

CABINET – 19 NOVEMBER 2024

CAPITAL PROGRAMME APPROVALS – NOVEMBER 2024

Report by the Executive Director of Resources & Section 151 Officer

Recommendations

1. The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:
 - a) approve the inclusion of East Oxford Mini Holland project into the capital programme with a value of £6.646m. £6.000m is to be funded from corporate resources, agreed by Council in February 2024, with the remaining £0.646m to be funded by S106 developer contributions.

Executive Summary

2. The Capital Programme was approved by Council in February 2024 and is updated during the year through the capital programme and monitoring reports. 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 for Cabinet in December 2024.

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 2022-25. 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.
4. On occasion, variations to the Capital programme are recommended to Cabinet. There are no variations included within this report.

Major Infrastructure

5. East Oxford Mini Holland

This project aims to deliver a programme of public realm, walking and cycling infrastructure improvement measures across East Oxford, connecting residential areas. It also focuses on increasing the durability of recent active travel schemes and accelerating quick-win projects. Completion of the scheme should positively enhance the ability of the County Council to bid for substantial additional grant

funding from Active Travel England (ATE) for similarly ambitious schemes for market towns and other parts of Oxford.

6. The East Oxford Mini Holland project will use a co-production approach to scheme development. It will see a cross section of external stakeholders working alongside the Council in the development of the project from the outset. A separate steering group comprising relevant local councillors will provide high-level input in steering the community voice.
7. The project will be subject to wider public engagement both informally and on formal consultation matters at relevant points once sufficiently developed. Further detail on the communications and engagement will be developed at an early stage of the project informed through the co-design process, engagement with local councillors and internal/external learnings of best practice. External expert assistance will be considered where this would be beneficial to the project with necessary budgetary allowances made within scheme.
8. Approval is required to enter this scheme into the Capital Programme at a cost of £6.646m. £6.000m will be funded from corporate resources, as agreed by Full Council in February 2024, with the remainder (£0.646m) to be met by S106 developer contributions.

Financial Implications

9. The financial implications are included within the report.
10. The capital programme approvals set out in this report have no adverse financial implications to the overall Capital Programme, which remains fully funded.

Comments checked by:

Lorna Baxter, Executive Director of Resources & Section 151 Officer

Staff Implications

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

Equality & Inclusion Implications

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

Legal Implications

13. In-year changes to the capital programme must be approved by Cabinet in accordance with Financial Regulations and in particular paragraph 5.1.1(iv) 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 Board (chaired by the Chief Executive.)

Comments checked by:

Anita Bradley, Director of Law & Governance and Monitoring Officer

LORNA BAXTER

Executive Director of Resources & Section 151 Officer

Background papers: none

Contact Officer:

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November 2024