

**NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**COUNCIL**

**REPORT OF THE HEAD OF FINANCE – HUW JONES**

**27<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

**Matter for Decision**

**Wards Affected – All Wards**

**CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING REPORT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER - 2020/21**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To provide Members with information in relation to delivery of the 2020/21 Capital Programme. The report was considered by Cabinet on the 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and commended to Council for approval.

**Background**

2. On 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020 Council approved its Capital Programme for 2020/21; the report detailed planned Capital Expenditure totalling £87.92m for the financial year.

The purpose of this report is to update Members as to the delivery of this Programme as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 and to seek approval to update the 2020/21 budget.

**Targeted Achievements**

3. As Members are aware the following achievements are being targeted during this financial year:
  - Progression of the Council's Band B 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools programme;
    - Cefn Saeson - a new replacement 11-16 School in the Cimla area of the County Borough.

- Abbey Primary – a new primary school to replace the current Primary school which is based across three sites in Neath Abbey, Skewen and Longford.
- Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera Phase 3 - the addition of a new build block comprising six extra classrooms and 3G rugby pitch provision.
- Investment in a flood and coastal risk prevention project at Aberavon Seafront.
- County Borough regeneration including the continuation of the Neath Town Centre redevelopment along with commencement of works on Neath Transport Hub. Development works on the former Crown building, redevelopment works on the former Plaza cinema in Port Talbot along with the Harbourside infrastructure project.
- Further investment of £3m into Disabled Facility Grants to assist people to live at home together with an investment of over £3m in Schools Capital Maintenance and Highways and Engineering Maintenance improvements.

### **Changes to the approved Budget**

4. The updated Capital Programme now totals £70.682m with the main changes proposed being:
  - 2020/21 grant approvals of £1.613m have been received for the Active Travel Fund, Valleys Task Force and Circular Economy Fund.
  - 2020/21 budgets for Childcare Provision projects have been reduced by £2.705m and allocated to 2021/22 to reflect the profile of the works required on site and the revised project proposals.
  - The 2020/21 budget for Abbey Primary has been reduced by £2.424m. The £2.424m has been re-profiled into 2021/22 to reflect the profile of works required on site.

- The 2020/21 budget for Cefn Saeson has been increased by £2.924m to reflect site works progressing ahead of schedule. The £2.924m will be funded from resources earmarked in 2021/22, 2022/22 and 2023/24.
- A £1.737m budget had been included in 2020/21 in relation to improvement works at Hillside Secure Unit. However, £1.637m of this has now been re-profiled into 2021/22 due to works on site being delayed as a result of COVID 19.
- A budget of £1.9m had been included in 2020/21 for Cefn Coed Valley Landscape Park. This has been reduced to £200k in 2020/21 due to ongoing issues in agreeing a suitable scheme with the Welsh Government.
- The 2020/21 budget of £630k for Port Talbot PDR 2 has been increased by £442k to fund land compensation claims paid out.
- A budget of £1.049m has been added in 2020/21 for HWB IT equipment for schools. Of this £1.049m, £745k is funded through Welsh Government HWB grant with the remaining £304k being NPT's contribution to the scheme.
- A budget of £3.184m had been included in 2020/21 for DFG's. However, £1.784m of this has been re-profiled into 2021/22 due to works being delayed as a result of COVID 19.

### **Additional Capital Funding**

5. As part of the 2018/19 Welsh Government settlement announcement, an additional £5m of un-hypothecated funding was allocated over 3 years. Of this £5m, £1.180m was spent in 2019/20 with £3.830m originally planned to be spent in 2020/21. However, £2.304m of this original 2020/21 budget has been re-profiled into 2021/22 to reflect planned spend.

### **Additional Schools Capital Maintenance Grant**

6. In March 2019 Welsh Government allocated an additional £1.9m to fund school maintenance works, £360k was spent in 2019/20 and the balance planned for 2020/21 and 2021/22. The original

2020/21 budget of £1.671m has been reduced to £889k with the balance being re-profiled to 2021/22.

Also in January 2020 Welsh Government announced a further allocation of £1.9m which was planned to be spent in 2020/21 and 2021/22. The original 2020/21 budget of £1.928m has been reduced to £685k with the balance being re-profiled to 2021/22 to reflect planned spend.

### **Impact of COVID**

7. The Covid pandemic has resulted in increased costs for some contracts due to the requirement to provide increased facilities on sites i.e. additional welfare provision to facilitate social distancing. Currently these increased costs are being met from existing budget resources.

### **2020/21 Capital Expenditure**

8. Specific details of Capital Expenditure as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 is outlined in Appendix 1 of this report

### **Financial Impact**

9. All relevant details are set out in the body of the report.

### **Valleys Communities Impact**

10. No implications

### **Workforce Impacts**

11. There are no workforce impacts arising from this report.

### **Legal Impacts**

12. There are no legal impacts arising from this report.

### **Risk Management**

13. 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.

