

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

**Date:** For Pre-Decision Scrutiny by the Children, Education and Families Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024

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

**Title:** CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING - QUARTER 3 2023/24

**Contact Officer:** James Mullender, Head of Corporate Finance & Accounting  
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**Chief Officer:** Director of Finance

**Ward:** All Wards

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1. Reason for report

- 1.1 At its meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024, the Executive considered a report summarising the current position on capital expenditure and receipts following the third 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 considered by 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.
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2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 **The Portfolio Holder is asked to note and acknowledge the changes agreed by the Executive on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024.**

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. Making Bromley Even Better Priority: To manage our resources well, providing value for money, and efficient and effective services for Bromley's residents.
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Financial

1. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable
  2. Budget head/performance centre: Capital programme
  3. Total current budget for this head: £46.0m 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: 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 considered by the Executive on 7th February 2024

3.1 A revised capital programme was considered by the Executive on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024, following a detailed monitoring exercise carried out after the third 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 third quarter of 2023/24, together with detailed comments on individual scheme progress.

|  | Budget<br>2023/24 | Budget<br>2024/25 | Budget<br>2025/26 | Budget<br>2026/27 | Budget<br>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        |
| Net changes agreed in Q1 monitoring                      | Cr 17,902         | 10,000            | 8,000             |                   |                   | 98            |
| Net changes agreed in Q2 monitoring                      | Cr 2,295          | 14,246            | 9,405             |                   |                   | 21,356        |
| <b>Approved programme prior to Q3 monitoring</b>         | <b>4,422</b>      | <b>24,256</b>     | <b>17,405</b>     | <b>0</b>          | <b>0</b>          | <b>46,083</b> |
| Net rephasing from 23/24 to future years (p. 3.4)        | Cr 300            | 300               |                   |                   |                   | 0             |
| Removal of complete schemes                              | Cr 18             | Cr 70             |                   |                   |                   | Cr 88         |
| <b>S/T - changes not requiring Executive approval</b>    | <b>Cr 318</b>     | <b>230</b>        |                   |                   |                   | <b>Cr 158</b> |
| <b>Revised Children Education and Families programme</b> | <b>4,104</b>      | <b>24,486</b>     | <b>17,405</b>     | <b>0</b>          | <b>0</b>          | <b>45,995</b> |

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

As part of the third quarter monitoring exercise, £300k has been re-phased from 2023/24 into 2024/25 for the capital maintenance in schools programme to reflect revised estimates of when expenditure is likely to be incurred. Comments on scheme progress are provided in Appendix B.

#### 3.3 Variations not requiring the approval of Executive (decrease of £88k)

As part of the third quarter monitoring exercise, a review identified that the Mobile technology to support children's social workers (£18k) and feasibility studies (£70k) schemes could be removed from the capital programme.

#### 3.4 Post-completion reports

Under approved capital programme procedures, capital schemes should be subject to a post-completion review within one year of completion. 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 currently due for the Children, Education and Families Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee:

- Glebe School Expansion

- Performance Management/Children's Services IT scheme

#### 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 be reported in full to the Executive on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024. Changes considered by the Executive for the Children Education and Families Portfolio capital programme are set out in the table in paragraph 3.1.

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| <b>Non-applicable sections:</b>                       | Legal, Personnel and Procurement Implications, Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children  |
| Background documents:<br>(Access via Contact Officer) | Capital programme monitoring Q1 23/24 (Executive 20/09/2023)<br>Capital programme monitoring Q2 23/24 (Executive 29/11/2023)<br>Capital programme monitoring Q3 22/23 (Executive 18/01/2023) |