



Report to: Special Executive
Date of Meeting: 18 February 2008
Report from: Head of Corporate Finance
Title of Report: 2008/2009 General Fund Capital Programme
Agenda Item Number: 5

1. PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

1.1 The purpose of the report is to advise the Executive of the General Fund Capital Programme proposals for 2008/09. The Executive is requested to consider the schemes recommended for inclusion in the 2008/09 programme and to agree that schemes can only go ahead once funding is in place. The report only addresses schemes that require funding from the Council's own resources; those wholly funded from external sources are not included.

2. CONSULTATION

2.1 Corporate Management Team has been consulted on the contents of the report. The Capital Working Group has considered the new bids to the programme.

3. CORPORATE PLAN AND PRIORITIES

3.1 Several of the Capital Programme bids address the Council's priorities.

4. IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial and Value for Money

The financial implications are detailed throughout the report.

4.2 Legal

There are no legal requirements.

4.3 Personnel

There are no personnel implications.

4.4 Other Services

The capital programme proposals clearly have an impact on other service areas.

4.5 Diversity

The capital programme includes provision for Disabled Facilities Grants which impact upon people with disabilities, who need adaptations to their homes.

4.6 Risk

It is essential that only available resources are committed; schemes can only go ahead once the capital resources are in place to support them.

4.7 Crime and Disorder

The Crime and Disorder Act of 1998 requires the Council to consider all of its budgets, policies and plans in the light of their contribution to the reduction of crime and disorder.

4.8 Data Quality

Every care has been taken in the development of this report to ensure that the information and data used in its preparation and the appendices attached are accurate, timely, consistent and comprehensive. The Council's data quality policy has been complied with in producing this report.

4.9 Other Implications

There are no other implications arising from the contents of the report.

5. **ESTIMATED RESOURCES**

- 5.1 There are no unallocated capital receipts to be carried forward from 2007/08; all resources from 2007/08 are fully committed to fund the 2007/08 prioritised capital programme. From the originally approved capital programme of 2007/08 approximately £326,000 remains unreleased to support schemes which still require funding:

Scheme	£'000
Industrial Sites	20
Cemeteries, Footpaths and Headstones	100
Car Parking Repairs	22
Signage at the Leisure Centre	10
Boiler Systems at Riverside	5
Floodlighting-Athletics Track	9
COSY	160
Total	326

- 5.2 For 2008/09, it is estimated that new land sales will generate capital receipts of approximately £1.2million. These will be available to fund new capital schemes. However, consideration needs to be given as to whether the unreleased 2007/08 schemes should be first call on these new resources. In addition as noted by the Executive at its meeting on 7 January 2008 officers' time charged to the capital programme will need to be taken into account.
- 5.3 Bids of just over £1 million for the new 2008/09 capital programme have been submitted. These were considered by the Capital Working Group on 11th February, and are listed in the Appendix to the report.
- 5.4 The capital receipts of £1.2 million expected during 2008/09 will be from both housing and non-housing land and, therefore, the receipts from the sale of housing land will be allocated to regeneration schemes in accordance with the Council's normal policy.
- 5.5 None of the land sales have yet been finalised and consequently it will be important that the Capital Working Group monitors progress on asset sales and releases funding for prioritised schemes once the receipts are contractually committed.
- 5.6 It is proposed that the Executive receives quarterly reports on the progress of land sales and the funding position of the capital programme. It may be that borrowing in accordance with the Prudential Code will be considered to fund the schemes.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Executive:-

- 6.1 considers the schemes identified in the Appendix for inclusion in the 2008/09 capital programme
- 6.2 agrees that the Capital Working Group continues to monitor progress on asset sales and release funding for prioritised schemes once funding is in place
- 6.3 agrees to receive quarterly progress reports on funding and consider the use of borrowing under the Prudential Code to fund the 2008/09 capital programme

AUTHOR NAME: Ian Herberson
DESIGNATION: Head of Corporate Finance
DATE OF REPORT 14 February 2008
VERSION NUMBER: 1.0

AUTHOR CONTACT: E-mail - ianherberson@chester-le-street.gov.uk
Telephone - 0191 3872343