

Decision Maker: PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR CHILDREN, EDUCATION, AND FAMILIES

Date: For Pre-Decision Scrutiny by the Children Education, & Families PDS Committee on 14th September 2021

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Executive Non-Key

Title: CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING - 1ST QUARTER 2020/21

Contact Officer: Katherine Ball, Principal Accountant
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Chief Officer: Director of Finance

Ward: All

1. Reason for report

On 15th July 2021, the Executive received a report summarising the current position on capital expenditure and receipts following the 1st quarter of 2021/22 and agreed a revised Capital Programme for the four-year period 2021/22 to 2024/25. This report highlights changes agreed by the Executive and the Leader in respect of the Capital Programme for the Children Education, and Families Portfolio. The revised programme for this portfolio is set out in Appendix A, and detailed comments on individual schemes are shown in Appendix B, and details of the 2020/21 outturn position are included in Appendix C.

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

The Portfolio Holder is asked to note and acknowledge the changes agreed by the Executive on 15th July 2021.

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children:

1. Summary of Impact:

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy: Capital Programme monitoring is part of the planning and review process for all services. Capital schemes help to maintain and improve the quality of life in the borough. Effective asset management planning (AMP) is a crucial corporate activity if a local authority is to achieve its corporate and service aims and objectives and deliver its services. For each of our portfolios and service priorities, we review our main aims and outcomes through the AMP process and identify those that require the use of capital assets. Our primary concern is to ensure that capital investment provides value for money and matches the Council's overall priorities as set out in the Community Plan and in "Building a Better Bromley".
 2. BBB Priority: Excellent Council
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Financial

1. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable
 2. Budget head/performance centre: Capital Programme
 3. Total current budget for this head: £18m for the Children, Education and Families Portfolio over the four years 2021/22 to 2024/25
 4. Source of funding: Capital grants, capital receipts, S106 and earmarked revenue contributions.
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Personnel

1. Number of staff (current and additional): 1 fte
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: 36 hours per week
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Non-Statutory - Government Guidance
 2. Call-in: Applicable
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Procurement:

1. Summary of Procurement Implications:
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): N/A
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? N/A
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: N/A

3 COMMENTARY

Capital Monitoring - variations agreed by the Executive on 15th July 2021

- 3.1 A revised Capital Programme was approved by the Executive on 15th July 2021, following a detailed monitoring exercise carried out after the 1st quarter of 2021/22. The base position is the programme approved by the Executive on 10th February 2021, as amended by variations approved at subsequent Executive meetings. All changes to schemes in the Children, Education & Families Portfolio Programme are itemised in the table below and further details are included in paragraphs 3.2 to 3.4. The revised Programme for the Children, Education & Families Portfolio is attached as Appendix A, whilst Appendix B shows actual spend against budget in the first quarter of 2021/22, together with detailed comments on individual scheme progress. Appendix C includes details of the final outturn in 2020/21.

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total 2021/22 to 2024/25
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Programme approved by Executive 10/02/2021	11,305	190	10	10	11,515
Net underspend 2020/21 re-phased to 2021/22 (Para 3.2)	4,059				4,059
Approved programme prior to 1st Quarter monitoring	15,364	190	10	10	15,574
Variations approved by the Executive 15/07/21					
Re-phasing to 2022/23 (Para 3.4)	Cr 6,352	6,352			0
Basic Need (Para 3.3)	0	2,451			2,451
	Cr 6,352	8,803	0	0	2,451
Revised Children, Education & Families Programme	9,012	8,994	10	10	18,026

3.2 Net Underspend in 2020/21 re-phased into 2021/22

The 2020/21 Capital Outturn was reported to the Executive on 30th June 2021. The slippage for Children, Education & Families Portfolio is £4m against a total budget of £9.8m. This is mainly due to £1.0m of slippage on the Capital Maintenance in Schools scheme. The Capital Maintenance programme underspent because the £909k contribution towards the Marjorie McClure project being delivered by the DfE as agreed by the Executive on 1 April 2020 has not yet been requested as the DfE entering into contract with their contractor for the scheme has been delayed but is due by the beginning of September 2021. The Capital Programme in previous quarters had re-profiled Basic Needs funding into 2021/22 due to an anticipated in-year underspend. Although the Basic Need programme did underspend compared to the 2020/21 budget the underspend was slightly lower than projected. All variations have been re-phased into 2021/22. Details of the 2020/21 outturn for this portfolio are set out in Appendix C.

3.3 Basic Needs grant (£2,451k increase to the budget in 2021/22)

A grant of £2,451k for High Needs Provision has been received for 2021/22 therefore approval was sought to add this to the Basic Needs capital scheme. The Council receives the funding to create new places for children with Education Health and Care Plans in schools, academies, and alternative provision. The funding will enable the Council to meet the need for specialist and alternative provision places and ensure that existing facilities meet pupil needs. This could be by contributing to the cost of creating or extending an existing school or by improving accessibility, such as installing ramps, handrails, or ceiling hoists. The funding is part of the government's commitment to ensuring pupils with SEND receive the specialist support they need to get an excellent education.

3.4 Schemes re-phased from 2021/22 to 2022/23

As part of the 1st quarter monitoring exercise, a total of £6,352 has been re-phased from 2021/22 into 2022/23 to reflect revised estimates of when expenditure is likely to be incurred. This is itemised in the table below and comments on scheme progress are provided in Appendix B. This has no overall impact on the total approved estimate for the capital programme.

Capital Expenditure - Rephasing in Q1 Monitoring	2021/22	2022/23	TOTAL
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Basic Needs	Cr 5,685	5,685	0
Capital Maintenance in Schools	Cr 667	667	0
Total Children, Education & Families rephasing	Cr 6,352	6,352	0

3.5 Post-Completion Reports

Under approved Capital Programme procedures, capital schemes should be subject to a post-completion review within one year of completion. After major slippage of expenditure in prior years, Members confirmed the importance of these as part of the overall capital monitoring framework. These reviews should compare actual expenditure against budget and evaluate the achievement of the scheme's non-financial objectives. There are currently no post-completion reports due for the Children, Education and Families Portfolio.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Capital Programme monitoring, and review is part of the planning and review process for all services. The capital review process requires Chief Officers to ensure that bids for capital investment provide value for money and match Council plans and priorities.

5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 These were reported in full to the Executive on 15th July 2021. Changes agreed by the Executive for the Children, Education, & Families Portfolio Capital Programme are set out in the table in paragraph 3.1.

	Legal, Personnel and Procurement Implications, Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Capital Programme Monitoring Qtr.1 2021/22 (Executive 15/07/2021) Capital Outturn report (Executive 30/06/21) Capital Programme Monitoring Qtr.3 2020/21 (Executive 10/02/21)