

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Personnel Policy

Capital Programme 2025/26 – Capital Budget Variations

1. Purpose of Report

To approve a series of budget revisions to the Capital Programme for 2025/26, in accordance with all the Council's priorities.

2. Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to RESOLVE that the capital budget variations for 2025/26, as set out, be approved.

3. Detail

The Capital Programme for 2025/26 to 2027/28 was approved by Council on 5 March 2025 following recommended by Cabinet on 4 February 2025. The total value of the original Capital Programme for 2025/26 was £34.966m (£32.484m excluding 'reserve items').

Several capital schemes require amendments to the budgets to more accurately reflect expectations in the current financial year. In all cases the capital financing will not be adversely affected with schemes either being funded by capital grants or through previously agreed prudential borrowing which will be adjusted accordingly to match spends.

These schemes include elements of the Housing Delivery Programme, an element of Economic Regeneration Projects relating to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and other General Fund capital schemes. These are set out in the **Appendix** which includes the proposed amendments to the current Capital Programme together with likely financing that will be confirmed at the end of the 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 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 Interim Deputy Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer were as follows:

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

7. Legal Implications

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

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

8. Human Resources Implications

There were 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 2025/26 – Proposed Capital Budget Changes****1. Housing Delivery Programme**

The nature of the housing delivery programme means that the delivery of some new build schemes can slip or accelerate, often beyond the control of the Council and its contracted partners.

The rate of progress for the new build scheme at Coventry Lane West ('Land at Bramcote Crematorium') has been far quicker than anticipated, such that some social housing units are now expected to be passed to the Council in January with new tenants moving in shortly afterwards.

Whilst the overall cost of the scheme remains as approved at £9.638m, it will be necessary to bring forward some of the budget profiled in future years to cover the accelerated rate of payments being made in 2025/26. The final completion of the scheme is now anticipated for 2027/28. This scheme is being financed by a mix of Section 106 contributions and prudential borrowing.

Also, the capital budget for 'New Build Housing Feasibility Costs' has risen due to accumulated budget underspends being brought forward from earlier years. This has seen the budget increase from £250,000 to £350,000 in 2025/26. It is proposed to reduce this back to the original budget. This cost is met from prudential borrowing.

Housing Delivery Programme Schemes	Approved Budget 2025/26 £	Budget Brought Forward £	Total Budget 2025/26 £	Revised Budget 2025/26 £
New Build - Land at Bramcote Crematorium	1,000,000	1,072,700	2,02,700	4,030,000
New Build - Housing Feasibility Costs	250,000	100,000	350,000	250,000

2. Economic Regeneration – UK Shared Prosperity Fund

The Government determined that from 2025/26 onwards, the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) would be devolved to the Mayoral Combined Authorities, such as the East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA). As reported to Cabinet on 11 March 2025, the Council's UKSPF funding allocation in 2025/26 amounts to £1.057m with revenue, capital and capacity funding (a 4% maximum allocation for administrative purposes). A capital budget of £462,950 is recognised in the Capital Programme.

An assumed capital budget underspend of £300,750 from 2024/25 was brought forward. However, it has since been identified that this element of grant had already been utilised in the previous financial year, under revenue as part of the flexibilities allowed with this grant funding stream. As such, this budget is no longer available, with the associated grant having already been defrayed. It is therefore proposed to correct this by removing the brought forward element from the Capital Programme. The UKPSF schemes are fully grant funded so the net impact on the Council's budget is nil.

UKSPF Schemes	Approved Budget 2025/26 £	Budget Brought Forward £	Total Budget 2025/26 £	Revised Budget 2025/26 £
UK Shared Prosperity Fund (Capital Only)	462,950	300,750	763,700	462,950

3. Replacement Bramcote Leisure Centre – Planning Approval and RIBA Stage 4

Cabinet, at its meeting on 29 July 2025 approved a supplementary capital estimate of £135,000 for a variation in the new replacement Bramcote Leisure Centre scheme and the associated additional design fees relating to increased pool depth and adding a spectator viewing gallery. The original £800,000 capital budget for the RIBA Stage 4 design and planning approval was therefore uplifted to £935,000 to include these additional design costs.

As the scheme continues to progress through planning and delivery, it is prudent to retain the services of ReCreation for development management. The monthly cost is £7,500 and will be required, firstly from November 2025 to January 2026, to cover the planning application stage, and then onwards in the run up to the start of the main build project. It is proposed to add £45,000 to the overall budget for these development management fees, which will be funded by General Fund capital receipts.

Once the design and planning for the new Bramcote Leisure Centre has been completed, a further report will be brought to Cabinet to identify the necessary capital funding arrangements before proceeding to the construction stage.

Leisure and Health	Approved Budget 2025/26 £	Budget Brought Forward £	Total Budget 2025/26 £	Revised Budget 2025/26 £
Replacement Bramcote Leisure Centre RIBA Stage 4	135,000	130,900	265,900	310,900

4. Surveillance Camera Upgrade/Wireless Network

The original scheme for CCTV surveillance camera rationalisation, upgrade and wireless network relocation was approved by the Finance and Resources Committee on 10 February 2022. This followed recommendations from a review of the Council's surveillance equipment by the Community Safety Committee to rationalise surveillance equipment to maintain cost efficiencies and effectiveness by introducing better technologies to increase resilience.

Since then, the Council was awarded £95,750 from the Safer Streets Fund in 2023/24 to support measures proven to prevent neighbourhood crime. As part of this programme, the Surveillance team has upgraded existing surveillance cameras, installed help points, and provided bodycams to help create a safer Borough for residents. There is still residual unapplied grant funding available for this scheme, and it has been requested to allocate further funds in 2025/26 to provide for further spending on surveillance. This capital cost of £19,500 will therefore be funded from external grant.

Community Safety Capital Programme	Approved Budget 2025/26 £	Revised Budget 2025/26 £
Surveillance Camera Upgrade Network	-	19,500