

Report Title:	Schools Condition Allocation 2022-23
Contains Confidential or Exempt Information	Report and appendices A, B, D and E are Part I. <b>Appendix C is Part II, and not for publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.</b>
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Stuart Carroll, Deputy Chairman of Cabinet, Adult Social Care, Children's Services, Health and Mental Health
Meeting and Date:	<b>Cabinet, 27 January 2022</b>
Responsible Officer(s):	Kevin McDaniel, Executive Director of Children's Services
Wards affected:	All wards

## **REPORT SUMMARY**

*This report seeks approval of Children's Services bids to the 2021/22 capital programme, to be funded by the School Condition Allocation (SCA). This will allow planning and tendering of SCA schemes in time for delivery over the summer in 2022, before schools restart in September.*

*The Local Authority receives the SCA grant from the Department of Education (DfE) to help maintain and improve the condition of school buildings and grounds. This funding is for community and voluntary controlled schools only. Voluntary aided and academy schools (including free schools) receive funding for this via a different route.*

*This report sets out the schemes in schools to be funded through the SCA for 2022/23, see Appendix B.*

### **1. DETAILS OF RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**RECOMMENDATION:** That Cabinet notes the report and:

- i) recommends the budget increases to previously approved boiler replacement projects in the 2021/22 capital programme, as set out in Table C1, Appendix C to Council.**
- ii) recommends the Children's Services 2022/23 capital bids for schemes to be funded by the School Condition Allocation, and includes them in the overall 2022/23 capital programme. This is subject to any changes that may be required to the list of schemes set out in Appendix B following confirmation of the level of grant.**
- iii) approves the listed schemes in Appendix B being put out to tender.**
- iv) delegates any variation of the list of schemes set out at Appendix B to the Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Children's Services, Health and Mental Health.**

## 2. REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S) AND OPTIONS CONSIDERED

### Background

2.1 The Department for Education (DfE) allocates funding to help maintain and improve the condition of school buildings and grounds. This funding consists of:

- **Devolved Formula Capital (DFC)**, which goes to individual schools of all types, including academy, community, free, voluntary aided and voluntary controlled schools. The DFC is intended to allow schools to maintain their buildings and carry out small capital works.
- **School Condition Allocations (SCA)**, given to eligible bodies responsible for managing an estate of school buildings. Eligible bodies include local authorities and large Multi-Academy Trusts (MATs). The SCA is intended to allow eligible bodies to fund larger schemes, which individual schools could not generally fund through their DFC and that are identified as a priority for improvement.
- **Condition Improvement Fund (CIF)**, held by the Education, Skills and Funding Agency, and to which single academies and smaller multi-academy trusts can bid (as they do not have access to funding via the SCA).

2.2 This report is focused on the SCA allocation to the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead for the 2021/22 financial year. Appendix A [*electronic distribution only*] provides a more detailed summary of the grants relating to school places and buildings.

### Purpose of the School Condition Allocation

2.3 The SCA for the Royal Borough is intended to cover any works at community and voluntary controlled schools related to improvements to the school estate. This includes major replacements and improvements to the fabric of the buildings and grounds. The scheme includes compliance works to meet health and safety and building regulations. Schemes may, therefore, include works to:

- boilers, radiators and pipework
- doors and windows
- external areas such as playgrounds, paths and roads
- floors
- internal and external walls
- kitchens
- roofs, gutters and soffits
- utilities

2.4 The SCA is not intended for use on new school places, as this is covered by the Basic Need grant, as set out in the *Demand for school places* report considered by Cabinet in November 2021.

### Timings and amount of School Condition Allocation grant

2.5 The level of grant allocated to the Royal Borough via the SCA is not usually announced until after the start of the financial year to which it applies – the 2021/22 SCA announcement was in late April 2020. This means that the level of SCA funding for 2022/23 won't be known until after Council has approved its wider 2022/23 capital programme.

- 2.6 The Royal Borough's SCA for the 2021/22 financial year was £1,404,558. This is significantly larger than in previous years, following revisions to the DfE's methodology for calculating the allocations.
- 2.7 The level of grant is based on the number of pupils attending the borough's community and voluntary controlled schools, with different weightings according to the age of those pupils. One more (first) school has become an academy, and so this will reduce the allocation by a relatively small amount.
- 2.8 The assumption at present, therefore, is that the 2022/23 SCA will be similar to the 2021/22 allocation, at £1.35m.

Budget increases for the 2021/22 School Condition Allocation

- 2.9 The council approved a £1.11m School Condition programme for the 2021/22 financial year. The higher grant, together with savings on some of the schemes approved in that programme, means that there is currently £497k of unallocated SCA funding. Spending this sum would take the 2021/22 programme above the approved £1.11m, and so Cabinet is being asked to recommend some budget increases to Council in February to address this.
- 2.10 It is proposed that the £497k funding is used mainly to support the increased costs of replacing oil-fired boilers at five schools with gas boilers. An increased focus on efficiency and lower carbon emissions means that more efficient models are now proposed than originally budgeted for. Additionally, rising costs across the construction sector mean that scheme budgets have had to be further increased.
- 2.11 The budget increases set out in Appendix C, Table C1 (which is a Part II appendix) raise the budgets for those schemes where necessary, using the £497k of unallocated SCA funding. These budget increases can only be approved by Council. Some small additional funds are also requested to enable design works to be carried out on the last two remaining major schemes from the 2021/22 school condition programme – heating upgrades at Eton Wick CE First School and Woodlands Park Primary School.
- 2.12 These budget increases are all funded from within the School Condition Allocation, and have no other impact on borough capital or revenue.

