Capital Prioritisation Framework

OCC Capital Prioritisation Framework 2022/23 (and medium term 2-5yrs):

Principles:

- For **all** projects, the funding cannot exceed the budget allocation. Where cost increases occur, value engineering and/or de-scoping will be required (or additional external funding secured)
- any new inclusion of projects and/or approval of exceptions/change requests will require an equivalent reduction in schemes or funding (one in, one out principle)
- all projects demonstrate benefits realisation, clearly setting out direct and indirect benefits linked to the nine corporate priorities
- where schemes fall outside these categories but are well progressed (ie have approved full business case) and have RAG status of green for deliverability* can be considered for inclusion, where funding is available
- schemes with major proportion (80% or more) of the capital from external sources which will be lost if the project fails to go ahead but subject to consideration of future revenue requirements can be considered
- Major Infrastructure schemes align to OXIS prioritisation
- All projects undertake equality and climate impact assessments (and carbon accounting when methodology is available), considering impact on deprivation, health and wellbeing in any given area
- Projects that do not demonstrate alignment to these priorities will be stopped/paused
- All mainstream school expansions/new schools be managed within basic need grant and available S106 contributions supported by the basic need programme and growth contingency provision
- Major Infrastructure schemes be considered under five sub categories:
    - HIF1
    - A40 Corridor (inc HIF2)
    - A423 Improvement Programme (Kennington Bridge)
    - Active Travel Tranche 3
    - Housing & Growth Deal

Categories

Category 1 Projects:
Enable compliance with the council's minimum statutory duties relating to health and safety and schools. For projects in this category, there is still a need to justify the cost level.

Category 2 Projects:
Generate revenue savings (and/or cost avoidance) through the delivery of a new business strategy or service transformation proposals (inc children's homes and supported living). For projects in this category, there is still a need to explore whether or not they could be self-financing, for example through prudential borrowing.

Category 3 Projects:
Facilitate ***(ie majority of the scheme)*** climate action or active travel commitments of the Council, as articulated in the strategic plan.