

**Decision Session – Executive Member for
Children, Young People & Education**

17 December 2019

Report of the Director of Children, Education & Communities

School Capital Maintenance Programme 2020-21

Summary

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval for 16 proposed capital maintenance schemes with estimated budgets between £100,000 and £500,000.

Recommendations

2. The Executive Member is asked to:
 - Note the resources available in the CEC Capital Programme for maintenance and building work at schools.
 - Approve the 16 capital maintenance schemes between £100,000 and £500,000.
 - Delegate approval of expenditure on individual schemes to Officer level.

Reason:

To maximise the programme of maintenance within the maintained school estate, dealing with the most urgent issues for 2020/21.

Background

3. The LA has a statutory duty under the 1996 Education Act to ensure a sufficient supply of good/outstanding school places in its local area, that the schools can continue to operate and educate children city-wide and

as many maintenance issues are addressed as possible each financial year.

4. To ensure this duty is carried out urgent maintenance work has been identified, a programme has been developed and is planned to be delivered within the timescales dictated by the type of work required and school holidays. This means that the majority of the work needs to be ready to go out to tender in February and March 2020.
5. Approval of the 2020/21 capital maintenance programme needs to be in line with the above timescale and the design development process should begin during December 2019.
6. Approval of seven schemes under £100k was given by Directorate Management Team on 28th November 2019.

Consultation

7. All of the maintenance schemes considered in this report have been, or will be, subject to extensive consultation with governing bodies, key partner agencies, local councillors and residents in the locality of the individual schemes during development, when and where appropriate.

Options

8. **Option 1: Do Nothing**
The schemes identified in the capital programme are all essential works. To do nothing increases the risk of school closures and associated risks from depleting condition, health and safety and regulatory issues not being met.
9. **Option 2: Prioritise Schemes and use additional funding sources to top up budget**

Schemes have been scored and prioritised, any schemes that do not go ahead in 2020/21 will need to be delayed into a future year. The amount of capital maintenance received from Central Government is not sufficient to address all the urgent issues that need to be resolved in schools therefore the use of other funding sources to top up Capital

Maintenance such as Section 106, CRAM and Basic Need allows more schemes to go ahead.

Analysis

10. Capital Maintenance grant funding is allocated annually to local authorities by the Department for Education (DfE) for the improvement of Local Authority maintained school buildings and children's centres. The 2019/20 grant for City of York is £842k. The 2020/21 allocations have not been announced, but based on the 2019/20 allocation we are estimating a figure of £700k.
11. The actual Capital Maintenance grant funding available in 2020/21 is estimated at £1,169k. This figure includes the £700k grant plus an assumed underspend of £469k on 2019/20 schemes which has been re-profiled into 2020/21 at Capital Monitor 3.
12. The other two major funding streams in the programme that are available to fund maintenance work in schools are the Schools Essential Building Work, and Schools Essential Mechanical and Electrical work. The amounts in the programme for 2020/21 within these two streams are £1.828m and £2.298m
13. The combined resource available from the Capital Maintenance Grant, Schools Essential Building Work and Schools Essential mechanical and Electrical Work streams, plus the addition of some relevant Section 106 funding totalling £72k, together with estimated allocations of Local Authority Co-ordinated Voluntary Aided Programme funding of £210k and Devolved Formula Capital of £30k from All Saints, which will be used to fund the majority of the cost of the proposed boiler works, allows a total programme of £5,607k to be resourced.
14. The most urgent capital schemes have been identified and prioritised, schemes that have the potential to be delayed until 2021/22 have been removed from the 2020/21 prioritisation list. This means that only the most urgent schemes now remain on the 2020/21 list. The list of schemes is shown at Annex A.
15. The list of schemes is currently budgeted at a cost of £5,681k, an estimated shortfall of £74k when compared to the total identified resource of £5,607k.

16. Following further design development and subject to tender results, it is still possible that the current funding envelope will cover the cost of all the schemes on the programme. However, should the shortfall in funding remain, the schemes at the bottom of the prioritisation list may need to be delayed to the 2021/22 Capital Programme.

17. There are currently 16 capital maintenance schemes on the programme that have an estimated value between £100k and £500k. The schemes are a combination of kitchen refurbishments, roofing works, pipework replacements, rewires, windows and boiler replacements and are the schemes requested for approval within this report. The remaining scheme (Huntington School Science Laboratory Refurbishment) will need to be approved at the Executive as the budgeted cost is in excess of £500k (the current estimate for this scheme is £774k).

Council Plan

18. Safe Communities and Culture for All.

A building that is safe, warm and dry creates a better, more concentrated environment for learning.

19. A Greener and Cleaner City

Schools will be able to gain financially from lower energy output and greater sustainability as a result of the schemes on the capital programme

20. A Better Start for Children and Young People

Each scheme helps schools create better spaces for learning.

A building with no or fewer condition issues allows learning to be the main focus and gives teachers, staff, parents and carers confidence in the learning environment.

A school site where health and safety is paramount gives confidence to its users, and the community.

21. An Open and Effective Council

Spending to eradicate condition issues, means that the need for repairs are eliminated for a number of years.

Implications

Financial

22. The financial implications are dealt with in the main body of the report.

Human Resources (HR)

23. There are no human resources implications.

Equalities

24. There are no equalities implications.

Legal

25. There are no legal implications.

Crime and Disorder

26. There are no crime and disorder implications.

Information Technology (IT)

27. There are no Information Technology implications.

Property

28. There are no Property implications.

Other

Sustainability

29. Making improvements to school buildings will ensure long term sustainability and will create efficiency savings. The impact of each scheme is highlighted within Annex 1.

30. Generally, the capital programme schemes will help the council to meet five of the ten principles set out in One Planet York.
31. Sustainable Water & Zero Carbon – we will minimise our energy and water use and create energy efficient buildings.
32. Zero Waste – we will reduce waste, reusing where possible and working towards sending zero waste to landfill.
33. Sustainable Materials – we will strive to procure goods and services that are sustainable and sourced locally; and minimise the environmental impact of materials used to build and repair council buildings.
34. Land use & Wildlife – we will work to improve the quality of the built environment.

Risk Management

35. The schemes identified on the Capital Programme 2020/21 represent only those of the very highest priority, where the work has been assessed as being of greatest urgency.
36. All of these schemes have critical health and safety issues including Legionella, Special Educational Needs, fire risk, roof and window failures, heating system failures and buildings that don't meet current regulations.
37. Approval of the 2020/21 capital maintenance programme needs to be in line with the timescales outlined in the main body of the report and the design development process should begin at the beginning of December. Otherwise there is a risk that works will not be completed on time and schemes will have to be delayed until future years.
38. Delaying condition works for another year will increase the need for emergency repairs until the full scheme can be implemented. There is also the increased potential of schools being unable to continue operation and having no choice but to close.
39. This could mean that the Local Authority cannot meet its statutory duty to provide school places to pupils in their local area.

Contact Details

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Report **Date** 5 December 2019
Approved

Specialist Implications Officer(s) List information for all

Financial:
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Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

No Background Papers

Annexes

Annex A – Proposed Capital Maintenance Schemes 2020/21

List of Abbreviations Used in this Report

CEC – Children, Education and Communities