

COUNCIL

9 NOVEMBER 2023

REPORT OF CABINET – MATTERS WHICH REQUIRE A DECISION BY COUNCIL

Resources Report – Revenue Budget Monitoring – Month 4 (31 July) 2023/24

Recommendations

1. **Cabinet recommends that Council approves:**
 - a) **The updated Capital Programme which contains number of variations within the value, profile of spend and funding (Link to Appendix 5 of the Cabinet report set out below); and**
 - b) **The updated Capital Strategy 2023-2026 (Link to Appendix 6 of the Cabinet report set out below).**

Capital Programme

2. Since the Capital Programme was reported to Cabinet in June 2023, additional funding has been secured relating to external grants (including Basic Need Grants for Education), s106 and other Local Authority Contributions. This along with reprofiling the slippage from 2022/23 means that the current value of the Capital Programme for 2023/24 to 2026/27, subject to approval by Full Council, totals £370.2 million.
3. Over half of the total Capital Programme is funded via external sources (53%), namely developer contributions (s106 funding) and government grants (40%) including those allocated to the County Council for scheme delivery by district partners. The remainder is a mixture of borrowing (40%), capital receipts (4%) and use of earmarked reserves held for capital (3%).
4. Within the updated Capital Programme is approx. £23 million of additional funding relating to a number of schools, which is being funded by Basic Need Grant and s106 contributions. This has been identified to fund a number of school expansion and property work schemes as well as the requirement for a potential new First School which the business case will be needed to be taken to Cabinet shortly. A further £6 million has been included within the Open For Business Portfolio and £7 million within The Environment Portfolio from additional developer contributions and grant funding to contribute to schemes within the programme including structural maintenance and flood alleviation schemes, as well as Public Realm schemes funded by Towns Fund and Levelling Up Funds allocated via our district partners.

6. Wolverley High School has secured a grant of £0.4 million from the Football Foundation to improve the sports and changing rooms and teaching facilities on the school site. This scheme has an overall cost of c£1.2 million, and the terms of the grant requires the applicant to have identified and agreed the £0.8 million additional funding to cover the full costs of the scheme and for the Council to be a joint applicant. The school has identified a number of further contributions and funding of £0.25 million, leaving a balance of £0.55 million. This is recommended to be forward funded using Basic Needs Funding until receipt of the Section 106 contributions available for expansion of the school.

Revised Capital Strategy

8. In February 2022 Council approved the Capital Strategy 2022-25. Since then continual improvements in governance relating to the Capital Programme have been implemented and an updated Capital Strategy 2023-26 is recommended to be approved by Council. This updated strategy can be found in the link to Appendix 6 set out below.

Councillor S E Geraghty
Chairman

Supporting Information

[Appendix 5 – Capital Programme \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

[Appendix 6 - Capital Strategy.pdf \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

Contact Points

Specific Contact Points for this report

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Background Papers

Agenda and reports for meetings of the Cabinet on 28 September 2023:

[Agenda for Cabinet on Thursday, 28th September, 2023, 10.00 am - Worcestershire County Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)