

Report Title:	Amendments to the 2023/24 Children's Services Capital Programme
Contains Confidential or Exempt Information	Yes – Appendix A is Part II. Main report is Part I. Not for publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Tisi, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Windsor
Meeting and Date:	Council, 27 June 2023
Responsible Officer(s):	Lin Ferguson, Director of Children's Services and Education
Wards affected:	All

REPORT SUMMARY

This report recommends adjustments to the Royal Borough's 2023/24 approved capital programme as follows:

- *an adjustment to the borough's budget for the delivery of the school maintenance programme in 2023/24, following confirmation of the borough's School Condition Allocation for 2023/24.*
- *capital budgets to allow for the delivery of new provision for children with special educational needs, following on from Cabinet's approval of the new Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and Alternative Provision (AP) Capital Strategy in March 2023.*
- *an increase to the budget for the expansion of Windsor Girls', to enable school funded elements of that scheme to be included within the main contract.*

These adjustments are externally funded, and do not require additional council funding.

These recommendations will help the borough achieve its corporate objective of 'Thriving Communities' by making it easier for children and young people to achieve their ambitions and fulfil their potential. The budget amendments will also help provide quality infrastructure for children and young people, meeting the corporate objective of 'Inspiring Places'.

1. DETAILS OF RECOMMENDATION(S)

RECOMMENDATION: That Council notes the report and:

- Approves amending the budget for the 2023/24 school condition programme to £1,170,524.**
- Approves the budgets for the delivery of the Royal Borough's SEND and AP Capital Strategy, as set out in Table 2.**
- Approves an increase of £95,000 to the budget for the expansion of Windsor Girls' School, to be fully funded by a contribution from the Windsor Learning Partnership.**

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

Options

Background

- 2.1 Full council approved the Royal Borough's 2023/24 capital programme on 21st February 2023¹. The schemes relevant to this report are set out in Table 1 and appear in Appendix 3² to the Council report.

Table 1: Selected approved projects in 2023/24 capital programme

Cost-centre	Name	Budget (£,000)	Funding source
CSMP	Significant maintenance and upgrade of schools	£1,100	School Condition Allocation grant
CSMQ	Provision improvement for Special Educational Needs	£3,421	High Needs Provision Capital Allocation
CSKC	Windsor Girls' School expansion 2022	£2,748	Basic Need Grant and council funding.

School Condition Allocation

- 2.2 Council has approved a budget of £1,100,000 for works to improve the condition of community and voluntary controlled schools in 2023/24. This capital budget is funded by the School Condition Allocation (SCA) from the Department for Education (DfE). Cabinet will shortly (27th April 2023) be considering schemes to be funded using this budget.
- 2.3 The government does not confirm the figures for the SCA until late March/early April each year, which means that the 2023/24 allocation was not known when the borough's capital programme was approved. The £1,100,000 figure was, therefore, an estimate based on previous allocations.
- 2.4 The DfE has now confirmed the 2023/24 SCA for the Royal Borough as £1,170,524. Accordingly, it is recommended that the budget figure for cost-centre CSMP is changed to £1,170,524 to accurately reflect available funding.

SEND and AP Capital Strategy

- 2.5 Council has approved a budget of £3,421,000 for improvement to provision for special educational needs. This capital budget is funded by the High Needs Provision Capital Allocation (HNPCA) and is currently held in cost-centre CSMQ.
- 2.6 Following public consultation, Cabinet agreed the projects listed in Table 2 in March 2023³, and recommended to Council that the associated budgets be approved. As several of the proposed budgets are over £500,000, the virements out of CSMQ to new cost-centres need to be approved by Council.

¹ [2023/24 Budget, Report to Council](#), The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, 21st February 2023.

² Page 36, [Appendix 3 – Capital, Report to Council](#), The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, 21st February 2023.

³ [SEND and AP Capital Strategy, Report to Cabinet](#), The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, 30th March 2023.

2.7 Table 2 provides the full list of schemes in the capital strategy, some of which have been completed and/or already have budgets approved. Appendix A (Part II) provides the list of schemes with proposed budgets.

Table 2: SEND and AP Capital Strategy

School	Proposal	Timing	Proposed budget	Funded by HNPCA	Funded by S106
Charters School	Improvements to the Resourced Provision for Cognition and Learning	Completed	n/a	n/a	n/a
Chiltern Road site	New SEND Careers Hub	September 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a
Manor Green School	Access improvements	Summer 2023.	-	-	-
The Lawns Nursery School	New Early Years School Readiness Hub	September 2023	-	-	-
Hilltop First School	New Resourced Provision for Communication and Interaction	September 2024	-	-	-
Trevelyan Middle School	New Resourced Provision for Cognition and Learning	September 2024	-	-	-
Cox Green School	New Resourced Provision (in principle) with need to be determined.	September 2025	-	-	-
Desborough College	New Resourced Provision (in principle) with need to be determined.	September 2025	-	-	-
West of Windsor	New special school, funding of abnormal costs	September 2026	-	-	-
All schools	Fund for minor adaptations to support local placement of children & young people with EHCPs.	Ongoing	-	-	-
Total	-	-	£3,238,000	£3,207,260	£30,740

- 2.8 The schemes in Table 2 are fully funded by the HNPCA, with the exception of the access improvements at Manor Green School, where education S106 contributions are available to support the scheme.
- 2.9 It is recommended that the funding available in cost-centre CSMQ be allocated to the projects set out in Table 2.

