

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

DELEGATED EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION REPORT

Report to: Deputy Leader of the Council and Executive Member for Children's Social Care
Date: 20 November 2020
Report for: Decision
Report of: Corporate Director, Children's Services

Report Title

Education Capital Maintenance Report 2020/21- additional allocation – Part 1

Summary

This report highlights the Council's further investment plans in the Education portfolio for the current financial year.

To support Trafford's corporate priorities of ensuring a fair start for all children and young people and supporting our residents when they need it most. Enabling pupils to thrive and achieve their educational outcomes through fit for purpose and high quality learning environments.

The Council also has a general duty under Section 2 of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 to provide a safe working environment and hence respond to condition issues, which have health and safety implications.

To support the achievement of this duty, and to meet any risks in relation to school conditions and access, the Council has received an additional allocation of DfE School Condition Allocation (SCA) funding in 2020/21 of £833k for capital maintenance items.

Information from Diocesan Representatives detailing the investment in the Voluntary Aided Schools sector is to note.

Recommendation(s)

That the Executive Member agree the proposals contained within this report as the detailed capital programme for 2020/21, specifically -

1. Agree to carry out condition and access work detailed in Appendix A: Proposed Capital Projects, Capital Maintenance Programme, Table 1

2. To note the Voluntary Aided School schemes, Table 2

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: Claire Fisher, Schools' Capital Projects Manager

Extension: 912 4558

Background Papers: None

Relationship to Corporate Priorities	Ensuring a fair start for all children and young people Supporting our residents when they need it most
Relationship to GM Policy or Strategy Framework	Not applicable
Financial	The estimated capital cost of the schemes, now recommended for approval in Appendix A, is £0.833m which can be financed by capital grant from the DfE shown in Section 2.
Legal Implications:	The Council has statutory duties in relation to the provision of school and early education places. Building closures affect this duty.
Equality/Diversity Implications	Schools are subject to current legislation regarding Equality and Diversity. Capital Maintenance monies funds schemes to ensure Schools are DDA compliant.
Sustainability Implications	School buildings are procured requiring successful contractors to meet required sustainability criteria. Building improvements will reduce both energy usage and carbon emissions.
Resource Implications e.g. Staffing / ICT / Assets	School buildings are assets that need to be maintained
Risk Management Implications	Operational risk of buildings closing if capital maintenance works not undertaken
Health & Wellbeing Implications	The condition of School buildings affects the Health and Wellbeing of all staff and pupils.
Health and Safety Implications	All building work is subject to appropriate current Health and Safety/CDM regulations. Failure to respond to condition issues, which have health and safety implications, will find the Council in breach of the Health and Safety at Work Act.

1.0 Background

Condition Works

- 1.1 On 12 June 2020 the Executive Member approved (reference: M/12.06.20/CSC) the capital expenditure for the maintenance of schools for the financial year 2020/21. The majority of the works were carried out in summer school holidays. The Council has now been granted additional funds of £833K. The Council's programme of asset management surveys has been used to identify any health and safety and condition issues that need to be addressed as a priority. The works identified for the additional funding are able to be undertaken in shorter holidays periods or are external works that may be able to be managed within term-time, subject to ensuring adequate safeguarding measures for both staff and pupils on the site. Following approval, works will be designed and a procurement process will be undertaken to aid competition and ensures resources are used in a planned and efficient manner.
- 1.2 Appendix A: Proposed Capital Projects, Table 1 sets out the general health and safety condition works deemed as the highest priority, and shows the sources of funding that will be used to meet the cost, which are summarised in 2. Financial Implications below. The estimated cost of each individual item is set out in Appendix A in Part 2 of this report.
- 1.3 In addition to the proposed works, there are significant condition issues within the Secondary sector and as such feasibility studies have been undertaken to develop a long term strategy for these schools. Additional support has been sought from Department of Education in order to support the outcome of the feasibility studies but has not been forthcoming. Bids to the DfE will be undertaken as and when capital funding bidding rounds are announced.

Voluntary Aided School schemes

- 1.4 From 2020/21 the Voluntary Aided School condition funding is no longer co-ordinated by the local authority. SCA funding allocations are made direct to the relevant Diocesan Body. LA Officers are still meeting with Diocesan Representative to ensure knowledge of the School sites is shared.
- 1.5 Appendix A: Table 2 sets out how the four Diocese plan to allocate funding to Trafford Schools.

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1 The projects proposed in this report are at the budget estimate stage and are yet to be fully costed. The estimated capital expenditure is £0.833m and can be financed from the following funding streams;
 - Capital Maintenance Grant - £1.199m being £0.833m from the additional DfE grant for 2020/21 plus an unallocated balance of £366k carried forward from 2019/2020 grant allocation.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 Following a thorough analysis of the options it is recommended to proceed with the following:
- a) Urgent health and safety works in order to keep schools open i.e. replacement roofs, replacement of windows, disabled access works and other urgent H&S works. Priorities are evidenced using schools' Asset Management Plan. (See Appendix A: Proposed Capital Projects, for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools)
 - b) The prospective schemes were tabled for discussion at the Education Buildings meeting on 7 October 2020 and circulated 21 October 2020.

