



FOR PUBLICATION

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

28 July 2022

Report of the Executive Director - Children's Services

Children's Services Capital Programme

1. Divisions Affected

1.1 County wide

2. Key Decision

2.1 This is key decision because it will result in the Council incurring expenditure totalling £9,642,556 and affects communities living or working in an area comprising two or more divisions/county electoral areas.

3. Purpose

3.1 To approve the Children's Services Capital Programme 2022-23 and approve allocations to individual projects and the allocation of Section 106 funding. To note the cancellation of funding for a previously approved scheme, allocations made under delegated powers and the receipt of funds received/returned to the Children's Services Capital Budget.

4. Information and Analysis

4.1 **School Condition Allocation** – On 22 March 2022, the DfE announced School Condition Allocations for 2022-23 which includes £10,306,108 for the Authority to allocate to projects in schools for which it is responsible for capital funding.

Basic Need Allocation – The Authority is responsible for providing new school places where required across the Authority including in Academies. This funding is known as Basic Need. The DfE also announced a two year programme of Basic Need allocations for 2023-24 (places needed by September 2024) and 2024-25 (places needed by September 2025) for new school places in Derbyshire totalling £21,204,935. This total was based on the following allocations:

2023-24	£16,755,972
2024-25	£ 4,448,963

- 4.2 As reported to Cabinet on 15 February 2022 there is a balance of £2,007,346 from the Basic Need and School Condition Allocation pre 2020-21, £1,994,790 from the 2020-21 School Condition Allocation, £2,747,898 from the 2021-22 School Condition Allocation giving an overall unallocated balance of **£6,750,034**.
- 4.3 Under the Children’s Services Financial Scheme of Delegation (section C), the Executive Director for Children’s Services and the Children’s Services Head of Development are permitted to sign off expenditure not included in the Capital Programme (funded from existing resources) up to a value of £250,000 and £75,000 respectively. Approvals made under delegated powers by the Children’s Services Head of Development for allocations from the Children’s Services Capital budget are set out in Appendix 2. The allocations total £477,322 from 2020-21 School Condition leaving a balance of £1,517,468 from the 2020-21 School Condition allocation, £1,474,950 from the 2021-22 School Condition Allocation leaving a balance of £1,272,948 from the 2021-22 School Condition allocation and an overall unallocated balance of **£4,797,762**.
- 4.4 On 5 October 2021 the Cabinet Member for Young People approved an allocation of £50,000 from 2020-21 School Condition to begin design work on an expansion scheme at Brailsford Primary School. It was established that capital funding could not be used to take the project to design stage and the funding was returned to the 2020-21 School Condition Allocation. The return of the funding was included in the circulated version of the Cabinet report of 15 February 2022 but was queried and removed from the published version and the balances adjusted accordingly. The query has now been answered and the removal of the funding confirmed. Alternative sources of funding are being investigated and the scheme will be progressed when the demand for places is more pressing.

- 4.5 A breakdown of the proposed programme for consideration and the return of funding to the Children's Services Capital Budget are set out in Appendix 3 & 4 respectively. If the allocations set out in Appendix 3 are approved, together with the new DfE capital allocations and the returned funds as set out in Appendix 4, the unallocated balance of the Children's Services Capital budget will be as detailed in the Appendix 1 – Financial Implications.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 Not applicable

6. Alternative Options Considered

- 6.1 The School Condition is an annual allocation of school condition capital from the DfE. This capital grant is to improve and maintain the condition of the school estate (buildings and grounds). The grant allocation is determined by the DfE and takes into account the information collected through the Property Data Survey programme. Basic need is an allocation from the DfE for providing new school places by either expanding existing schools or by establishing or new schools in Derbyshire. The allocation is determined by the DfE based on the data collected in the School Capacity Survey (SCAP).

The list of allocations has been drawn up to address the most pressing condition related issues at schools and to provide places where pupil projections indicate there will be pressure on places in a school place planning area. The funding is to ensure there is sufficient capacity at all the schools involved and that the accommodation is suitable to support the delivery of education.

