

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

CABINET EXECUTIVE

10th April 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Myfanwy Alexander Portfolio Holder for Learning and Welsh Language

SUBJECT: Schools Service Major Improvements Programme 2018/19 – 2022/23.

REPORT FOR: Decision

1. Summary

- 1.1 Included in the overall Schools Service Capital Programme is the annual Major Improvements Programme. The purpose of this programme is to carry out a range of improvements, refurbishments and upgrading works to support the School Modernisation and 21st Century Capital Programme and to improve the overall building stock and assist the Authority in making its schools fit for purpose as detailed in the Schools Service Asset Management Plan (SSAMP).
- 1.2 The Authority has in the past drawn up an annual programme but has for the 2018-19 financial year has now developed a five year investment programme to assist with its long term forward planning and design. The programme also provides schools with an indication as to when the Authority will be in a position to carry out projects which are required on their buildings and premises.
- 1.3 The indicative annual budget for financial years 2018/19 and 2019/20 have been increased to £2,000,000 (CC19-2016) with subsequent financial years 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23 budgeted to reduce to £1,000,000.
- 1.4 In developing the programme consideration has been taken of the level of investment made directly through a schools individual delegated Repairs and Maintenance budget compared to the funds delegated for repairs and maintenance (C38-2017).

The Cabinet has previously approved this comparison process (C38-2017) where any school whose expenditure on Repairs and Maintenance is less than 80% of the delegated budget for Repairs and Maintenance over a 5 year period is required to make a contribution to the total cost of any capital works included in any Major Capital Works Programme. The level of a school contribution is to be set at the difference between actual expenditure on Repairs and Maintenance and 80% of the Repairs and Maintenance delegated budget over a 5 year period.

There are commitments and secured contributions totalling £20,000 summarised below included in the programme. These are subject to the project proposals being agreed by key parties.

- a. Llangattock C in W extension and alterations works to provide Early Years accommodation and improvements to teaching and toilet spaces:
 - School contribution of £80,000 in 2017/18
 - Church in Wales secured contribution of £40,000 in profiled financial years – 2017/18 £20,000 and 2018/19 £20,000.
- b. Llanidloes High School replacement of sports pitch – within the programme there is already approval of £10,000 by the authority in financial year 2017/18. There is to be no expenditure of authority funding until a formalised agreement is put in place which secures a wind farm developers contribution towards the total costs of this project. The total projected cost of the scheme is £400,000 with £300,000 being funded through the community contribution from the developer.

In financial year 2017/18 a total of £100,000 of capital funding has been approved for the provision of new boundary fencing and gates around the Brynllwarch Special School buildings to safeguard the pupils. After a further review additional funding totalling £66,000 is required to ensure suitably designed safeguarding fencing and gates. At Crickhowell High School £64,000 of funding is required in addition to the annual allocation of £2,000,000 to safeguard pupils within the school property boundary. It is recommended this additional funding of £130,000 is funded from schools unallocated capital funding in financial year 2017/18.

- 1.5 This programme beginning in financial year 2018/19 is based on the current Schools Service Asset Management Plan (SSAMP) which draws on asset condition, safeguarding, energy consumption data, sustainability, health and safety, school priorities, statutory works, environmental health requirements, suitability and sufficiency data. The SSAMP underpins the prioritisation and ranking of works within the Major Improvements programme from 2018/19. The SSAMP is being reviewed with an updated and amended version being prepared for approval by cabinet in the summer.
- 1.6 The Schools Service Capital Programme is managed by an Officer group chaired by the Schools Capital and Property Manager and includes Officers from Property, Buildings, Finance and others. Officers from HoWPS attend the meeting for scheme specific discussions. **Appendix A** outlines the proposed Major Improvements Programme for the financial year 2018-19 recommended by the Officer group.
- 1.7 **Appendix A** also shows proposed programmes and proposals for financial years 2019-2023, these remain provisional and incomplete and are intended to give an indication to Schools as to when the Authority may be able to address their particular needs. These proposals are still provisional and will be subject to amendment/addition depending on changes in circumstances, priorities and available budgets. The programme is also subject to the

outcome and decisions around School Transformation proposals that emerge over the period of the programme.

- 1.8 A sum of £152,695 has been retained at this stage in financial year 2018/19 as a contingency to cover for emergencies, unforeseeable and legislative requirements and budget fluctuations. An indicative sum of £200,000 has been made in 2019/20 and in subsequent financial years an indicative sum of £100,000 in 2020/21 to 2022/23 as a contingency allowance within the programme.

2. Proposal

- 2.1 The Major Improvements Programme for financial year 2018-19 as attached in **Appendix A** be approved.

3. Options Considered/Available

3.1 RE: FIT programme

This report and programme has been developed in conjunction with the Corporate Property Energy Officer and the REFIT programme as referenced in C239-2015.

The authority has undertaken a procurement process and has appointed a contractor to undertake surveys and assess sites for a viable business case to deliver energy efficiency works in selected county offices and schools.

