reviews recommend an alternative approach or Council priorities change. Each year, the forthcoming annual programme will be reviewed by Capital Member Group through the annual capital budget setting process with bids assess against the agreed criteria, and the programme updated accordingly.
- 4.5 Where schemes proposed for an earlier financial year were not progressed, and the works remain outstanding, they have been included within the 'deferred' column of the table and included in the total.
- 4.6 Forecasts for 2024/25 to 2027/28 are based on the estimated cost of works as reported in the Asset Management Plan 2020-2030. It is acknowledged that due to inflation, costs will have increased since this Asset Management Plan was agreed at S&R in July 2020. The subsequent increase in prices will be reflected when budgets for those relevant financial years come to be set through the Council's agreed budget setting process.
- 4.7 Officers have committed to refreshing the Asset Management Plan in the 2023/24 municipal year.

5 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

- 5.1 Equality Impact Assessment
 - 5.1.1 None for the purposes of this report.
- 5.2 Crime & Disorder
 - 5.2.1 None for the purposes of this report.
- 5.3 Safeguarding
 - 5.3.1 None for the purposes of this report.
- 5.4 Dependencies
- 5.5 The 2023/24 capital programme is dependent upon agreement of a planned £250k revenue contribution to fund the capital programme being considered by Full Council in February 2023 as part of the revenue budget for 2023/24.

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5.6 Other

5.6.1 None for the purposes of this report.

6 Financial Implications

6.1 Officers in the Projects Team have scheduled sufficient capacity to deliver the recommended schemes next year.

6.2 **Section 151 Officer's comments:** All financial comments have been included within the body of the report.

7 Legal Implications

7.1 The Council has a statutory responsibility to administer the Disabled Facilities Grant.

Legal Officer's comments:

7.2 Under section 1(1)(c.) of the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996 there is a grant available to a local authority known as the Disabled Facilities Grant towards the cost of works required for the provision of facilities for a disabled person in a dwelling, a qualifying houseboat and caravans, or in common parts of buildings containing one or more flats. Section 2 of Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996 requires a local authority to approve applications for these grants. Applicants for the grant must be aged 18 or over and are eligible for housing benefit, universal credit or any other form of assistance (section 3 Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996).

7.3 Under section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 a local authority has the power to do anything that individuals generally do.

7.4 Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 there is a public sector equality duty. Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires a public authority in the exercise of its functions to have due regard to the need to (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act; (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

8 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

8.1 **Council's Key Priorities:** The following Key Priorities are engaged: Effective Council.

8.2 **Service Plans:** The matter is included within the current Service Delivery Plan.

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8.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations:** the environmental impact of schemes proposed for the 2023/24 capital programme has been considered through the bid appraisal process.

8.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications:** none for the purposes of this report.

8.5 **Partnerships:** none for the purposes of this report.

9 Background papers

9.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

Previous reports:

- None

Other papers:

- Capital Strategy for agreement at Full Council in February 2023.