

4990 AMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Policy and Resources
Date:	25 July 2013
Title:	Addition of Schemes to the Capital Programme
Decision Reference:	4990
Report From:	Director of Corporate Resources

Contact name: Rob Carr

Tel: 01962 847508

Email: rob.carr@hants.gov.uk

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. The County Council at its meeting on 21 February 2013 approved the addition of up to £26.5M of expenditure to the capital programme to progress a range of initiatives.
- 1.2. No specific scheme details were provided at this point as the County Council was still in detailed negotiations with BT on the final terms of a contract for the Hampshire Broadband Programme and it was felt that the announcement of potential additional funding for IT investment may influence the outcome of those negotiations. The contract was let at the end of March.
- 1.3. The County Council therefore granted delegated Authority to the Executive Member for Policy and Resources to add specific schemes to the capital programme at a later date.
- 1.4. The purpose of this report is to add the schemes that have been developed to a point that they can now be progressed as part of the capital programme and to outline initial thoughts on how the remainder of the approved allocation may be used.

2. Contextual Information

- 2.1. The County Council approved new capital spending of up to £26.5M at its meeting in February 2013 and indicated that this would be used to support schemes in the areas of :
 - **Economic Development** – Continuing to progress the current programme of delivering broadband across the County and providing matched funding for infrastructure investment to unlock development sites where it is sensible to do so.

- **Asset Management** – Providing funding to maintain and improve our countryside and heritage assets.
- **Energy** – Continuing to progress plans for a District Heating scheme within Winchester
- **Strategic Project Initiatives** – Providing funding to implement shared space projects and a separate fund to help maintain and improve community centres across the County.

2.2. This was to be funded from a number of sources as shown in the following table :-

	£M
Capital Payments Reserve	16.0
Invest to Save Reserve	6.0
New Homes Bonus 2013/14 Allocation	4.5
	26.5

2.3. The invest to save reserve was used as a potential source of funding for the District Heating Scheme since this will provide savings and potential income to the County Council depending on the final scheme design and business model that is adopted.

3. Capital Schemes

- 3.1. In April 2013, EMPR agreed to earmark up to £595,000 of the New Homes Bonus funding to support the Rowner Renewal Project since this was consistent with the policy of using this allocation to support infrastructure related projects. This leaves a balance of funding of £25.9M available for other uses.
- 3.2. Appendix 1 sets out the specific schemes for which approval is now sought from EMPR to add to the Capital Programme and these total £6.3M and are expected to be drawn down in the years shown. Of this total £800,000 relating to the Basingstoke Canal has been earmarked from capital receipts that will be generated within the Canal area and do not therefore represent a call on the funding detailed in this report.
- 3.3. The balance of funding of £20.4M will continue to be earmarked for capital purposes and will be available to support :-
 - The wider development programme for the Winchester District Heating Scheme
 - The Hampshire Broadband Programme
 - Infrastructure projects on key sites across the County Council

- 3.4. As noted above a contract with BT to deliver access to superfast broadband has now been let. The balance of the above funding remains available to go beyond the current aims of the programme should the Council decide at a later date to extend access beyond 90%. In addition part of the balance will be held to mitigate against the risk of the programme being delayed and the BDUK grant of £5m not being fully spent and hence paid to us by the 31 March 2016. This remains a low risk given the programme is planned to be completed by the end of 2015.

4. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Executive Member for Policy and Resources :

- 4.1. Approves the schemes and phasing detailed in Appendix 1
- 4.2. Notes that the balance of funding of £20.4M will continue to be earmarked within reserves and will be available to fund the items detailed in paragraph 3.3.

ADDITION OF CAPITAL SCHEMES

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Basingstoke Canal * (phased works)	200	1,000	800	2,000
Rights of Way / Byways	200	300	300	800
District Heating for Winchester (feasibility)	500			500
Shared Space Projects	500	750	750	2,000
Community Centre Fund	1,000			1,000
	2,400	2,050	1,850	6,300

* £800,000 of this funding has already been earmarked from other capital receipts

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	Yes
Corporate Improvement Plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	Yes
Corporate Improvement Plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	Yes
Corporate Improvement Plan link number (if appropriate):	

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

DocumentLocation

None

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

- 1.1. An equalities impact assessment has been considered in the development of this report and no adverse impact has been identified.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

- 2.1. There is not anticipated to be any major impact on crime and disorder as a result of the programme.

3. Climate Change:

- 3.1. There is no anticipated to be any major impact on climate change as a result of this programme.

FEEDBACK FROM CONSULTEES:

OTHER EXECUTIVE MEMBERS:

Executive Member & Portfolio	Reason for Consultation	Date Consulted	Response:

OTHER FORMAL CONSULTEES:

Organisation	Reason for Consultation	Date Consulted	Response: