

## Appendix 1

### Recommendations of Capital Scrutiny Group – Capital Plan 2025/26

Membership of the Capital Scrutiny Group (CSG) is as follows:

- Cabinet Member – Lead Member for Finance, Performance and Strategic Assets (Chair)
- Cabinet Member – Leader of the Council and Lead Member for Economic Growth and Tackling Deprivation
- Cabinet Member - Deputy Leader and Lead Member for Corporate Strategy, Policy and Equalities
- Representative from each scrutiny committee
- Chief Executive
- Corporate Director – Governance and Business
- Head of Finance (S.151) and Audit
- County Landlord

### Recommendations

Block allocations for 2025/26 were reviewed by CSG on 29 November 2024. Bids submitted to CSG totalled £7,227k, plus an initial proposed contingency of £500k. The capital funding assumed to be available in the provisional WG settlement for 2025/26 was £6.185m, leaving a difference of £1.542m to be funded from capital receipts, reserves and prudential borrowing. Services were asked to provide a business case to support their bids. Each bid was submitted with approval of the relevant Head of Service.

The proposed allocations are detailed in Appendix 2 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 £1.25m be allocated to schools capital maintenance works. It is also proposed to allocate £1.0m 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.
- It is proposed to allocate £2.0m towards Highways Maintenance and £337k block allocation for bridges & structures and public rights of way. Also included within

this recommendation is a further £400k for repairs to bridge structures. This is the ninth year of a proposed ten-year Highways Structure Backlog Project.

- An allocation of £250k is recommended for the replacement of structurally unsafe lighting columns. This is the third year of a six-year programme.
- It is proposed to allocate £250k of the £1m four-year rolling programme to fund the annual desktop refresh and a number of other projects in order to maintain the Council's ICT infrastructure. Years 3 to 4 to be reviewed in 2025/26.
- Capital Scrutiny Group recommends maintaining the allocation set aside for any contingencies at £500k, in line with 2024/25.