Early consideration of the School Condition Allocation schemes for 2022/23

- 2.13 Many school improvement projects happen over the six-week summer holiday, in order to minimise disruption to teaching and learning.
- 2.14 This report seeks, therefore, provisional approval of the prioritised list of SCA schemes (attached at Appendix B). This will enable officers to proceed with the planning, design and procurement of projects in time to allow delivery in summer 2022.
- 2.15 It will also make it easier to achieve better prices from contractors. As many schools, MATs and local authorities will be carrying out improvement works over the summer, late tendering can lead to higher contract prices. Contractors can also reach capacity very quickly once decisions about the summer programme start to get made. Getting provisional approval of the programme now means that the procurement process can start in good time,

maximising the likelihood of tenders attracting more competitive bids from good contractors.

#### Provisional schemes for the 2022/22 School Condition Allocation

- 2.16 Appendix B provides the list of schemes for 2022/23. Most of the schemes are school specific projects where, if provisional approval is given, the planning and design works can begin immediately. These schemes have been identified through school requests, use of the DfE school condition surveys and site visits by contracted engineers.
- 2.17 The list also includes a generic line for feasibility works, to fund the various investigative and feasibility works required to identify future school condition schemes.
- 2.18 Finally, there is a line for contingency, which will allow the borough to carry out any unplanned maintenance works, and also address any increased tender prices on estimated budgets.
- 2.19 The amounts set for the feasibility and contingency lines are based on previous experience of spending in these categories. Any unspent funding in either line will then be proposed to be carried into following year to help fund the 2023/24 programme.
- 2.20 Due to the commercial sensitivities around budgets for individual schemes, the costs are omitted from Appendix B. Appendix C, which is a Part II paper, includes these costs in Table C2.
- 2.21 It is proposed that approval to vary the list of approved schemes at Appendix B is delegated to the Executive Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Children's Services, Health and Mental Health. Any increase in the overall budget for the 2022/23 programme – arising, for example, from additional grant – would need to go back to Council for approval.

#### Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme

- 2.22 The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy's Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) is providing capital for projects that reduce carbon emissions and energy bills. All state schools (Community, Voluntary Controlled, Voluntary Aided, Academy and Free) are initially eligible for funding, provided that works could be carried out to reduce the carbon impact of heating; reduce overall energy demand or enable a future decarbonisation project. The highest priority appears to be for the replacement of coal and oil-fuelled heating systems with low carbon alternatives such as heat pumps.
- 2.23 The borough has seven Community and Voluntary Controlled schools with oil-fired heating systems. Five of these have already been identified as a priority for replacement next year, and are either already in the capital programme, or are in the list for approval at Appendix B.
- 2.24 The borough has successfully bid for funding under the PSDS for feasibility works to inform a full bid to the scheme by early January 2021. Feasibility works are underway on all seven schools, with an expectation that successful bids will be confirmed in early February. This means that it is possible that some, or all, of the boiler schemes in Appendix B, plus one already in the

programme but not yet tendered, may be funded by the PSDS. This will then release funding from the SCA to fund other priorities further down the list in Appendix B.

- 2.25 A number of Voluntary Aided and Academy schools also have oil-fuelled boilers, which may be replaced under the PSDS programme as well. The schools are outside the scope of the SCA and so any successful schemes here will not impact on the borough's capital programme.

Managing the 2022/23 School Condition Allocation

- 2.26 The total cost of the schemes included in Appendix B is £1.35m, which is equal to the expected grant.
- 2.27 If the 2022/23 SCA is less than the £1.35m expected, then the schemes will need to be tailored according to overall affordability and priority, using the order set out in the Appendix B. It is likely that schemes slipping below the affordable budget line will then be included in the 2023/24 programme, with the next round of priorities, which will come back to Cabinet for approval in late 2022.
- 2.28 If the decarbonisation bid set out in paragraphs 2.22 to 2.25 above is successful, then additional funding will be available, and may be managed within the School Condition programme. If this is announced in time then this will be included in the capital programme to be considered by Council in February 2021.

Progress on the 2021/22 School Condition Allocation schemes.

- 2.29 Appendix D provides a summary of the projects in the 2021/22 approved by Cabinet in December 2020.

## Options

**Table 1: Options arising from this report**

Option	Comments
<p>Recommends the budget increases to previously approved boiler replacement projects in the 2021/22 capital programme, as set out in Table C1, Appendix C to Council. <b>This is the recommended option</b></p>	<p>A number of budget increases are proposed for consideration by Council. This will allow the remaining boiler replacement schemes to proceed from the end of February. Cabinet are asked to recommend these increases to Council.</p>
<p>Recommends the Children's Services 2022/23 capital bids for schemes to be funded by the School Condition Allocation, and includes them in the overall 2022/23 capital programme. This is subject to any changes that may be required to the list of schemes set out in Appendix B following confirmation of the level of grant. <b>This is the recommended option</b></p>	<p>Will allow the borough to begin the planning and design of schemes early, making it more likely that they can be delivered next Summer. This should also help keep costs down. If this is not approved, design and tendering will be delayed until approval is given, making delivery over the summer much less likely, and increasing costs.</p>
<p>Approves the listed schemes in Appendix B being put out to tender. <b>This is the recommended option</b></p>	<p>This will allow officers to put the schemes listed in Appendix B out to tender without having to return subsequently to Cabinet for approval, whilst still ensuring that the overall cost of the programme remains in budget.</p>
<p>Delegates any variation of the list of schemes set out at Appendix B to the Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Lead Member for Adult Social Care, Children's Services, Health and Mental Health. <b>This is the recommended option</b></p>	<p>This will allow for changes to be made to the schemes listed in Appendix B, particularly in response to any changes in the level of SCA (due to be announced in April 2022). Any increase in the overall budget will, however, need to be brought back to Council for approval.</p>
<p>Do nothing <b>This is not the recommended option</b></p>	<p>Doing nothing means that no new projects can be funded using the School Condition Allocation, and that none of the benefits from early approvals will be realised.</p>

