

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Personnel Policy

Capital Programme 2024/25 – Capital Budget Variations1. Purpose of Report

To approve budget revisions to the Capital Programme for 2024/25.

2. Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to RESOLVE that the capital budget variations for 2024/25, as set out in the report, be approved.

3. Detail

The Capital Programme for 2024/25 to 2026/27 was approved by Council on 6 March 2024 following recommended by Cabinet on 6 February 2024. The total value of the original Capital Programme for 2024/25 was £38.2m (£34.1m excluding 'reserve items'). Several new capital schemes and variations to the Capital Programme have since been approved by Cabinet.

In the meantime, a number of capital schemes require re-profiling to the budgets to more accurately reflect expectations in the current financial year. In all cases the capital financing will not be adversely affected and the net capital financing position is unchanged.

These schemes relate to Housing Capital Works. These are set out in the **Appendix** including the amendments identified in the current Capital Programme together with likely financing which will be confirmed at the end of the 2024/25 financial year.

Any further changes to the Capital Programme will be reported to Cabinet as necessary for approval.

4. Key Decision

This report is not considered to be a key decision as defined under Regulation 8 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

5. Updates from Scrutiny

Not applicable.

6. Financial Implications

The comments from the Head of Finance Services were as follows:

The financial implications are included in the report narrative and appendix.

7. Legal Implications

The comments from the Head of Legal Services were as follows:

There are no direct legal implications that arise from this report.

8. Human Resources Implications

There are no comments from the Human Resources Manager.

9. Union Comments

Not applicable.

10. Climate Change Implications

The Council's response to Climate Change is a key consideration as part of the budget setting process.

11. Data Protection Compliance Implications

This report does not contain any OFFICIAL(SENSITIVE) information and there are no Data Protection issues in relation to this report.

12. Equality Impact Assessment

As there is no change to policy an equality impact assessment is not required.

13. Background Papers

Nil.

Appendix

Capital Programme 2024/25 – Proposed Capital Budget Changes1. Housing Capital Works

The approved Capital Programme for 2024/25 includes a total budget of £435,500 for Aids and Adaptations (Council Housing). Due to resource issues over the recent years, a backlog of works had built up which is now being resolved in this year. So far in 2024/25, 69 major adaptations have been completed, with over 20 more forecast completions (including two property extensions) before the end of the financial year. In comparison, 43 major adaptations were completed in 2023/24. This uplift in activity has resulted in a significant additional spend in the current financial year.

This budget is forecast to be overspent by up to £250,000 based on works already commissioned to be completed before 31 March 2025. Aids and adaptations works are often reactionary, rather than planned, and it can be difficult to forecast overspends. Going forward, the Asset Management team will work to provide greater advance warning of budget overspends. There is a legal duty to provide the adaptations service and ensure it is adequately funded to meet needs.

Conversely, the budget for heating replacement and energy efficiency works at £2,336,700 is forecast to be significantly underspent based upon current activity with an indicative total spend of around £1.5m in 2024/25.

Accordingly, it is proposed to transfer £250,000 between these budgets to fund the anticipated overspend on Aids and Adaptations. These schemes are funded by a mixture of contributions from the Major Repairs Reserve and prudential borrowing.

Housing Capital Works Schemes	Approved Budget 2024/25 £	Budget Brought Forward £	Total Budget 2024/25 £	Revised Budget 2024/25 £
Heating Replacement and Energy Efficiency Works	1,740,000*	596,700	2,336,700	2,086,700
Aids and Adaptations	385,000	50,500	435,500	685,500

* Original budget at £1.940m with £200k having previously been vired to 'Window and Door Replacement' as agreed by Cabinet on 5 November 2024.