



FOR PUBLICATION

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

4 May 2023

Report of the Executive Director - Children's Services

Children's Services Capital Budget - Further Allocations
(Cabinet Member for Education)

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 £3.816m and affects communities living or working in an area comprising two or more divisions/county electoral areas.

3. Purpose

3.1 To approve further allocations from the Children's Services Capital budget and to seek approval to extend the use of previously approved Capital Investment Programme funds.

4. Information and Analysis

4.1 As reported to the Cabinet Member for Education on 14 February 2023 there is an unallocated balance of £25.836m in the Children's Services Capital budget made up of Basic Need (BN) and School Condition (SCA).

- 4.2 Approvals made under delegated powers by the Executive Director for Children's Services and the Children's Services Head of Development from the Children's Services Capital budget are set out in Appendix 2.
- 4.3 Funds returned to the Children's Services Capital budget as set out in Appendix 3.
- 4.4 Further allocations for consideration are set out in Appendix 4.
- 4.5 On 10 February 2016, Cabinet approved a sum of £1.700m for a School Capital Investment Programme. This related to situations where the Authority might need to negotiate a contribution to a school scheme being managed by an external body. The specific intention was to assist with urgent schemes to facilitate academy conversions.
- 4.6 The report referred to funding being required during the year. However, with the ongoing conversions of schools to academy status the use of the funding is required beyond the original timescale to support the academisation process. To date, the sum of £0.852m has been committed leaving a balance of £0.848m for future schemes.

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 – Funds returned
- 9.4 Appendix 4 – Allocations

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 as detailed in Appendix 2.
- b) Notes the receipt of the funds received/returned to the Children's Services Capital budget as detailed in Appendix 3.
- c) Approves the allocations to the projects as detailed in Appendix 3.
- d) Approves the extension of the use of previously approved Capital Investment Programme funds.

11. Reasons for Recommendation(s)

- 11.1 To inform Cabinet of approvals made under delegated powers and the return/receipt of funds to the Capital budget.
- 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.
- 11.4 To enable the Council to carry out its obligations to relation to the academisation process.

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 included in Appendices 2,3 & 4.
- 1.2 If the allocations set out in Appendix 4 are approved, with the delegated approvals set out in Appendix 2 and the returned funds in Appendix 3, the unallocated balance of the Children's Services Capital budget will be as detailed below:

Year	Type of Funding	Opening Balance £	Delegated Approvals	Funding Received/ Returned	Allocations in this Report	Balance £
2015-16	Basic Need & School Condition	303,027	0	189,406	0	492,433
2016-17	Basic Need & School Condition	341,970	0	331,188	0	673,158
2017-18	Basic Need & School Condition	266,101	0	114,697	0	380,798
2018-19	Basic Need & School Condition	295,211	0	264,590 1,605,840	0	2,165,641
2019-20	Basic Need & School Condition	336,025	0	30,988	0	367,013
2020-21	School Condition	45,038	0	4,470 70,553	0	120,061
2021-22	School Condition	0	0	101,923	0	101,923
2022-23	School Condition	2,544,045	(780,190)	99,633	(862,500)	1,000,988
2023-24 (for schemes to be delivered by Sept 2024)	Basic Need	17,255,972	0	0	(2,953,705)	14,302,267
2024-25 (for schemes	Basic Need	4,448,963	0	0	0	4,448,963

to be delivered by Sept 2025)						
Total		25,836,352	(780,190)	2,813,288	(3,816,205)	24,053,245

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.

1.4 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 Councils 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 for this.

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.
- 7.2 To support the Council's ability to meet its ambition of being a net zero carbon organisation.