

General Services Capital Plan 2013/14 to 2015/16

Report by Gary Fairley, Head of Finance and Human Resources

1 Purpose of Report

This report presents an updated capital plan for 2013/14 to 2015/16 reflecting the carry forwards from 2012/13 and changes that have arisen since the plan was last approved on 14 May 2013.

2 Background

2.1 Expenditure

The carry forwards from 2012/13 of £6.721 million have been reflected in the proposed capital plan attached in appendices 1 and 2.

An additional project to upgrade the air conditioning in Midlothian House and Fairfield House IT Server suites at a cost of £0.015 million was approved by delegated authority.

The proposed plan also includes:

- £0.115 million for additional works and project management fees required for the Rosewell primary school extension;
- £0.063 million to install geogrid to the open space at Barleyknowe Lane to bring part of this open space back into public use;
- £0.018 million for the installation of mechanical sluices at Highbank old people's home. These are required as a result of on-going infection control standards and procedures to reduce infections in care homes;
- £0.013 million for cycling, walking and safer streets as a result of additional grants awarded from Sustrans;
- A reduction of £0.044 million in Members environmental improvements. This represents the expected third party capital payments to be made from revenue.

Overall the revised expenditure budget is £47.392 million over the life of the plan.

2.2 Emerging Projects

The plan detailed in appendices 1 and 2 does not include any provision for priority upgrading to existing property assets, these are currently being assessed.

A review is also being undertaken as to when the development led primary schools at Bilston and Gorebridge will be required. These projects are currently included in the plan starting in 2013/14; however it is now likely that they will not be required until later than originally thought.

Further reports will be brought to Council which will include any projects requiring to be re-phased and any new essential and unavoidable projects.

2.2 Funding

After reflecting carry forwards from 2012/13 of £1.646 million the income for 2013/14 is estimated to be £10.374 million.

The general capital grant has been updated to reflect the latest anticipated phasing of the £0.500 million reduction required to fund the Step Change 2015: Next Generation Broadband contribution.

Capital receipts and developer contributions have been updated to reflect the most up to date position.

3 Report Implications

3.1 Resource

The approved borrowing over the life of the plan, including the additional projects mentioned in section 2.1 is £17.338 million.

Although the capital plan attached results in an additional £4.920 million borrowing over the life of the plan, the net carry forward to 2013/14 is £5.075 million so there is an overall reduction in the required borrowing of £0.155 million.

3.2 Risk

The inherent risk in the Capital Plan is that projects will cost more than estimated thus resulting in additional borrowing. The monitoring procedures ensure that significant variations are reported at an early stage so that remedial action can be taken to mitigate this risk.

3.3 Single Midlothian Plan and Business Transformation

Themes addressed in this report:

- Community safety
- Adult health, care and housing
- Getting it right for every Midlothian child
- Improving opportunities in Midlothian
- Sustainable growth
- Business transformation and Best Value
- None of the above

3.4 Impact on Performance and Outcomes

There are no issues arising directly from this report.

3.5 Adopting a Preventative Approach

There are no issues arising directly from this report

3.6 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders

No external consultation has taken place on this report.

3.7 Ensuring Equalities

There are no equalities issues arising directly from this report.

3.8 Supporting Sustainable Development

There are no sustainability issues arising directly from this report.

3.9 IT Issues

There are no IT implications arising from this report

4 Recommendations

Council is asked to approve the proposed General Services Capital Plan 2013/14 to 2015/16 as shown in Appendices 1 and 2.

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Background Papers:

Appendix 1 – General Services Capital Plan Approved Projects

Appendix 2 – General Services Capital Plan 2013/14 to 2015/16