### 3. KEY IMPLICATIONS

**Table 2: Key Implications**

Outcome	Unmet	Met	Exceeded/ significantly exceeded	Date of delivery
Agreed schemes delivered by	01/4/2023	31/8/2022	01/5/2022 to 31/8/2023	30/04/2022
Programme budget (under) / overspend	>+0.5%	+0.5% to -2%	-2% to -6%	< -6%

### 4. FINANCIAL DETAILS / VALUE FOR MONEY

- 4.1 The 2022/23 School Condition Allocation (DfE grant) is estimated to be approximately £1.35m. The unassigned £497k from the 2021/22 programme is recommended to be allocated as set out in the main body of this report. The 2022/23 allocation is expected to be confirmed in April 2022.
- 4.2 A number of schemes in the 2021/22 programme have not yet started, mainly in the boiler programme as new bids were put into the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme in the autumn to fund more ambitious projects with further reduced carbon emissions. These are requested to be slipped into the 2022/23 financial year. Any underspends/savings in the School Condition Allocation are carried forward into the following financial year to fund that year's programme.
- 4.3 The programme will be managed so that the 2022/23 spend does not exceed the available grant.

**Table 3: Financial Impact of report's recommendations**

<b>REVENUE COSTS</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>
Reduction	£0	£0	£0
Net Impact	£0	£0	£0

<b>CAPITAL COSTS</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>
Additional total	£0	est. £1.35m	£0
Reduction	£0	£0	£0
Net Impact	£0	est. £1.35m	£0

### 5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Council is required to produce a balanced budget that provides Service Directors with sufficient resource to meet their own statutory requirements.

## 6. RISK MANAGEMENT

**Table 6: Impact of risk and mitigation**

Risk	Level of uncontrolled risk	Controls	Level of controlled risk
Lower than expected School Condition Allocation in 2022/23, means that some or all of the programme set out in Appendix B cannot be carried out.	Medium	Although preparation for carrying these schemes will proceed, no contracts will be signed until the SCA allocation is approved. Current messages from the DfE are that the national spend on school condition works in 2022/23 will be higher than this year.	Low
Higher than expected costs and/or emergency works result in overspend on the programme.	Medium	The borough will carry out tendering exercises in accordance with Contract Rules to achieve best Value for Money. Monthly budget monitoring meetings are held to ensure that spending is tracked and within budget. The inclusion of a sum for contingency ensures that there is some capacity built in to address these risks.	Low

## 7. POTENTIAL IMPACTS

- 7.1 Equalities. Equality Impact Assessments are published on the [council's website](#). An Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) is attached at Appendix E.
- 7.2 Climate change/sustainability. The government is placing increasing importance on the sustainability of school buildings. Many school improvement projects, including new boilers, windows and doors, and roofs can have a positive environmental impact. A number of projects, including some boiler replacements that are not immediately urgent could be completed under the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, which will help further reduce carbon emissions.
- 7.3 Data Protection/GDPR. There are no data protection or GDPR implications arising from this report.



## 8. CONSULTATION

- 8.1 Decisions about spending the SCA are based on a prioritisation of schemes by officers in Achieving for Children and Property Services, taking into account requests from schools and surveys carried out by specialists.

## 9. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

- 9.1 Implementation date if not called in: It is proposed that the design and planning works on the schemes listed at Appendix B begin immediately. Procurement will proceed once the availability of funding is confirmed. Projects will then be delivered over the 2022/23 financial year.

## 10. APPENDICES

- 10.1 This report is supported by five appendices:

### Contained in paper copies

- Appendix B - Provisional schemes for SCA spending in 2022/23.
- Appendix C - Provisional schemes for SCA spending in 2021/22, including estimated costs. (Part II) Not for publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

### Electronic only

- Appendix A - Summary of education capital.
- Appendix D - Summary of progress on 2021/22 SCA schemes.
- Appendix E - Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA).

## 11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 11.1 This report is supported by one background document:

- [Condition funding: methodology for the financial year 2021-2022](#), April 2021, DfE.

## 12. CONSULTATION

Name of consultee	Post held	Date sent	Date returned
Mandatory: Statutory Officers (or deputy)			
Adele Taylor	Executive Director of Resources/S151 Officer	20/12/21	23/12/21
Emma Duncan	Deputy Director of Law and Strategy / Monitoring Officer	20/12/21	01/01/22
Deputies:			

Andrew Vallance	Head of Finance (Deputy S151 Officer)	20/12/21	
Elaine Browne	Head of Law (Deputy Monitoring Officer)	20/12/21	
Karen Shepherd	Head of Governance (Deputy Monitoring Officer)	20/12/21	
Other consultees:			
Directors (where relevant)			
Duncan Sharkey	Chief Executive	20/12/21	24/12/21
Andrew Durrant	Executive Director of Place	20/12/21	
Kevin McDaniel	Executive Director of Children's Services	17/12/21	22/12/21
Hilary Hall	Executive Director of Adults, Health and Housing	20/12/21	20/12/21
Heads of Service (where relevant)			
Insert as appropriate	Head of .....		
	Head of .....		
	Head of .....		
External (where relevant)			
Insert as appropriate or N/A			

Confirmation relevant Cabinet Member(s) consulted	Deputy Chairman of Cabinet, Adult Social Care, Children's Services, Health and Mental Health	Yes 22/12/21
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## REPORT HISTORY

<b>Decision type:</b>	<b>Urgency item?</b>	<b>To follow item?</b>
Key decision	No	No

First entered into the Cabinet Forward Plan: <b>29/09/22</b>		
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Report Author: Ben Wright, School Places and Capital Team Leader

# Summary of education capital

1.1 This document provides a summary of the main education capital funding streams for local authorities and state schools in the local authority area. It currently excludes the funding for new school established in the free school waves.

## 2. Capital grants for new school places

### Basic Need

2.1 Basic need funding is the money given by the DfE to local authorities each year to help them fulfil their duty to make sure there are enough school places for children in their local area.

2.2 Basic Need can be spent at any state school (e.g. academy (including free schools), community, voluntary controlled and voluntary aided). Allocations are reduced proportionally, however, if projected need for new school places is partially or wholly met by a centrally funded free school.

2.3 The figures allocated are based on the pupil projections and school capacity information submitted by local authorities each July in the annual School Capacity (SCAP) survey. The DfE also collect information about how the Basic Need grant is spent as part of the annual Capital Spend Survey.

2.4 Due to the Covid-19 crisis, the 2020 SCAP return was cancelled, whilst the Capital Spend Survey has been delayed until June 2021. The 2021 SCAP exercise is going ahead, with submissions due on 31<sup>st</sup> July.

2.5 The DfE have used the pupil projections data from the 2019 SCAP to calculate 2021-22 and 2022-23 grant allocations.

2.6 Recent Basic Need allocations for the Royal Borough are set out below:

- 2016-17: £2,763,424
- 2017-18: £2,435,239
- 2018-19: £1,164,054
- 2019-20: £1,226,537
- 2020-21: £0
- 2021-22: £790,954
- 2022-23: £1,349,079

2.7 In the Royal Borough, decisions about spending Basic Need are usually taken by Cabinet, following public consultation on proposals for new school places. Budgets are agreed by Council in February and spend monitored by monthly budget monitoring meetings.

### Targeted Basic Need

2.8 On occasion, the DfE announces one-off grants to either top up existing grants or support specific policy objectives. In the past, where these relate to new school places, these have been called Targeted Basic Need grants. There have been no recent grants to the local authority in this category.

### [Selective Schools Expansion Fund \(SSEF\)](#)

- 2.9 This is not a grant that the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead can access, but it can impact on school places locally. This grant is given to expand academies or local authority maintained schools that are partially or fully selective and who have committed to increase admissions of pupil premium children. In the first, (2018-19) round, two local grammar schools (Sir William Borlase's Grammar School and Sir John Hampden Grammar School) were successful, and have increased their intakes by 30 places per year group each. No local schools were successful in the 2019-20 round. There are currently no indications in relation to a third round of SSEF.

### [S106/CIL](#)

- 2.10 Between 2001/02 and 2018/19, the Royal Borough collected £13,108,072.78 of S106 developer contributions to be used towards the creation of extra capacity in local schools. The majority of the funding (£9,147,052.52) was collected between 2012/13 and 2016/17 as the number of housing completions accelerated, and before the scheme was wound down.
- 2.11 As part of the preparation of the Borough Local Plan, Children's Services has contributed to the development of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan. This sets out the potential new education infrastructure required to meet the demand from the planned new housing. This would be partly funded by the Community Infrastructure Levy.

## **3. Capital grants for rebuilding schools**

### [Priority School Building Programme](#)

- 3.1 The Priority School Building Programme has run for much of the last decade, in two phases. Phase 1 carried out whole school rebuilds and refurbishments at 260 schools. Phase two has focused more on addressing individual school buildings, replacing specific blocks at 277 schools. No schools in the Royal Borough have qualified in either round. The programme is expected to complete in late 2021, and is being replaced by the School Rebuilding Programme.

### [School Rebuilding Programme](#)

- 3.2 This government programme is intended to carry out major rebuilding and refurbishment projects at school and sixth form college buildings across England, with buildings prioritised according to their condition.
- 3.3 The government announced the first 50 schools in the programme in February 2021, and a second wave in July 2021. No schools in the Royal Borough were included.
- 3.4 It is understood that the programme will see a further 50 projects carried out each year over the course of a decade. The DfE will again be selecting schools based on their Condition Survey information, and has consulted Responsible Bodies on prioritisation of schools in the remaining rounds. On the basis of that consultation it is not thought likely that any schools in the borough are in poor enough condition to be included in future rounds.

#### 4. Capital grants for school condition

##### Devolved Formula Capital (DFC)

- 4.1 All schools receive Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) as part of their annual school funding allocations from the DfE. This is to assist schools with the day to day upkeep of their premises. The local authority remains responsible for monitoring the spend of DFC in community and voluntary controlled schools.
- 4.2 The most recent guidance has clarified that any DFC not spent within three years of payment being made is at risk of clawback by the DfE. This may result in issues where schools are saving relatively small DFC allocations towards larger projects.

