

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF FINANCE – HUW JONES

8th March 2021

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected – All Wards

CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING REPORT 2020/21

Purpose of Report

1. To provide Members with information in relation to delivery of the 2020/21 Capital Programme.

Background

2. On 5th March 2020 Council approved its Capital Programme for 2020/21; the report detailed planned Capital Expenditure totalling £87.920m for the financial year which has been subsequently been updated via Cabinet and Council approval to £70.682m.

The purpose of this report is to update Members as to the delivery of this Programme as at 31st January 2021 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 21st 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 £65.387m with the main changes proposed being:
 - The 2020/21 budget for Cefn Saeson has been increased by £2.293m to reflect site works progressing ahead of schedule. The £2.293m will be funded from resources brought forward from future years.
 - A £1.883m budget had been included in 2020/21 in relation to Harbourside Infrastructure works. However, £1.161m of this has now been re-profiled into 2021/22 to reflect works required on site.
 - A budget of £1.475m had been included in 2020/21 for Neath Transport Hub. This budget has now been moved to future years to reflect the delay due to land purchase.

- The 2020/21 budget of £4.692m for the Technology Centre has been decreased by £1.7m and re-profiled into future years to reflect the works on site.
- A budget of £3m had been included in 2020/21 for Neath Town Centre. However, £500k of this has been re-profiled into 2021/22.

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, £2.517m 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 £854k 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 £660k with the balance being re-profiled to 2021/22 to reflect planned spend.

In February 2021 Welsh Government announced an additional allocation of £2.202m. This grant will displace Council funded projects in 2020/21 with a subsequent re-investment in new projects in 2021/22.

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 31st January 2021 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 £65.387m;

- And note the position in relation to £39.1m of expenditure as at 31st January 2021.

Reason for Proposed Decision

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

Implementation of Decision

17. The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

Appendices

18. Appendix 1 – Details of Capital Expenditure as at 31st January 2021

List of Background Papers

Capital Programme working files

Officer Contact

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Appendix 1

Capital Budget and Spend 2020/21 as at 31st January 2021

	Current Budget £'000	Proposed Budget £'000	Actual @ 31 Jan 21 £'000
Abbey Primary	3,000	3,000	1,021
Cefn Saeson	14,207	16,500	12,660
Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera Bro Dur (North Campus)	3,327	3,327	1,607
Capital Maintenance – Education and Leisure	934	934	795
Welsh Medium School Grant - YGG Pontardawe, YGG Cwmllynfell & YGG Tyle'r Ynn	1,963	1,963	1,347
Infant Class Sizes Grant - YGG Rhosafan, YGG Castell Nedd, Gnoll Primary	433	433	331
Childcare Offer Grant - Small Grants Pot, Baglan Primary, Blaenbaglan Primary, Cwmavon, YGG Castell Nedd, YGG Blaendulais, Wauncerich Primary & Rhos Primary	1,083	742	706
Cymmer Afan Site Clearance & Land Reclamation	37	37	37
Leisure Investment	462	462	199
Margam Orangery Improvement Works	105	105	94
Margam Park Activity Investment	306	121	121
Pontardawe Arts Centre Cinema	30	30	11
Highways and Engineering Maintenance	2,138	1,975	1,212
Additional Highway Works (Highways Refurbishment Grant)	753	916	916
Drainage Grants	1048	1,198	694
Local Transport Fund (multiple locations)	1,028	1,028	252
Active Travel Fund (multiple location)	1,198	1,198	263
Road Safety	205	255	67
Safe Routes in Communities	50	50	23
Flood & Coastal Risk Projects - Aberavon & Brunel Dock	1,067	1,067	1,052
Flood Recovery – various projects	927	930	750
Major Bridge Strengthening - A474 Neath	6	6	9
Trade Waste Recycling Investment	100	60	0

	Current Budget £'000	Proposed Budget £'000	Actual @ 31 Jan 21 £'000
Health & Safety	830	580	418
Street Lighting	974	724	331
Crymlyn Burrows Transfer Station - site improvements	180	298	6
Vehicle Replacement Programme	2,555	2,555	1,308
Environment Street Scene Works	490	465	108
Regeneration: Harbourside Infrastructure	1,883	722	292
Regeneration: Plaza Redevelopment	3,497	3,300	1,815
Regeneration: Former Port Talbot Magistrates Court Refurbishment	300	200	204
Regeneration 6 Station Road	177	10	4
Regeneration: Aberafan Aquasplash	350	350	24
Regeneration: Employment & Business Start Up Space	15	15	13
Regeneration: Neath Town Centre Redevelopment	3,000	2,500	889
Regeneration 8 Wind Street	760	760	281
Regeneration: Former Crown Buildings Development	3,400	3,200	2,596
Regeneration: Neath Transport Hub	1,475	0	7
Regeneration: Property Enhancement Development Grant	1,000	850	102
Regeneration: The Technology Centre	4,692	2,992	1,185
Regeneration: Afan Forest	328	70	4
Regeneration: Cefn Coed Valley Landscape Park	200	200	29
Regeneration: Other	1,106	688	284
School IT/ Vehicle Financing	190	190	80
Capital Maintenance - SSHH	121	121	86
Hillside Secure Unit Improvement Works	100	100	83
Efficiency & Warm Homes	211	211	89
Disabled Facilities Grants	1,400	1,400	647
Capital Maintenance for Schools – previous year grants	1,578	1,518	624
Regeneration – various projects	50	0	0
Maintenance - Unadopted structures and Council owned Tips	308	245	196
Information Technology and Agile Working	243	243	193

	Current Budget £'000	Proposed Budget £'000	Actual @ 31 Jan 21 £'000
Other	4,452	4,189	3,037
Contingency	410	354	0
Total	70,682	65,387	39,102