4. Legal Position

- 4.1 The Council has a general responsibility for education under Section 13 and 13A of the Education Act 1996 to both contribute towards the spiritual, moral, mental and physical development of the community by securing that efficient primary education to meet the needs of the population of their area and to promote high standards and fulfilment of potential.
- 4.2 Under the Children and Families Act 2014 Section 27 the Council has a duty to keep education and care provision under review and consider the extent to which the provision is sufficient to meet the educational needs, training need and social care needs of the children and young people concerned.
- 4.3 In addition Section 42 of the Children and Families Act 2014 places a duty on the Council to secure special educational provision in accordance with a child's or young person's Education, Health and Care Plan.
- 4.4 The Council has a general duty under Section 2 of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 to provide a safe working environment and hence respond to condition issues, which have health and safety implications.

5. Other Options

- 5.1 The implications of not progressing with the capital maintenance schemes are that there will be health and safety issues for schools that could potentially close the schools for a period whilst urgent remedial works are undertaken.
- 5.2 The Capital Maintenance grant is not ring-fenced and could be used for other Council priorities; however it works towards meeting the Council's Corporate Priorities of "Ensuring a fair start for all children and young people" and "Supporting our residents when they need it most".

6. Consultation

6.1 Consultation has been carried out with Amey Surveyors to draft a list of proposed projects. This process is overseen by the Education Buildings Group.

7. Reasons for Recommendation

7.1 To ensure compliance with the Council’s statutory duties as highlighted in Section 4 – Legal Position.

7.2 To enhance educational facilities in Trafford schools for children and young people.

7.3 To support Trafford’s corporate priorities of “Ensuring a fair start for all children and young people” and “Supporting our residents when they need it most” by ensuring that pupils are able to thrive and achieve their educational outcomes through fit for purpose and high quality learning environments.

Key Decision: No

If Key Decision, has 28-day notice been given? N/A

Exempt Information

By virtue of Paragraphs 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by The Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order, the following information has been excluded from Part 1 of this report and included in Part 2 of the report:

- 3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

In all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Finance Officer ClearancePC.....

Legal Officer ClearanceTR.....

CORPORATE DIRECTOR’S SIGNATURE *(electronic)*

Jill McGregor
Corporate Director of Children’s Services

To confirm that the Financial and Legal Implications have been considered and the Corporate Director has cleared the report prior to issuing to the Executive Member for decision.

Appendix A – Proposed Capital Projects

CAPITAL MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME – TABLE 1		£m
Allocation c/f from previous report		0.400
Savings / Overspends on 2019-20 schemes		-0.034
2020-21 additional DfE allocation		0.833
Total Allocation		1.199
School	Work	Estimated Cost £m
Lostock College	Replacement windows	
Templemoor Infant	Replacement windows	
Broomwood Primary	Replacement windows	
Stretford High	Replacement windows	
Lostock College	Roofing works - wind catchers	
Sale High	Asbestos removal works to Block C & D	
Woodhouse Primary	Kitchen ventilation / remodelling	
Stretford Grammar	Kitchen ventilation / remodelling - additional funds to original 20/21 scheme	
Templemoor Infant	Re-roof of staff quad area	
Delamere	Safeguarding - fencing and boiler	
Various	Minor M&E works	
Highfield Primary	Resolve H&S issues with carpark	
Various	Design works for larger roofing schemes - ahead of 21/22 allocation	
		£m
Total Cost of schemes to be approved		0.833
Total Allocation Available		1.199
Balance still to allocate		0.366
Schools' Devolved Formula Capital contributions - not included in the costs above		

VA CAPITAL MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME – TABLE 2

(Schemes to note)

School	Work	Estimated Cost £
CHESTER DIOCESE		147,698
Altrincham CE Primary	Car Park extension.	
Bowdon CE Primary	Internal alterations (addition of Sensory room and office)	
St. Mary's Primary Sale	Roof repairs	
St. Mary's Primary Sale	Fire door replacement	
MANCHESTER DIOCESE		36,000
St.Michael's CE Primary Flixton	Flat roof replacement	
SALFORD DIOCESE		736,956
St. Hugh of Lincoln RC Primary	Replacement boiler plant	
St. Hugh of Lincoln RC Primary	Re-locate boiler from the cellar	
St. Ann's RC Primary	Infant Block electrical refurbishment	
St. Teresa's RC Primary	Flat roof renewal	
English Martyrs RC Primary	Replace existing fire alarm system	
English Martyrs RC Primary	Increase water pressure within School	
St.Alphonsus RC Primary	Nursery extension	
SHREWSBURY DIOCESE		655,000
St Vincent's RC Primary	Flat roof replacement	
Our Lady of Lourdes RC Primary	Phase 2 Heating replacement	
Our Lady of Lourdes RC Primary	Phase 2 Flat roof replacement	
St. Joseph's RC Primary	Full re-wire	
All Saints RC Primary	Mechanical ventilation to Yr.5 & 6 classrooms	
Holy Family RC Primary	Phase 3 Flat roof replacement	
St Hugh's RC Primary	Phase 1 window replacement	
St Hugh's RC Primary	Disabled toilet	
Blessed Thomas Holford College	Methane Gas monitoring	
St Vincent's RC Primary	Ramp to access Yr.5 Classroom	