##### School Condition Allocation (SCA)

- 4.3 This grant is given to 'responsible bodies'; that is local authorities and Multi-Academy Trusts and Voluntary Aided school bodies with more than five schools as at 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 and 3,000+ pupils as at the Spring 2021 census<sup>1</sup>. It is intended to address more serious condition works that cannot be funded by an individual's DFC. For 2021/22, only four bodies responsible for schools in the borough qualify for SCA; the local authority, the Oxford Diocese (which covers the Church of England VA schools); the Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust (ODST) (a MAT that covers most, but not all, of the Church of England academies), and the Portsmouth Diocese (which covers the one Catholic school in the borough that is not in the Frassati Catholic Academy Trust). None of the other MATs covering schools in the borough are large enough to qualify for SCA, including the Ashley Hill MAT, Frassati Catholic Academy Trust; Pioneer Educational Trust, Slough & East Berkshire C of E MAT or Windsor Learning Partnership.
- 4.4 The local authority's SCA is for spend at community and voluntary controlled schools only, and may fund projects such as:
- New roofs and roof repairs.
  - Boiler and pipework replacement.
  - Electrical and re-wiring works.
  - Resurfacing, paths and access improvements.
  - Window and door replacements.
  - Structural works.
- 4.5 Recent SCA allocations for the Royal Borough are set out below:
- 2016-17: £940,753
  - 2017-18: £778,251
  - 2018-19: £763,898
  - 2019-20: £765,392
  - 2020-21: £764,240 + £354,927.31 = £1,119,167.31 (see para 4.10).
  - 2021-22: £1,404,558

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<sup>1</sup> Additionally, pupil numbers in special and alternative provisions are multiplied by 4.5 when assessing the pupil number threshold. The only academy special school in the borough, Forest Bridge School, is in a standalone MAT, and so this does not apply.

- 4.6 The amount of SCA awarded to the Royal Borough has, in general, fallen as more schools have become academy.
- 4.7 The significantly larger 2021-22 grant was not expected, and follows revisions to the DfE's methodology for calculating the allocation. In particular, the 2021/22 guidance<sup>2</sup> notes an increase in the per pupil 'base' rate from £115.15 to £146, as well as additional factors based on school condition, location, Voluntary Aided status and PFI status. The assessment of the school condition factor is based on the DfE's Condition Data Collection programme.
- 4.8 There is currently no indication that this methodology will change for 2022/23.
- 4.9 The announcement of the grant amount usually happens each April, in the year in which the grant is allocated. In other words, the 2021-22 grant allocation was announced this year on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021. Representations have been made by many local authorities to the DfE about the challenges this presents in managing the grant.
- 4.10 In response to the Covid-19 crisis, the government announced, in June 2020, a further £560m for repairs and upgrades to schools. On the 5<sup>th</sup> August 2020, the details of this spending were confirmed as top-ups to the SCA. This was worth an additional £354,927.31, taking the allocation for 2020-21 to £1,119,167.31.
- 4.11 In the Royal Borough, decisions about spending SCA are based on a prioritisation of schemes carried out by officers, taking into account requests from schools and surveys carried out by specialists. The prioritised list is approved in principle by Cabinet in December, before being approved by Council in February. The approval in principle allows initial work to be carried out ahead of confirmation of the capital grant in April. This makes it more likely that the projects can then be delivered over the subsequent summer holiday period. Further prioritisation takes place over the year as new urgent projects are identified.
- 4.12 Spending of the SCA is now being reported to the DfE, combined with the Basic Need spending, as part of the Capital Spend Survey.

#### [Condition Improvement Fund \(CIF\)](#)

- 4.13 Academies (including free schools) and Voluntary Aided schools that are not part of a larger MAT or Voluntary Aided body can apply to the DfE for funding for significant condition projects via the Condition Improvement Fund. In a small number of cases this funding can also be used to support school expansions at good or outstanding schools in the CIF category who have a need to expand.
- 4.14 In RBWM, the criteria mean that academies and VA schools (other than those in the Oxford Diocese or part of the ODST) can apply for CIF funding.
- 4.15 The successful bids for the 2021 to 2022 CIF rounds have just been published (24<sup>th</sup> June 2021), with the following schools successful:
- Altwood CofE Secondary School – heating project.

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<sup>2</sup> [Condition funding: methodology for the financial year 2021-2022](#), April 2021, DfE.

- Desborough College – urgent electrical and fire safety improvements.
- Furze Platt Senior School – works to renew defective roofs.
- Furze Platt Senior School – water supply and heating infrastructure repairs.
- Knowl Hill CoE Academy – pitched roof covering.
- Knowl Hill CoE Academy – flat roof covering.
- Lowbrook Academy – boiler replacement scheme.
- St Mary’s Catholic Primary School – security/safeguarding improvements.
- St Mary’s Catholic Primary School – heating improvements.
- White Waltham CoE Academy – windows.
- White Waltham CoE Academy – roof covering replacement.
- Windsor Girls’ School – window and door replacement.

4.16 Schools eligible for CIF can also apply to the Urgent Capital Support grant for emergency funding to address issues that put the safety of pupils and staff at risk, or threaten the closure of a school.

4.17 The 2022/23 round is now open for bids.

## **5. Capital funding for special educational needs**

5.1 There is currently no specific annual funding available for new special educational needs places.

### [Special Provision Capital Fund](#)

5.2 This is a one off capital fund, paid over three years, to create new school places and improve existing facilities for children and young people with SEN and disabilities. This focuses on facilities for children with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs).

5.3 The full amount allocated to the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead was £1.227m.

5.4 The Royal Borough’s Cabinet has approved, in principle, the opening of four new Resource Bases, providing additional support for primary age children with communication difficulties and related behaviours (largely Autistic Spectrum Disorder). The opening of these bases will be phased. The projects are:

- Dedworth Campus. Resourced Provision formally approved and opened in September 2021.
- Furze Platt Primary Federation. Resourced Provision formally approved opened in September 2021.
- South Ascot Village Primary School. Approved in principle by Cabinet. This is likely to be an SEN Unit, opening in September 2022. Development of the proposal is about to commence. A formal approvals process will need to be carried out.
- Wraysbury Primary School. Approved in principle by Cabinet. This will be a Resourced Provision, opening in September 2023. Development of the proposal is about to commence. A formal approvals process will need to be carried out.



