

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 11 June 2024

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Executive Non-Key

Title: EDUCATION PLANNED MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME 2024/25

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Chief Officer: Director of Education

Ward: All Wards

1. Reason for decision/report and options

1.1 To agree the capital maintenance programme for 2024/25 at maintained schools.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

2.1 That the Children, Education and Families Portfolio Holder:

- Notes Bromley's allocation of £406,595 of School Condition Allocation (SCA) for 2024/25 from DfE to support the capital maintenance of community and foundation maintained schools within Bromley. This will be added to the Capital Maintenance in Schools cost centre (906726) within the Council's Capital Programme,
- Agrees expenditure of allocation of £617k capital maintenance funding as set out within section 6.2 below.
- Delegates responsibility to the Director of Education to agree changes to the programme set out at 6.2.
- Capital maintenance works will normally be procured through open procurement. The Council may also on occasion delegate funds to schools or deliver works through the Council's Corporate Property Division.
- The Council's Lot 4 consultant has been commissioned to support the Council where required in the planning and project management of education planned maintenance works.

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: Will benefit at least estimated 1,700 children at Bromley maintained schools.
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Transformation Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy
 2. Making Bromley Even Better Priority (delete as appropriate):
(1) For children and young People to grow up, thrive and have the best life chances in families who flourish and are happy to call Bromley home.
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Estimated Cost £617k
 2. Ongoing costs: Non-Recurring Cost
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Capital Maintenance in Schools
 4. Total current budget for this head: £14.149m
 5. Source of funding: DfE School Condition Allocation (SCA)
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Personnel

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

1. Legal Requirement: Statutory Requirement
 2. Call-in: Applicable: Executive decision.
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Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: There are no direct procurement implications arising from this report as it deals with the education capital programme budget. Individual contracts will be subject to future Member or officer reports subject to value.
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Property

1. Summary of Property Implications: Riverside School is a maintained school.
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Carbon Reduction and Social Value

1. Summary of Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications: The report allocates 10% of the SCA capital grant received from the DfE to renewable improvements/technology. The Council is working to identify further funding opportunities to reduce the carbon impact of Bromley's maintained school estate.
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users or customers (current and projected): The proposals will benefit 1,760 children, their families and staff at maintained schools
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Not applicable

3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 LBB receives an annual school conditions allocation (SCA) from the Department for Education to support capital maintenance works at the remaining LBB maintained school annually from the DfE. The allocation for 2024/25 was £407K.
- 3.2 The allocation from the DfE to the Council is made on the basis of 5 remaining maintained schools of which Riverside SEND school operates out of 4 satellite sites:
- Edgebury Primary School (Foundation)
 - Marjorie McClure School (Foundation)
 - Poverest Primary School (Foundation)
 - Riverside School (Community) (site at Orpington, Beckenham, West Wickham and Phoenix Centre)
 - Southborough Primary School (Foundation)
- 3.3 The former Marjorie McClure site on Hawkwood Lane Chislehurst also forms part of the Council's maintained school estate.
- 3.4 Marjorie McClure school is due to convert to become an academy part of NEST multi academy trust from the 1 September 2024. This report does not propose to make any further capital allocation to the new premises Marjorie McClure moved into new premises during 2023.
- 3.5 The Council seeks to support decarbonisation of the maintained school estate through its delivery of the education capital maintenance programme. To meet the above target £40k is being set aside in the 2024/25 programme to support works at maintained schools which meet these objectives. It is proposed that this money allocated to install LED lights at Edgebury Primary School.
- 3.6 This year's programme focusses on boiler replacement, roof repairs and fire safety works. Budgetary allocations are set out at 6.2 below.
- 3.7 As detailed in the Basic Need Update Report considered by Members on 29 March 2024 the Council plans to allocate £1m planned maintenance funding to support the refurbishment of the former Marjorie McClure site. The allocation of this funding and award of any contract will be subject to separate report(s).
- 3.8 The heating replacement scheme at Southborough Primary School and completed during 2023/24 overspent by £69,560 mainly the increased cost of infrastructure upgrades. This sum could be contained within the 2023/24 planned maintenance allocation and has no implication on this year's budget.
- 3.9 Allocations to schools are made based on priority condition works and health and safety issues. This is informed by the schools' premises development maintenance plans, issues raised by schools and condition surveys in addition to DfE Condition Data Collection reports. Consultants appointed under Lot 4 of the Consultancy Framework are developing a programme of works.

4. IMPACT ON VULNERABLE ADULTS AND CHILDREN

4.1 The proposals will benefit at least 1,702 children, their families, and staff at maintained schools

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The delivery of high-quality education environments is a priority within the Council's strategy Making Bromley Even Better 2021-31; 'For children and young people to grow up, thrive and have the best life chances in families who flourish and are happy to call Bromley home.' The allocation of capital funding to support capital maintenance to LB Bromley schools contributes to the overall capital investment in school buildings. This policy also contributes to key targets within the Children Education and Families Portfolio Plan.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The available budget of £617k for 2024/25 is made up of £406,595 new SCA funding for 2024/25 received from the DfE and £210k carry forward from 2023/24.

	(£'000s)
2024/25 SCA allocation	407
SCA carry forward from 2024/25	210
	617

6.2 The proposed allocations to be made for 2024/25 within the Education Planned Programme are set out below. This includes a 10% allocation for renewables, a 10% contingency and capitalisation of staffing costs involved in delivering the programme.

	(£'000s)
Riverside St Paul's Cray Boiler Rationalisation	100
Poverest Boilers (Phase 1)	100
Roofing works - various sites	100
Fire door replacements and fire safety works - various sites	137
10% Renewables - (Edgebury LEDs)	40
Consultants and other Fees	48
Contingency	48
Capitalised Staffing Costs	45
	617

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 This report seeks approval from the Children, Education and Families Portfolio Holder to agree the capital maintenance programme for 2024/25 at maintained schools, specifically to;

- I. Note allocation of £406,595 of School Condition Allocation (SCA) for 2024/25 from DfE
- II. Authorise £617k based on the 5 remaining Community and Foundation schools as set out in this report.
- III. Delegate funds to schools or commission via London Borough of Bromley portal.
- IV. Authorise allocation of £617k the School Condition Allocation received for 2024/25 and carry forward funds from previous years.

7.2 The Council has a statutory duty under Section 14 of the Education Act 1996 to secure sufficient schools to meet demand in its area, ensuring that schools are sufficient in "number,

character and equipment'. The distribution and application of monies received from Central Government is subject to guidance and advice from the Department for Education.

- 7.3 There are no significant legal issues raised regarding the recommendations made in this report.
- 7.4 Officers will need to consult with Legal Services in respect of the further provision of the schools capital maintenance works when it becomes necessary to carry out a new procurement in regards to the schools capital maintenance work and may contact Legal Services should they require legal advice in relation to the appropriate legal documentation.

8. PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no implications on Bromley's corporate estate. 5 of the schools have foundation status and these schools hold their premises on a freehold basis. Riverside School is a Community School where the Council is landlord, but day-to-day management is delegated to the headteacher and governing body.

9. CARBON REDUCTION/SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The education planned maintenance programme sets aside 10% of the 2024/25 SCA grant for renewables at schools.

Non-Applicable Headings:	Personnel/Procurement Implications, Customer Impact, Ward Councillor Views.
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	