Windsor Girls' School

- 2.10 The project to expand Windsor Girls' School in order to meet local demand is underway and expected to complete by 31st August 2023. A budget of £3.5m for this project was approved by Council in June 2022 (as a Part II item). This was subsequently adjusted upwards to £3.64m to take account of inflation. The budget for this scheme is under cost-centre CSKU.
- 2.11 It was agreed with the Windsor Learning Partnership (WLP) – the multi-academy trust for the school – that related refurbishment works to the main school building would be funded by them. Initially, the WLP intended to procure those works themselves, but an opportunity has arisen to include these within the main contract. This will be more cost-effective for the WLP and has no negative implications for the borough. The cost of the additional works is estimated at £95k.
- 2.12 It does require, however, that the overall budget for the Windsor Girls' School expansion is increased by £95k. This additional cost will be funded by the WLP, who pay this upfront, before works are procured.
- 2.13 Table 3 sets out the resulting budget and funding sources for the scheme.

Table 3: amended budget for Windsor Girls' expansion project

Funding source	Budget
Basic Need grant	£2,140,033
Carbon Offsetting fund	£40,000
WLP contribution	£95,000
Council funding	£1,459,697
Total	£3,734,730

- 2.14 The changes to this budget will not affect the council contribution. It is recommended, therefore, that the budget for cost-centre CSKU is increased by £95,000.

Options

Table 4: Options arising from this report

Option	Comments
Approves amending the budget for the 2023/24 school condition programme to £1,170,524. This is the recommended option	This will adjust the budget so that it reflects the available funding and is therefore accurate. If the figure is not amended it may cause confusion at a later date.
Approves the budgets for the delivery of the Royal Borough's SEND and AP Capital Strategy, as set out in Table 2. This is the recommended option	This will allow cost-centres to be set up for the approved projects, allowing design and procurement to proceed. If budgets are not approved, it will not be possible to deliver the Royal Borough's SEND and AP Capital Strategy.
Approves an increase of £95,000 to the budget for the expansion of Windsor Girls' School, to be fully funded by a contribution from the Windsor Learning Partnership. This is the recommended option	This will allow the additional works to be procured via the borough's main contract. If this is not approved, the WLP will still be able to procure the works, but it is likely to take longer and cost them more.
Do Nothing	If the recommendations are not approved, it will not be possible to deliver some elements of the planned capital programme.

3. KEY IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no new key implications arising from this report.

4. FINANCIAL DETAILS / VALUE FOR MONEY

4.1 The proposed amendments to the capital programme will have no impact on council funding, as the schemes will be funded externally. This will mostly be from grant (i.e. the School Condition Allocation and the High Needs Provision Capital Allocation), but also by a contribution from the Windsor Learning Partnership.

Table 5: Financial impact of report's recommendations

REVENUE COSTS	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
Additional total	£0	£0	£0
Reduction	£0	£0	£0
Net Impact	£0	£0	£0

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Additional total	£0	£0	£0
Reduction	£0	£0	£0
Net Impact	£0	£0	£0

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no new legal implications arising from this report.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

6.1 There are no new risks arising from this report.

7. POTENTIAL IMPACTS

7.1 Equalities. Equality Impact Assessments have previously been completed as part of the Cabinet reports associated with the projects and programmes referred in this report.

7.2 Climate change/sustainability. There are no new climate change or sustainability impacts arising from this report.

7.3 Data Protection/GDPR. There are no GDPR implications arising from this report.

8. CONSULTATION

8.1 No additional consultation has been carried out in preparation for this report.

9. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

9.1 Implementation date if not called in: budget amendments will be made immediately.

10. APPENDICES

10.1 There is one appendix for this report.

- Appendix A -

11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

11.1 This report is supported by two background documents:

- [2023/24 Budget, Report to Council](#), The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, 21st February 2023.
- [Page 36, Appendix 3 – Capital, Report to Council](#), The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, 21st February 2023.
- [SEND and AP Capital Strategy, Report to Cabinet](#), The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, 30th March 2023.

12. CONSULTATION

Name of consultee	Post held	Date sent	Date returned
<i>Mandatory: Statutory Officer (or deputy)</i>			
<i>Deputies:</i>			
Andrew Vallance	Head of Finance (S151 Officer)	30/03/23	04/04/23
Elaine Browne	Head of Law (Interim Monitoring Officer)	30/03/23	04/04/23
<i>Mandatory: Procurement Manager (or deputy) - if report requests approval to go to tender or award a contract</i>			
Lyn Hitchinson	Procurement Manager	30/03/23	
<i>Mandatory: Data Protection Officer (or deputy) - if decision will result in processing of personal data; to advise on DPIA</i>			
Samantha Wootton	Data Protection Officer	30/03/23	
<i>Mandatory: Equalities Officer – to advise on EQiA, or agree an EQiA is not required</i>			
Ellen McManus-Fry	Equalities & Engagement Officer	30/03/23	
<i>Other consultees:</i>			
<i>Directors (where relevant)</i>			
Tony Reeves	Interim Chief Executive	30/03/23	
Andrew Durrant	Executive Director of Place	30/03/23	
Lin Ferguson	Executive Director of Children's Services and Education	30/03/23	
Kevin McDaniel	Executive Director of Adult Services	30/03/23	
Stuart Lines	Director of Public Health	30/03/23	
<i>Heads of Service (where relevant)</i>			
<i>External (where relevant)</i>			
N/A			

Confirmation relevant Cabinet Member(s) consulted	Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education, Health, Mental Health and Transformation.	Yes
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REPORT HISTORY

Decision type:	Urgency item?	To follow item?
Council decision	No	No

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Manager - Operations