

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

29th July 2016

SECTION A – MATTERS FOR DECISION

WARDS AFFECTED – ALL

CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING 2016/17

Purpose of Report

1. To provide Members with information in relation to delivery of the 2016/17 Capital Programme.

Background

2. On 3rd February 2016 Council approved its Capital Programme for 2016/17, the report detailed planned Capital Expenditure totalling £40.631m for the financial year.
3. The purpose of this report is to update Members as to the delivery of this Programme as at 30th June 2016 and to seek approval for a further updated budget position.

Targeted Achievements

4. As Members are aware the following achievements are being targeted during this financial year:
 - Completion of Ysgol Bae Baglan, the £40.7m '3-16' new build school at Western Avenue, Baglan Bay which will open in September 2016 and
 - Continuation of the construction and re-modelling works at the existing Ysgol Gyfun Ystalyfera site.
 - Ongoing improvements to the Council's Street Lighting Infrastructure.

- Major bridge strengthening works on the Bont Fawr Aqueduct, A474 River Bridge and Alltwen Hill into Pontardawe.
- Further investment of £3m into Disabled Facility Grants to assist people to live at home.
- Investment of £3m in Schools Capital Maintenance and Highways and Engineering Maintenance improvements.

Changes to the approved Budget

5. The updated Capital Programme now totals £48.460m with the main changes proposed being the inclusion of addition grant approvals received from the Welsh Government as detailed below:
 - Local Transport Fund - £2.044m
 - Safe Routes in Communities - £0.4m
 - Coastal Risk Management - £0.2m
 - Road Safety Grant - £0.324m
 - Transport Grant - £0.652m
 - Vibrant and Viable Places (additional allocation) - £3.056m which includes £2.7m to convert Aberafan House into 41 social housing units.

21st Century Schools Programme

6. The Council has recently received Ministerial approval from the Welsh Government for its revised Strategic Outline Programme (SOP). The revised programme involves two new build schools one being the establishment of a 3-16 new build on the Dyffryn School/Groes Primary site. Secondly, it delivers a new build, 11-16 Welsh Medium School South Campus on the site vacated by Sandfields Comprehensive and Traethmelyn Primary School.

In addition the Council has received approval for its Final Business Case submission for a new primary school in Briton Ferry. The costs and profile for this project will be built into the Capital Programme once contracts have been agreed.

2016/17 Capital Expenditure

7. Details of Capital Expenditure as at 30th June 2016 is outlined in the table on the following page

Table 1 – Capital Budget and Spend 2016/17

	Original Approved Budget £'000	Proposed Budget £'000	Actual @ 30th June 2016
Ysgol Bae Baglan	10,014	10,014	4,096
Ysgol Gyfun Ystalyfera 3-18	6,344	6,344	1,333
Schools Capital Maintenance	1,200	1,200	0
Highway and Engineering Maintenance	1,775	1,775	156
Major Bridge Strengthening	1,380	1,380	0
Health and Safety	850	850	11
Street Lighting Replacement	3,592	3,592	682
Street Lighting – LED Replacement		800	0
Vehicle Replacement Programme	1,497	1,497	253
Port Talbot Regeneration	5,580	7,056	287
Aberafan House Redevelopment		2,700	0
Neath Town Centre Regeneration	1,600	1,600	14
Bus Priority Corridors		946	21
Harbour Way – Land Compensation		652	5
Safe Routes in Communities		400	
Road Safety Grant		324	1
Disabled Facility Grants	3,000	3,000	552
Housing Renewal Area	920	920	25
Contingency	558	528	
Remaining Capital Programme	2,321	2,882	256
Total	40,631	48,460	7,692

Capital Outturn 2015/16 – Brought Forward Balances

- An exercise is currently underway to identify whether any balances from the 2015/16 Capital Outturn position need to be carried forward into the 2016/17 financial year.

The outcome of this exercise including details of projects and associated funding will be reported to Members as part of the second quarter budget monitoring cycle.

Risk Management

9. The capital programme is actively managed by managers and the Capital Programme Steering Group to comply with all relevant planning conditions, legislation, regulations and health and safety.

There is currently a level of risk surrounding the delivery of some of the grant funded projects in the Port Talbot area. This is due to the fact that Natural Resources Wales (NRW) have designated some of the areas as subject to flooding and is impacting on the planning process

Consultation

10. There is no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.

Recommendations

11. It is recommended that Members:
 - As outlined in Table 1, approve and commend to Council the proposed 2016/17 budget totalling £48.460m
 - Note the position in relation to expenditure as at 30th June 2016.

Reason for proposed decisions

12. To update the capital programme for 2016/17 and inform Members of the current year spend to date.

Implementation of Decision

13. The decisions are proposed for implementation after consultation with the Scrutiny Committee and approval by Council.

List of Background Papers

13. Capital Programme working files
14. Grant notifications

Officer Contact

15. For further information on this report item, please contact:

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