

CABINET – 18 NOVEMBER 2025

CAPITAL PROGRAMME APPROVALS – NOVEMBER 2025

**Report by the Executive Director of Resources and Section 151
Officer**

Recommendations

1. The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:
 - a) Approve a budget increase of £2.518m from £10.8m to £13.318m to the A4130 Steventon Lights scheme, which is to be funded from a combination of funding sources.

Executive Summary

2. The 2025/2026 Capital Programme was approved by Council in February 2025 and is updated during the year through the quarterly capital programme and monitoring reports. The programme is refreshed annually to include new capital priorities and was approved by Council in February 2025. This report sets out change requests requiring Cabinet approval that will be incorporated into the agreed programme and included in the next update to the Capital Programme in December 2025.

Introduction

3. The Capital Programme sets out how the Council will use Capital expenditure to deliver the Council's priorities as set out in the Strategic Plan 2025-28, approved in November 2025. The Capital Programme is updated quarterly and fully refreshed annually as part of the Budget and Business Planning Process to ensure that it remains aligned to the latest priorities, reflects the latest cost projections and profile for delivery, and incorporates the current funding position.

Major Infrastructure

A4130 Steventon Lights

4. The A4130 Steventon Lights scheme will deliver significant upgrades to the A4130 corridor which will enhance traffic flow and safety for all users, supporting housing developments in the local area.
5. Approval is required to increase the budget from £10.8m to £13.318m, an increase of £2.518m. This increase is primarily due to the need to accelerate utility and enabling works, introduce more robust contingency and risk allowances, and reflects updated cost estimates for construction and delivery.

6. The additional funding comes from a combination of S106 developer contributions, Bus Service Improvement Programme (BSIP) funding, reallocation of part of the remaining Housing and Growth Deal grant Funding and a contribution from the Highways Asset Management Programme.

Financial Implications

7. Funding for the increase to the A4130 Steventon Lights scheme is set out in the report and will be met from a mix of developer contributions and existing grant funding plus a contribution from the Highways Asset Management Programme.

Comments checked by:

Kathy Wilcox, Head of Corporate Finance.

Staff Implications

8. There are no staffing implications arising directly from the report.

Equality & Inclusion Implications

9. There are no equality and inclusion implications arising directly from this report.

Legal Implications

10. In year changes to the capital programme must be approved by Cabinet in accordance with Financial Regulation and in particular paragraph 5.1.1 as amended at Council on 4 November, 2025 permitting Cabinet to agree resource inclusion into the capital programme via a periodic Capital Report to Cabinet, based on the recommendation of the Strategic Capital & Commercial Board (chaired by the Executive Director of Resources and Section 151 Officer).
11. In addition, a project which is included in the capital programme may still require separate and additional approval by the Cabinet / Cabinet member in its own right if it is a key decision. This will be for projects involving a capital spend of over £2,000,000 or alternatively, capital projects where the effect on two or more electoral divisions is considered to be 'significant'.
12. Comments checked by:

Anita Bradley, Director of Law & Governance and Monitoring Officer

LORNA BAXTER

Executive Director of Resources and Section 151 Officer

Background papers: none

Contact Officers:

Natalie Crawford, Capital Programme Manager

November 2025