### High Needs Provision Capital Allocation

- 5.5 This grant was announced in April 2021, and is intended to support the provision of places for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities and pupils requiring alternative provision.
- 5.6 The allocation for The Royal Borough is £500,000.
- 5.7 The guidance suggests that public consultation should be carried out on priorities for the funding. The borough's CYPDS team are developing proposals that can be brought forward for consultation/Cabinet consideration.
- 5.8 An initial sum has already been allocated to improvements to the Resourced Provision at Charters School in Ascot, to support urgent accessibility works.

**Appendix B: Provisional schemes for School Condition Allocation spending in 2022/23, not including requested budgets.****Table B1 – Summary of prioritised schemes for the 2022/23 programme, to be funded using the expected £1.35m School Condition Allocation**

Rank	Project name	Cost Centre (if available)	Project description
1.	Urgent safety works various schools	CSDQ	This is funding set aside to carry out minor emergency repairs and urgent works as they arise during the financial year.
2.	Feasibility and survey costs	CSEX	This funding supports the delivery of the school condition programme by the borough, and funds survey/investigation works and feasibility studies.
3.	Kitchen duct installation & hatch works	CSKR	This programme involves installing new compliant ductwork with access hatches in some kitchens where extractor fan duct access is currently difficult. Access to clean these ducts is vital to prevent build-up of flammable deposits and safe and efficient operation. Additional budget is sought following investigations work in 2021.
4.	School kitchen oven upgrades	CSLA	This programme involves the gradual replacement of deep fat fryers, and some old school ovens, with new combi-ovens. Additional budget is sought to allow for two further replacements in 2022/23.
5.	Eton Wick First incoming power supply and electrical upgrade	-	This project was previously approved as part of the 2021/22 capital programme, but there was insufficient funding to take it forward, aside from the design works set out in Table C2.
6.	Woodlands Park Primary heating upgrade	-	This project was previously approved as part of the 2021/22 capital programme, but there was insufficient funding to take it forward, aside from the design works set out in Table C2.
7.	Furze Platt Infants heating upgrade	-	The school's heating system is old, and will benefit from works to maintain and upgrade pipes and emitters <sup>1</sup> .
8.	Furze Platt Junior heating investigations and upgrade	-	Investigation of the heating equipment, leading to the potential upgrade of hot and cold water pipework, gas distribution pipework and the heating pipes and emitters.
9.	Alwyn Infants heating upgrade	-	Works to maintain and upgrade the school's heating pumps, control panel, emitters and pipework.
10.	Alwyn Infants hot water supply	-	Investigations to the incoming water supply pipework, and possible upgrade.
11.	Waltham St Lawrence Primary electrical supply	-	The electrical supply and distribution needs investigation and possible upgrading due to reported electrical overloading.
12.	King's Court First electrical distribution	-	The electrical distribution system at Kings Court First requires investigation and potential upgrading.
13.	Riverside Primary electrical distribution	-	The sub-main electrical distribution system at Riverside Primary requires investigation and potential upgrading.
14.	Eton Wick First external areas resurfacing	-	Some of the outside areas at the school require resurfacing to remove trip hazards.
15.	Hilltop First roof repair	-	Part of the roof at Hilltop needs repair.
16.	Hilltop First window adjustments	-	The winding mechanisms of the roof windows at Hilltop need adjustment due to difficulties in opening the windows. This will make the windows easier to operate, at a time when ventilation of classrooms is very important.
17.	Alwyn Infants rainwater equipment	-	Repairs are required to the school's fascia, soffits and rainwater equipment.
18.	Alexander First windows	-	Some of the windows at Alexander First need replacing.
19.	Boyne Hill Infants toilets	-	This project will relocate toilets for nursery children that are currently difficult to access, and that are unsuitable for nursery children. A staff WC will also be added.
20.	Wessex Primary toilets	-	The condition of the toilets in the infant school block is unpleasant and a full refurbishment and new toilet system is required.
21.	Riverside Primary LED lights	-	Replacement of older light fittings with more energy efficient LEDs.
22.	Contingency	-	All the remaining funding will be held as contingency, to cover cost increases above the expected budgets, and to allow new projects to be funded (subject to normal approvals) as they arise during the year.

<sup>1</sup> 'Emitters' are the part of a heating system that actually heat a room. Most commonly, these are radiators, but there are other types of emitters, depending on the heating system.

