

## **CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2024/25**

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

### **Summary**

This report summarises the proposed 2024/25 capital programme and a provisional programme for 2025/26 to 2028/29. The Committee's approval is sought for the programme to be submitted to Council in February 2024.

### **Recommendation (s)**

#### **The Committee is asked to:**

- (1) submit the capital programme for 2024/25 as identified in section 3 of this report to the Council for approval on 13 February 2024;**
- (2) note the provisional forecast of schemes for the capital programme for 2025/26 to 2028/29;**
- (3) note that schemes subject to external funding from Disabled Facilities Grants will 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 2024/25 to Council in February 2024 and to inform of the schemes included in the provisional forecast for 2025/26 to 2028/29.

## **2 Background**

# Community and Wellbeing Committee

16 January 2024

- 2.1 The Capital Strategy was last agreed by Full Council on 14 February 2023 at which time the capital programme was approved for 2023/24. Schemes for 2024-2028 were provisional pending the annual budget review and an annual assessment of funds for capital investment.
- 2.2 Strategy and Resources provided the Financial Strategy Advisory Group (FSAG) with a remit for the preparation of a capital programme for 2024/25. Under this remit, FSAG 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 2024/25 programme is £1,701k, of which £500k 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 £2.4m at the end of this period. The agreed minimum threshold of capital receipts is £1m.
- 2.4 The receipts forecast assumes a £500k revenue contribution to fund capital schemes in 2024/25, which is subject to the revenue budget being approved at Council in February 2024.

## 3 Core Programme 2024/25

- 3.1 FSAG recommended that the following schemes should be considered by this Committee for inclusion in the capital programme in 2024/25, subject to the Committee approving the project appraisals.

<b>Capital Scheme</b>	<b>Proposed Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>	<b>Expected Funding Source</b>
Bourne Hall Roof Replacement & Solar Panel Installation	306	Planned revenue contribution/external funding if available/ capital receipts
Wellbeing Centre Solar Panel Installation	60	External funding if available/ capital receipts
Wellbeing Centre Windows Replacement	60	Capital receipts
The Disabled Facilities Grant Programme	785	Central govt grant
<b>Total Community and Wellbeing Committee</b>	<b>1,211</b>	

# Community and Wellbeing Committee

## 16 January 2024

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:

- 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 2025/26 to 2028/29

4.1 FSAG 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 2025/26 to 2028/29 provisional forecast for Community and Wellbeing currently comprises the following sums, with individual schemes shown at Appendix 1:

Provisional Forecast	2025/ 26	2026 /27	2027/ 28	2028/ 29	Deferred from previous years	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
The Disabled Facilities Grant Programme	785	785	785	785	0	3,140
Bourne Hall	0	0	0	20	970	990
Epsom Playhouse	100	70	0	150	375	695
Wellbeing Centre	0	0	0	0	99	99
West Park Cottage	0	0	0	0	40	40
<b>Total Community and Wellbeing Committee</b>	<b>885</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>785</b>	<b>955</b>	<b>1,484</b>	<b>4,964</b>

# Community and Wellbeing Committee

## 16 January 2024

- 4.3 The provisional forecast provides an illustration of the Council's anticipated capital expenditure need from 2025/26 to 2028/29 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 Where the Shared Prosperity Fund or other external funding (for example, grant from SCC) can be used to fund capital schemes – for example at Bourne Hall and/or the Wellbeing Centre, it is anticipated that it will be the primary funding source. However, if it cannot be used, capital receipts or other alternative funding would be applied instead.
- 4.5 The Council expects to review its discretionary services in 2024/25. Should a property be impacted by these reviews or Council priorities change, capital works may be deferred until the outcome of reviews is known. Each year, the forthcoming annual programme will be reviewed by Financial Strategy Advisory Group through the annual capital budget setting process with proposals assessed against the agreed criteria, and the programme updated accordingly.
- 4.6 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.

## 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

5.4.1 The 2024/25 capital programme is dependent upon agreement of a planned £500k revenue contribution to fund the capital programme being considered by Full Council in February 2024 as part of the revenue budget for 2024/25.

#### 5.5 Other

5.5.1 None for the purposes of this report.

# Community and Wellbeing Committee

## 16 January 2024

### 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.
- 7.2 **Legal Officer's comments:** 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.
- 8.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations:** The proposed schemes in appendices 1 to 3 are consistent with the Council's aim to reduce the carbon footprint for the Council's operations.

# Community and Wellbeing Committee

## 16 January 2024

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 2024