## **Consultation**

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

## **Recommendations**

15. It is recommended that Cabinet approves and then commends the updated Capital Programme to Council:
  - The approval of the proposed 2020/21 budget totalling £70.682m;
  - And note the position in relation to expenditure as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020.

## **Reason for Proposed Decision**

16. To update the Council's Capital Programme for 2020/21.

## **Implementation of Decision**

17. The decision is for immediate implementation.

## **Appendices**

18. Appendix 1 – Details of Capital Expenditure as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

## **List of Background Papers**

Capital Programme working files

## **Officer Contact**

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## Appendix 1

### Capital Budget and Spend 2020/21 as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

	<b>Current Budget £'000</b>	<b>Proposed Budget £'000</b>	<b>Actual @ 31 Dec 20 £'000</b>
Abbey Primary	5,424	3,000	1,026
Cefn Saeson	11,283	14,207	12,638
Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera Bro Dur (North Campus)	3,327	3,327	1,587
Capital Maintenance – Education and Leisure	1,198	934	842
Welsh Medium School Grant - YGG Pontardawe, YGG Cwmllynfell & YGG Tyle'r Ynn	2,256	1,963	1,327
Infant Class Sizes Grant - YGG Rhosafan, YGG Castell Nedd, Gnoll Primary	708	433	695
Childcare Offer Grant - Small Grants Pot, Baglan Primary, Blaenbaglan Primary, Cwmavon, YGG Castell Nedd, YGG Blaendulais, Wauncerich Primary & Rhos Primary	3,788	1,083	695
Cymmer Afan Site Clearance & Land Reclamation	108	37	37
Leisure Investment	242	462	153
Margam Orangery Improvement Works	105	105	92
Margam Park Activity Investment	306	306	120
Pontardawe Arts Centre Cinema	200	30	7
Highways and Engineering Maintenance	2,138	2,138	1,204
Additional Highway Works (Highways Refurbishment Grant)	753	753	753
Drainage Grants	897	1,048	578
Local Transport Fund (multiple locations)	1,028	1,028	178
Active Travel Fund (multiple location)	218	1,198	197
Road Safety	205	205	24
Safe Routes in Communities	50	50	7
Flood & Coastal Risk Projects - Aberavon & Brunel Dock	1,067	1,067	1,045
Flood Recovery – various projects	927	927	704
Major Bridge Strengthening - A474 Neath	6	6	8
Trade Waste Recycling Investment	200	100	0

	<b>Current Budget £'000</b>	<b>Proposed Budget £'000</b>	<b>Actual @ 31 Dec 20 £'000</b>
Health & Safety	1,050	830	344
Street Lighting	974	974	330
MREC – site improvements	180	180	0
Vehicle Replacement Programme	2,723	2,555	1,308
Environment Street Scene Works	500	490	96
Regeneration: Harbourside Infrastructure	1,883	1,883	256
Regeneration: Plaza Redevelopment	3,497	3,497	1,810
Regeneration: Former Port Talbot Magistrates Court Refurbishment	300	300	203
Regeneration 6 Station Road	467	177	4
Regeneration: Aberafan Aquasplash	350	350	3
Regeneration: Employment & Business Start Up Space	500	15	9
Regeneration: Neath Town Centre Redevelopment	3,000	3,000	496
Regeneration 8 Wind Street	760	760	257
Regeneration: Former Crown Buildings Development	3,400	3,400	2,365
Regeneration: Neath Transport Hub	1,475	1,475	0
Regeneration: Property Enhancement Development Grant	1,000	1,000	64
Regeneration: The Technology Centre	4,692	4,692	1,177
Regeneration: Afan Forest	250	328	0
Regeneration: Cefn Coed Valley Landscape Park	1,900	200	6
Regeneration: Other	1,153	1,106	269
School IT/ Vehicle Financing	390	190	76
Capital Maintenance - SSHH	201	121	79
Hillside Secure Unit Improvement Works	1,737	100	79
Efficiency & Warm Homes	211	211	71
Disabled Facilities Grants	3,184	1,400	556
Capital Maintenance for Schools – previous year grants	1,559	1,578	565
Regeneration – various projects	565	50	0
Maintenance - Unadopted structures and Council owned Tips	308	308	184
Information Technology and Agile Working	267	243	193

	<b>Current Budget £'000</b>	<b>Proposed Budget £'000</b>	<b>Actual @ 31 Dec 20 £'000</b>
Other	2,504	4,452	2,851
Contingency	270	410	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>77,684</b>	<b>70,682</b>	<b>37,568</b>