
CAPITAL PROGRAMME

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To recommend a strategy for the Capital Programme for 2002/3 – 2004/5 for both the General Fund and Housing.
- 1.2 The draft Capital Programme is appended to this report. The General Fund is now shown in the format used for the Capital Strategy statement.

2 GENERAL FUND

- 2.1 The draft Programme includes the estimated usable capital receipts over the life of the strategy. At the time of writing this report, Government announcements on the Basic Credit Approval (BCA) have not been received (expected 5 December). For all the General Fund services, the BCA was £22,000 in 2001/02 and have been included at £20,000 for 2002/03. (Housing £103,000 in 2001/02).
- 2.2 A major issue for the Capital Programme would be the renewal of the leisure contract. The Programme is currently showing £200,000 for leisure contract commitments in 2002/03 and £200,000 for works following the building condition survey (£125,000 originally programmed for 2002/03 and £75,000 brought forward from 2001/02).
- 2.3 Members will also be aware that this Council has submitted its IS/IT Strategy to the Government to request funding. The funding is expected to be by way of capital grant, which will then be added to the Capital Programme. These approvals will be specific to IS/IT issues. The Government announcement has, at the time of writing this report, not been received.
- 2.4 The programme has been updated where possible. However, information is still outstanding from Essex County Council on the schemes they lead on.
- 2.5 Subject to the above, it can be seen that by the close of 2002/03 it is estimated that the Capital Programme will be overdrawn by around £87,000. This is a reduction from the previously reported overspend as the current value of sales under Right to Buy has increased.
- 2.6 In order to deal with these issues, it is proposed :-
 - To seek no additions to the Programme
 - The Programme be re-evaluated following the determination of the leisure contract
 - The Programme for IS/IT be re-evaluated following Government announcements regarding specific funding

As regards potential additions to the Capital Programme, Members requested information on the cost of land drainage at Sweyne Park. This is currently in preparation.

3 HOUSING

3.1 The programme for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is funded by the Major Repairs Allowance, plus the £125,000 Capital Receipts made available for Sheltered Housing Improvements. The draft Programme shown is that recommended by the Housing Management Sub-Committee.

3.2 For the non-HRA part of the Programme, there are for 2002/03 only two items shown. Private Sector Renewal Grants are included at £60,000 and Disabled Facility Grants at £109,000. It should be noted that there is no provision for Local Authority Social Housing Grant Schemes (LASHG).

4 CAPITAL STRATEGY

4.1 Members will recall that early in the year, the Council determined the Capital Strategy statement. As part of the Consultation Process, the document was submitted to 45 organisations and to date, the Council has received 3 replies. Copies of these replies are appended to this report. Sport England will be kept informed of the broad progress of the leisure contract.

4.2 It is the intention of the Government to adjust credit approvals for 2002/03 to reflect their view of the Capital Strategy Statement and Asset Management Plan of the Authority. This will be notified to us at the same time as the credit approvals.

5 RECOMMENDATION

It is proposed that the Sub-Committee **RECOMMENDS**

That the capital programme, as outlined in this report, be submitted to Council on 22 January.

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Background Papers:

None.

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