

COUNCIL

11 JANUARY 2024

REPORT OF CABINET – MATTERS WHICH REQUIRE A DECISION BY COUNCIL

RESOURCES REPORT – REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING - MONTH 6 (30 SEPTEMBER) 2023/24

Recommendations

- 1. Cabinet recommends that Council approves the variations to the Capital Programme as detailed in paragraphs 4 – 6 below and the updated Capital Programme as detailed in Appendix 5 of the Cabinet Report set out in the link 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 £372 million. This is included at Appendix 5 to the Cabinet Report set out in the link below.

3. Over half of the total Capital Programme is funded via external sources (51%), namely developer contributions (s106 funding) and government grants including those allocated to the County Council for scheme delivery by district partners. The remainder is a mixture of borrowing (42%), capital receipts (4%) and use of earmarked reserves held for capital (1%) and revenue funding (2%).

4. The Capital Programme is always subject to change with the announcement of additional funding and contributions, a net increase of £5.1 million of additional funding relating to schools, funded by Basic Need Grant, High Needs Provision Capital Allocation and s106 contributions. This has been identified to fund the following with a number of smaller items:

- an increase of £3.5 million in the forecast cost of the new school at Foxlydiate which is subject to a separate Cabinet Report agreed at the 23 November meeting.
- an increase of £3 million in the forecast cost of the Wolverley Secondary School Major Works
- 'Other s106 schemes' is requested to increase by £2.6 million for further expansion at Wolverley to increase to a 210 PAN (Pupil Admission Numbers) linked to Lea Castle housing development. This includes new sports facilities (partly funded through Football Foundation grant). This is separate to the

Wolverley Secondary School Major Works scheme which is on a separate line in the programme.

- basic need schemes totalling £0.7 million including new schemes at Grove Primary and to complete S278 works at Unity Alternative Provision Free School
- a scheme for works at St. John's CE Primary School, Kidderminster, with a budget totalling £1.9 million.

5. Partially offsetting the increases detailed at paragraph 4 above, are decreases relating to:

- 4.7 million funded by Basic Need Grant, related to the Rubery Area Expansion. Latest work on modelling future pupil numbers suggests that this specific area is unlikely to need expansion currently.
- £2.2 million funded from Basic Need relating to Bromsgrove Schools Capacity.

6. The amended Capital Programme also includes a total of £0.7 million for enhanced facilities at the Fairfield Adult Learning Centre including a new beauty suite and enhanced classroom facilities. This has been funded from a County Council revenue grant (£0.65 million and £0.05 million contribution from the Towns Fund).

Councillor S E Geraghty
Leader of the Council

Supporting Information

[5 Appendix 5 - Capital Programme.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 23 November 2023:

[Agenda for Cabinet on Thursday, 23rd November, 2023, 10.00 am - Worcestershire County Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)