

Appendix 5

Summary of Budget Board - Capital Recommendations (Capital Plan 2023/24)

1.1 Report Details

1.1 The available funding for 2023/24 is shown below:

| Source | Amount £000 |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| General Capital Grant | 3,105 |
| Un-hypothecated Supported Borrowing | 3,024 |
| Prudential Borrowing – Highways | 4,000 |
| Contribution from capital reserves | 2,056 |
| 2022/23 underspend not rolled forward | 683 |
| Unused contingency b/f | 500 |
| Total Funds Available 2022/23 | 13,368 |

1.2 The Capital Plan spends money on two types of project. Firstly there are one-off projects such as a new school; the second type is a 'block allocation'. These are on-going programmes of work that stretch over several years (and may never be complete) e.g. schools maintenance. Elements of this work may be paid for from repair and maintenance budgets but a significant part is funded through the Capital Plan.

Recommendations of the Budget Board - Capital

- 1.3 The Budget Board - Capital decided to invite bids in line with previously agreed block allocations for services. Services were asked to provide a business case to support their bids however, the requirement for Heads of Service to present bids to the Strategic Investment Group was waived.
- 1.4 Each bid was submitted with approval of the relevant Head of Service. The proposed allocations are detailed in Appendix 6 and in summary are as follows:

- An allocation of £240k is recommended for Minor Adaptations, Community Equipment and Telecare. This funding is targeted at enabling the elderly and disabled to remain in their own homes.
- It is proposed to allocate £1.5m in support of Private Sector Housing Assistance. The funding will be used in the main on the provision of Disabled Facilities Grants.
- Both the school and non-school capital maintenance bids include provision for essential maintenance such as Asbestos Removal, Fire Risk Assessment Work, Equalities etc. It is recommended that £4.006m be allocated to Schools Capital Maintenance Works. It is also proposed to allocate £1.368m to non-schools capital maintenance work. It is further recommended that the appropriate Heads of Service determine the precise allocations to works required, in order of priority. The full allocations proposed meet the highest priority works identified across the schools and non-schools estate.
- Council on 31 January 2023 approved £235k for Highways as part of the 2023/24 Investment in Priorities. This will allow £4.000m of capital expenditure.
- In addition to this, it is proposed to allocate £710k block allocation for structural and other repairs including highway maintenance, street lighting and bridges. Also included within this recommendation is a further £470k for repairs to bridge structures. This is the seventh year of a proposed ten year Highways Structure Backlog Project.
- An allocation of £324k is recommended to carry out road safety improvements.
- An allocation of £250k is recommended for the replacement of structurally unsafe lighting columns.
- The Budget Board – Capital recommends maintaining the allocation set aside for any contingencies at £0.5m, in line with 2022/23.