## Appendix D: Progress on the 2021/22 SCA projects.

Table D1 – Summary of progress on the 2021/22 SCA projects

Rank	Project name <sup>1</sup>	Project description	Cost centre	Status	Budget (compared to original approved capital budget)	Comment	Expected completion
1.	Courthouse Junior School boiler replacements (main school and swimming pool).	Replacement and upgrade of life expired oil-fired boiler, unreliable biomass boiler and obsolete heating controls.	-	Not yet started	Additional budget sought as per main report.	All of the 2021/22 boiler projects have been subject to further investigations and, in particular, considerations around inclusion in the government's Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS). The borough was not successful in getting funding for these schemes in the first round of PSDS bidding. The outcome of a second bid in the third round of the PSDS is expected in early 2022. Regardless of the outcome, Initial design works are expected to begin in late February 2022.	By December 2022
2.	Oakfield First School boiler replacement.	Replacement of oil-fired boiler.	-	Not yet started	Additional budget sought as per main report.	As above.	By December 2022
3.	Alexander First School boiler replacement.	Oil to gas conversion, replacement of life-expired boilers and obsolete heating controls.	-	Not yet started	Additional budget sought as per main report.	As above.	By December 2022
4.	Braywood First School boiler replacement.	Replacement of life-expired boiler.	-	Not yet started	Additional budget sought as per main report.	As above.	By December 2022
5.	School kitchen oven upgrades.	Ongoing programme of installing combi-ovens and removal of fat fryers.	CSLA	Onsite investigations	Savings expected	Although a small notional increase was made to the budget, it is expected that a small saving will be made on the two combi-oven projects, which can support further delivery in 2022/23.	By March 2022
6.	Hilltop subsidence scheme.	Address building subsidence.	CSLL	Out to tender	Slight increase in budget	Notional increase to budget made, to account for increasing construction costs generally.	By March 2022
7.	Alwyn air conditioning upgrade	Replacement of air conditioning units and condenser pump.	CSLB	Awaiting tender approval	Slight increase in budget	Tenders have come in slightly higher than originally budgeted, reflecting increasing construction costs generally.	By March 2022
8.	All Saints CE Junior School water pipework replacement.	Replacement of obsolete copper piping, which is affecting the quality of hot and cold water.	CSLF	No longer needed	Whole budget saved	Issues with water quality have been resolved by the earlier boiler replacement project.	n/a
9.	Cookham Nursery electrical upgrade.	Upgrade to the school's electrical distribution system.	-	No longer needed	Whole budget saved	Project no longer required as upgrades had been previously carried out.	n/a
10.	Hilltop boiler replacement and pipework upgrade.	Replacement of general and plantroom pipework. Heating emitter replacement. Replacement of life-expired boiler and pumps.	-	Not yet started	Significant increase in budget	Initial design works are expected to begin in late February 2022.	By December 2022
11.	Waltham St Lawrence Primary School cold water tank.	Cold water booster tank system to address low water pressure at entry to school.	CSLK	Waiting to start onsite	Budget reduced, giving small saving	Although a small notional increase was made to the budget to reflect increased construction costs, savings on the original budget are now expected.	By March 2022

<sup>1</sup> Project names have been updated from the original titles given when the programme was approved. Project names now reflect those given in the capital programme.

Rank	Project name <sup>1</sup>	Project description	Cost centre	Status	Budget (compared to original approved capital budget)	Comment	Expected completion
12.	Riverside Primary School new gas meter.	Replacement of gas meter.	-	No longer needed	Whole budget saved	Gas meter replaced by utility company.	n/a
13.	Boyne Hill water system and electrical upgrade.	New hot water heaters, and replacement of hot and cold-water distribution equipment. Electrical upgrade including replacement of electrical switch gear, distribution equipment. Rewiring and new small power unit for the plant room.	CSLC	Expecting to approval appointment of contractor shortly	Budget reduced, giving large saving	A significant notional increase to the budget was made, but further investigations have reduced the scope of the project, allowing a large saving to be made.	By March 2022
14.	Maidenhead Nursery mains water connection.	Conversion of cold-water system to mains, removing non-compliant cold-water tank.	CSLI	Waiting to start onsite	Budget reduced, giving small saving	Although a small notional increase was made to the budget to reflect increased construction costs, savings on the original budget are now expected.	By March 2022
15.	Larchfield heating pump and emitter upgrade.	Replacement of secondary heating pump, some pipework and heating emitters.	CSLH	Out to tender	Increase in budget	Notional increase to budget made, to account for increasing construction costs generally.	By March 2022
16.	Woodlands Park Primary heating upgrade	Replacement of heating emitters. Replacement of secondary pipework associated with direct hot water service.	-	Not yet started	Additional budget sought as per main report.	The project to upgrade the heating at Woodlands Park Primary School was approved as part of the 2021/22 budget, subject to funding becoming available. It is anticipated that the funding will now be available in the 2022/23 financial year. An initial budget is sought to allow design works to begin immediately.	By December 2022
17.	Eton Wick First heating upgrade	Replacement of incoming power supply service, switch gear, sub mains distribution cabling and earthing. Replacement of power supply in plant room.	-	Not yet started	Additional budget sought as per main report.	The project to upgrade the heating at Eton Wick First School was approved as part of the 2021/22 budget, subject to funding becoming available. It is anticipated that the funding will now be available in the 2022/23 financial year. An initial budget is sought to allow design works to begin immediately.	By December 2022
18.	Boyne Hill Infants fire alarm works	Fire alarm upgrade.	-	Paused	No spending so far	A wider programme of investigations of fire alarms may be carried out in 2022/23, possibly leading to upgrades in 2023/24. There is no suggestion that any of the fire alarms are currently faulty.	n/a
19.	Larchfield Primary fire alarm works	Fire alarm upgrade.	-	Paused	No spending so far	(as above)	n/a
20.	Hilltop First fire alarm works	Fire alarm upgrade.	-	Paused	No spending so far	(as above)	n/a
21.	Woodlands Park fire alarm works	Fire alarm upgrade.	-	Paused	No spending so far	(as above)	n/a
22.	SCA contingency		-	Ongoing	Budget redistributed	The contingency funding has largely been distributed around the above projects to address budget increases. Any remaining at year end will be slipped into 2022/23 to support that programme.	n/a

**ROYAL BOROUGH OF WINDSOR AND MAIDENHEAD**  
**EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

**EqlA : Title of EQIA**

**Essential information**

Items to be assessed: (please mark 'x')

