

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

Date: For Pre-Decision Scrutiny by the Children Education, & Families PDS Committee on 4th October 2022

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Executive Non-Key

Title: CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING - 1ST QUARTER 2022/23

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Chief Officer: Director of Finance

Ward: All Wards

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 On 6 October 2022, the Executive will receive a report summarising the current position on capital expenditure and receipts following the 1st quarter of 2022/23 and be asked to agree a revised capital programme for the four-year period 2022/23 to 2025/26. This report highlights changes to be put to 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 2021/22 outturn position are included in Appendix C.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 The Portfolio Holder is asked to note and acknowledge the changes to be put to the Executive on 6 October 2022.

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children:

1. Summary of Impact: Not Applicable.

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

Financial

1. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable
2. Budget head/performance centre: Capital Programme
3. Total current budget for this head: £18.2m for the Children Education and Families Portfolio over the four years 2022/23 to 2025/26
4. Source of funding: capital grants, capital receipts, s106 and earmarked revenue contributions.

Personnel

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

Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Non-Statutory - Government Guidance
2. Call-in: Applicable: Portfolio Holder Decision.

Procurement:

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: N/A

Customer Impact

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

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 to be put to the Executive on 6 October 2022

- 3.1 A revised capital programme will be put to the Executive on 6 October 2022, following a detailed monitoring exercise carried out after the 1st quarter of 2022/23. The base position is the programme approved by the Executive on 9th February 2022, as amended by variations approved at subsequent Executive meetings. All changes to schemes in the Children Education and Families Portfolio Programme are itemised in the table below and further details are included in paragraphs 3.2 to 3.5. The revised Programme for the Children Education and Families Portfolio is attached as Appendix A, whilst Appendix B shows actual spend against budget in the first quarter of 2022/23, together with detailed comments on individual scheme progress. Appendix C includes details of the final outturn in 2021/22.

	Budget 2022/23	Budget 2023/24	Budget 2024/25	Budget 2025/26	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Programme approved by Executive 09/02/22	8,994	10	10		9,014
Net underspend 21/22 rephased to 22/23 (see para 3.2)	9,203				9,203
Approved programme prior to 1st quarter monitoring	18,197	10	10	0	18,217
Rephasing to 23/24 (see para 3.4)	0	0	0	0	0
Additions to Basic Need programme (see para 3.3)	4,170	4,308			8,478
Other additions to the capital programme (see para 3.4)	848				848
Changes to be put to the Executive for approval on 6 October 2022	5,018	4,308	0	0	9,326
Revised Children Education and Families capital programme	23,215	4,318	10	0	27,543

3.2 Net underspend in 2021/22 re-phased into 2022/23

The 2021/22 capital outturn was reported to the Executive on 29th June 2022. The slippage for Children Education and Families Portfolio is £9.3m against a total budget of £9.4m. This is mainly due to slippage across the board, with many schemes showing negligible expenditure due to the ongoing effects of COVID-19; while the actual expenditure was further offset by a receipt of £0.3m for reimbursement of costs on the Basic Needs code. The capital programme in previous quarters had also re-profiled Basic Needs funding into 2021/22 due to an anticipated in-year underspend. All variations have been rephased into 2022/23. Details of the 2021/22 outturn for this portfolio are set out in Appendix C.

3.3 Basic Needs grant (£4,170k increase to the budget in 2022/23 and £4,308k increase to the budget in 2023/24)

A grant of £4,170k for High Needs Provision has been received for 2022/23, with a further grant of £4,308k for 2023/24, and therefore approval will be 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 Other changes to the capital programme to be put to the Executive

The Executive’s approval will be sought to add the £383k SCA grant awarded to the Council by the DfE for 2022/23 and the Salix grant award of £466k - a total of £848k - to the Capital Maintenance scheme. This is reflected in the table in paragraph 3.1.

3.5 Schemes re-phased from 2022/23 to 2023/24

As part of the 1st quarter monitoring exercise, no budgets have been re-phased from 2022/23 into 2023/24 to reflect revised estimates of when expenditure is likely to be incurred. Comments on scheme progress are provided in Appendix B. This has no overall impact on the total approved estimate for the capital programme.

3.6 **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 will be reported in full to the Executive on 6 October 2022. Changes to be put to the Executive for the Children Education and 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 2022/23 (Executive 06/10/2022) Capital Outturn report (Executive 29/06/22) Capital Programme Monitoring Qtr.3 2021/22 (Executive 09/02/22)