

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

**Date:** For Pre-Decision Scrutiny by the Children, Education and Families Budget Sub-Committee on 13 September 2023

**Decision Type:** Non-Urgent Executive Non-Key

**Title:** CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING - QUARTER 1 2023/24

**Contact Officer:** Sean Cosgrove, Principal Accountant  
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**Chief Officer:** Director of Finance

**Ward:** All Wards

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1. Reason for report

- 1.1 On 20 September 2023, the Executive will receive a report summarising the current position on capital expenditure and receipts following the first quarter of 2023/24 and be asked to agree a revised capital programme for the period 2023/24 to 2027/28. This report highlights changes to be put to the Executive 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; while Appendix C details the variance between the 2022/23 budget and the outturn position at year end.

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2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 The Portfolio Holder is asked to note and acknowledge the changes to be put to the Executive on 20 September 2023.

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 "Making Bromley Even Better". The capital review process requires Council Directors to ensure that bids for capital investment provide value for money and match Council plans and priorities.
  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: £24.7m for the Children, Education and Families Portfolio over the period 2023/24 to 2027/28
  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: Not 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 to be put to the Executive on 20 September 2023

3.1 A revised capital programme will be put to the Executive on 20 September 2023, following a detailed monitoring exercise carried out after the first quarter of 2023/24. The base position is the programme approved by the Executive on 18 January 2023, 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 3.3. The revised programme for the Children, Education and Families Portfolio is attached as Appendix A, whilst Appendix B shows actual spend against budget up to the end of the first quarter of 2023/24, together with detailed comments on individual scheme progress; and Appendix C shows the outturn position for 2022/23.

	Budget 2023/24	Budget 2024/25	Budget 2025/26	Budget 2026/27	Budget 2027/28	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Programme approved by Executive 18/01/23	4,318	10	0	0	0	4,328
Net underspend 22/23 rephased to 23/24	20,301					20,301
<b>Approved programme prior to Q1 monitoring</b>	<b>24,619</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>24,629</b>
<i>Variations not requiring the approval of Executive:</i>						
Net rephasing between 23/24 and future years (para 3.2)	Cr 18,000	10,000	8,000	0	0	0
Addition of s106 to Basic Need budget (para 3.3)	43	0	0	0	0	43
<i>Variations requiring the approval of Executive:</i>						
Increase in Devolved Formula Capital (para 3.4)	55	0	0	0	0	55
<b>Revised Children Education and Families programme</b>	<b>6,717</b>	<b>10,010</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>24,727</b>

#### 3.2 Schemes re-phased between 2023/24 and future years

As part of the first quarter monitoring exercise, £18,000k has been re-phased from 2023/24 into 2024/25 (£10,000k) and 2025/26 (£8,000k) in the Basic Need programme to reflect revised estimates of when expenditure is likely to be incurred. Comments on scheme progress are provided in Appendix B.

#### 3.3 Additions to the programme previously approved by Executive (£43k net increase)

At their meeting of March 2023, Executive approved the addition of £43k of section 106 monies to the Basic Need budget. The same report also included a memorandum relating to £8,748k being added to the High Needs budget: this was actually from a two-year settlement already reported, and added to the capital programme, in the first quarter of 2022/23. As such, it is already included in the base position shown ("approved programme prior to Q1 monitoring").

#### 3.4 Additions to the programme requiring approval by Executive (£55k total net increase)

A total of £55k for the Devolved Formula Capital grant (DFC) has been received for 2023/24, and therefore approval will be sought to add this to the relevant capital scheme.

#### 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. Post-completion reports on the following schemes are due to be submitted to the CEF PDS committee and the relevant budget holders will be notified directly:

- Early education for two-year-olds
- 30 hour funded childcare IT solution
- Performance management/Children’s services IT scheme
- Schools access initiative
- Seed challenge fund
- Glebe School expansion
- Security works

#### 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 18 January 2023. 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 and detailed in paragraph 3.4.

<b>Non-applicable sections:</b>	Legal, Personnel and Procurement Implications, Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children
Background documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Capital programme monitoring Q4 2022/23 (Executive 05/07/2023) Capital programme monitoring Q3 2022/23 (Executive 18/01/23)