The School Condition Allocation must be spent in accordance with the terms of the grant to improve and maintain the condition of the school estate and cannot be used for any alternative purposes. Similarly, the Basic Need Allocation must be spent in accordance with the terms of the grant to provide new school places.

7. Implications

- 7.1 Appendix 1 sets out the relevant implications considered in the preparation of the report.

8. Background Papers

8.1 These are held in the Children's Services Development Section.

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1 – Implications

9.2 Appendix 2 - Approvals made under delegated powers

9.3 Appendix 3 – Allocations

9.4 Appendix 4 – Funds returned

10. Recommendation(s)

That Cabinet:

a) Notes the allocations made under delegated powers by the Executive Director for Children's Services and the Children's Services Head of Development

b) Notes the cancellation of the £50,000 funding approved for the expansion scheme at Brailsford Primary School.

c) Notes the receipt of the funds received/returned to the Children's Services Capital Budget as detailed in Appendix 4.

d) Approves the allocation of the £274,148 increased insurance contribution to the budget for the replacement Harrington Junior School.

e) Approves the allocation of £190,738 Section 106 funding to the extension and remodelling project at Wessington Primary School as detailed in Appendix 3.

f) Approves the Capital Programme 2022-23 and allocations totalling £2,384,262 from 2023-24 Basic Need and £7,258,294 from 2022-23 School Condition Allocation to the projects as detailed in Appendix 3

11. Reasons for Recommendation(s)

- 11.1 To inform Cabinet of the new DfE capital allocations, the approvals under delegated powers and the return/receipt of funds.
- 11.2 To address the most pressing maintenance issues in schools to ensure the school estate is maintained to a high level.
- 11.3 To ensure there is sufficient capacity at schools in the County.

12. Is it necessary to waive the call in period?

12.1 No

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Appendix 1

Implications

Financial

- 1.1 The financial considerations are as explained in section 2 of the report with detailed breakdowns of allocations included in Appendices 2&3.
- 1.2 The unallocated balance of the of the Children’s Services Capital budget is as set out in the table below:-

Year	Type of Funding	Opening Balance £	Funding Received/ Returned	Allocations in this Report	Balance £
Pre 2020-21	*Basic Need & School Condition	2,007,346			2,007,346
2020-21	School Condition	1,517,468	50,000		1,567,468
2021-22	School Condition	1,272,948			1,272,948
2022-23	School Condition		10,306,108 442,530 340,579 11,089,217	7,258,294	3,830,923
2023-24 (for schemes to be delivered by	Basic Need		16,755,972 500,000 17,255,972	2,384,262	14,871,710

September 2024)					
2024-25 (for schemes to be delivered by September 2025)	Basic Need		4,448,963		4,448,963
Total		4,797,762	32,844,152	9,642,556	27,999,358

The overall unallocated balance represents unallocated funds from the 2020-21 and 2024-25 together with unallocated funds from previous years Capital budgets. Work is in hand to provide a full breakdown of funds by years and this will be reported to Cabinet at a future date.

- 1.3 All goods, works and services required to undertake the identified projects in the report will be procured and awarded in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations. In-line with the Council's Financial Regulations this report also seeks approval from Cabinet to obtain permission to commence the procurement process. The projects will be considered as included within the Council's Forward Procurement Plan and any subsequent contract award will be in accordance with the Council's Departmental Scheme of Delegation. It should be noted that these procurement exercises will normally take the form of a competitive tender process, but should it be decided that using a Framework is the best option, a separate report will be submitted seeking approval

Legal

- 2.1 The funding allocations are made in accordance with the local authority's financial regulations.
- 2.2 The LA has a duty to secure efficient primary and secondary education and further education to meet the needs of the population of their area under sections 13 and 13A of the Education Act 1996.

Human Resources

- 3.1 None

Information Technology

4.1 None

Equalities Impact

5.1 No impact.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

6.1 Not applicable.

Other (for example, Health and Safety, Environmental Sustainability, Property and Asset Management, Risk Management and Safeguarding)

7.1 To maintain the safe condition of the school estate.