<b>Strategy</b>		<b>Plan</b>		<b>Project</b>	x	<b>Service procedure</b>	
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<b>Responsible officer</b>	Ben Wright, School Places and Capital Team Leader	<b>Service area</b>	School Support Services	<b>Directorate</b>	Children's Services
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<b>Stage 1: EqlA Screening (mandatory)</b>	Date created: 01/12/2021	<b>Stage 2 : Full assessment (if applicable)</b>	N/A
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**Approved by Head of Service / Overseeing group/body / Project Sponsor:**

*"I am satisfied that an equality impact has been undertaken adequately."*

**Signed by (print):** Lynne Penn, School Support Services Service Leader

**Dated:** 01/12/2021

# ROYAL BOROUGH OF WINDSOR AND MAIDENHEAD

## EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

### EqlA : Title of EQIA

#### **Guidance notes**

##### **What is an EqlA and why do we need to do it?**

The Equality Act 2010 places a 'General Duty' on all public bodies to have 'due regard' to:

- Eliminating discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act.
- Advancing equality of opportunity between those with 'protected characteristics' and those without them.
- Fostering good relations between those with 'protected characteristics' and those without them.

EqlAs are a systematic way of taking equal opportunities into consideration when making a decision, and should be conducted when there is a new or reviewed strategy, policy, plan, project, service or procedure in order to determine whether there will likely be a detrimental and/or disproportionate impact on particular groups, including those within the workforce and customer/public groups. All completed EqlA Screenings are required to be publicly available on the council's website once they have been signed off by the relevant Head of Service or Strategic/Policy/Operational Group or Project Sponsor.

##### **What are the "protected characteristics" under the law?**

The following are protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010: age; disability (including physical, learning and mental health conditions); gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation.

##### **What's the process for conducting an EqlA?**

The process for conducting an EqlA is set out at the end of this document. In brief, a Screening Assessment should be conducted for every new or reviewed strategy, policy, plan, project, service or procedure and the outcome of the Screening Assessment will indicate whether a Full Assessment should be undertaken.

##### **Openness and transparency**

RBWM has a 'Specific Duty' to publish information about people affected by our policies and practices. Your completed assessment should be sent to the Strategy & Performance Team for publication to the RBWM website once it has been signed off by the relevant manager, and/or Strategic, Policy, or Operational Group. If your proposals are being made to Cabinet or any other Committee, please append a copy of your completed Screening or Full Assessment to your report.

##### **Enforcement**

Judicial review of an authority can be taken by any person, including the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) or a group of people, with an interest, in respect of alleged failure to comply with the general equality duty. Only the EHRC can enforce the specific duties. A failure to comply with the specific duties may however be used as evidence of a failure to comply with the general duty.

# ROYAL BOROUGH OF WINDSOR AND MAIDENHEAD

## EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

**EqlA : Title of EQIA**

### **Stage 1 : Screening (Mandatory)**

#### **1.1 What is the overall aim of your proposed strategy/policy/project etc and what are its key objectives?**

The aim of the project is to carry out larger scale maintainance and improvement works at Community and Voluntary Controlled schools in the borough, funded by the DfE's School Condition Allocation, and spent in accordance with the guidance. Projects are prioritised based on condition and urgency.

**1.2 What evidence is available to suggest that your proposal could have an impact on people (including staff and customers) with protected characteristics? Consider each of the protected characteristics in turn and identify whether your proposal is Relevant or Not Relevant to that characteristic. If Relevant, please assess the level of impact as either High / Medium / Low and whether the impact is Positive (i.e. contributes to promoting equality or improving relations within an equality group) or Negative (i.e. could disadvantage them). Please document your evidence for each assessment you make, including a justification of why you may have identified the proposal as "Not Relevant".**

# ROYAL BOROUGH OF WINDSOR AND MAIDENHEAD

## EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

### EqlA : Title of EQIA

Protected characteristics	Relevance	Level	Positive/negative	Evidence
Age	Not relevant	n/a	n/a	n/a
Disability	Not relevant	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gender re-assignment	Not relevant	n/a	n/a	n/a
Marriage/civil partnership	Not relevant	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pregnancy and maternity	Not relevant	n/a	n/a	n/a
Race	Not relevant	n/a	n/a	n/a
Religion and belief	Not relevant	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sex	Not relevant	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sexual orientation	Not relevant	n/a	n/a	n/a



**ROYAL BOROUGH OF WINDSOR AND MAIDENHEAD**  
**EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

**EqIA : Title of EQIA**

**Outcome, action and public reporting**

<b>Screening Assessment Outcome</b>	<b>Yes / No / Not at this stage</b>	<b>Further Action Required / Action to be taken</b>	<b>Responsible Officer and / or Lead Strategic Group</b>	<b>Timescale for Resolution of negative impact / Delivery of positive impact</b>
<b>Was a significant level of negative impact identified?</b>	No	No	Ben Wright, School Places and Capital Team Leader.	The proposed schemes should be completed in the 2022/23 financial year.
<b>Does the strategy, policy, plan etc require amendment to have a positive impact?</b>	No	No	Ben Wright, School Places and Capital Team Leader.	The proposed schemes should be completed in the 2022/23 financial year.

If you answered **yes** to either / both of the questions above a Full Assessment is advisable and so please proceed to Stage 2. If you answered “No” or “Not at this Stage” to either / both of the questions above please consider any next steps that may be taken (e.g. monitor future impacts as part of implementation, re-screen the project at its next delivery milestone etc).