The types of energy efficiency improvement work included to schools are installation of LED lighting to rooms, insulation of boiler system pipework, draught proofing doors and windows, Building Management System and boiler controls, zone controls to radiators, solar PV and domestic hot water heaters. All Project Management consultancy fees for managing the project have been included in the business case

Subject to approval of business cases, the schools included in the 1st tranche of work are:

- Crickhowell CP School
- Knighton C in W School
- Maesyrrhandir C.P. School
- Llanidloes C.P. School
- Llanfair Caereinion C.P. School
- Penygloddfa CP School
- Presteigne C.P. School
- Rhayader C in W School
- Treowen C.P. School
- Llanidloes High School
- Crickhowell High School
- Newtown High School
- Newtown High School - John Beddoes Campus
- Welshpool High School

The 2nd tranche of schools to be surveyed include:

- Builth Wells High School
- Llandrindod Wells High School
- Buttington C.P School
- Llanfair Caereinion C.P School
- Llanfyllin High School
- Presteigne C.P School
- Sennybridge C.P School
- Ysgol Rhiw Bechan
- Ysgol Bannau

The appointed contractor is undertaking detailed surveys and preparing detailed investment proposals for energy consumption improvements to be made to the most inefficient buildings. Viable projects will require a justifiable and affordable payback period through the REFIT scheme. The Schools Service, Schools Finance Team and individual schools will approve the projects and it is proposed these proposals will be presented by the Corporate Energy Officer in a separate report to the Cabinet.

It is anticipated that the first tranche of work if approved by the authority, will be undertaken and completed during financial year 2018/19.

The proposals being funded in the Major Improvements programme for financial year 2018/19 and future financial years may in some instances overlap with the RE: FIT programme and it is proposed that a further paper is brought to the Cabinet when appropriate to approve any changes to the programme in Appendix A.

3.2 Welsh Government 21st Century Schools

There is a number of large schemes being considered in the 21st Century Schools funding streams which include the design and development to upgrade the existing shared Llanidloes C.P. and Llanidloes High School kitchen and dining facilities accommodation.

3.3 Welsh Government Infant Class size bid

The authority has applied for capital funding to accommodate increases in infant class size requirements from Welsh Government with the funding criteria relating to meeting schools with significant sufficiency needs.

4. Preferred Choice and Reasons

4.1 Implementation of the programme to progress the School Modernisation agenda and improve the quality of the Authority's school buildings as detailed in **Appendix A**

5. Impact Assessment

5.1 An impact assessment is not required as there is no change of objective of budget saving.

6. Corporate Improvement Plan

- 6.1 The proposed Major Improvements Programme will support the corporate improvement plan priority of ensuring learning opportunities for all and this priority has been encompassed within the learning in the community improvement priority of the One Powys Plan.

7. Local Member(s)

- 7.1 The Major Improvements Programme has been developed against the agreed scoring and prioritising matrix and will be applied equally across the whole county.

8. Other Front Line Services

- 8.1 The recommendation does not impact on other services run by the Council or on behalf of the Council.
- 8.2 Any proposals within the programme which affect or impact on front line services have been the subject of officer discussion and agreement will be reached to ensure a viable and justifiable business case.

9. Corporate Communications

- 9.1 Communications have commented the report is of public interest and requires use of proactive news release and use of appropriate social media to publicise the recommendation and decision.

10. Support Services (Legal, Finance, Corporate Property, HR, ICT, Business Services)

- 10.1 Finance comments.
The Schools Major Improvements programme is included in the 5year Capital Strategy (Approved by Council on 22 February 2018) with a budget of £8.0m.
The Budget for 2018/19 is £2.0m made up of £1.0m supported Borrowing and £1.0m unsupported Borrowing.
Any future changes made by the Portfolio Holder should have no financial implications as long as it is within the approved budget. The Capital Finance Team will continue to monitor the Capital Programme to ensure that expenditure is restricted within the agreed budgetary constraints.
- 10.2 Legal comments: The recommendations can be supported from a legal point of view.
- 10.3 Corporate Property comments and asked, have the immense budgetary pressures which we have recently learnt will be facing the Council in

19/20 onwards been taken into account when preparing this programme.

The Schools Service acknowledges there is immense budget pressures have been taken into account and this programme responds to ensure schools remain operationally safe, functional to deliver the educational service needs and ensuring school service continuity to meet statutory legislation.

10.4 Catering Services comments had no comments to add to this report.

10.5 HR, no comments were received on this report.

11. Scrutiny

The report has not been scrutinised.

12. Statutory Officers

12.1 The Head of Financial Services (Acting S151 Officer) notes the comments from Finance.

12.2 The Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer) has commented as follows: "I note the legal comment and have nothing to add to the report".

13. Members' Interests

13.1 The Monitoring Officer is not aware of any specific interests that may arise in relation to this report. If Members have an interest they should declare it at the start of the meeting and complete the relevant notification form.

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
1. That the Major Improvements Programme for financial year 2018-19 as set out in Sections 1.4, 1.8, 2.1 and Appendix A be approved.	To progress the School Modernisation Programme and meet Welsh Government fit for purpose objectives
2. That the Portfolio Holder for Learning and Welsh Language in consultation with the Head of Schools has delegated authority to make changes to the Major Improvements Programme that are within budget.	

Relevant Policy (ies):	School Modernisation and Schools Service Asset Management Plan		
Within Policy:	Y	Within Budget:	Y

Relevant Local Member(s):	Not applicable
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Person(s) To Implement Decision:	David Thompson and Schools Capital & Revenue Programme Officers group
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	From 1 st April 2018 onwards

Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Email:
David Thompson	01597 826543	david.thompson1@powys.gov.uk

Background Papers used to prepare Report:

CC19-2016 – approval of £1m additional funding to the Schools Major Improvements programme in financial years 2017/18 to 2019/20.
C38-2017 – Schools Service Asset Management Plan

C239-2015 RE: FIT programme