

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 16th January 2019

REPORTING OFFICER: Operational Director – Education, Inclusion and Provision

SUBJECT: Capital Programme – 2019/20

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 This report provides a summary of the capital programmes for 2019/20 for the People Directorate.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- i) The position regarding capital funding from the Department for Education for 2019/20 is noted;**
- ii) The proposals to be funded from School Condition Capital Allocation are supported and noted ;**
- iii) The capital allocations are put forward for inclusion in the Budget Executive Board report on 17th January 2018 and to full Council**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The Department for Education has not yet announced the Capital Grant Allocation for 2019/20, but given the timescales for some of the proposed capital projects, there is a requirement to present this report. The allocation stated in this report is based on the 2018/19 allocation which was £1,007,078. As in previous years, the allocation is likely to follow the same methodology, therefore, for the purpose of planning the capital programme for 2019/20, the 2018/19 allocation figure has been applied. In the event that the 2019/20 allocation is reduced, or in the event that a school converts to academy status which impacts on funding received by the Council, the amount of funding available for elements of the capital programme will be reduced accordingly.

3.2 In addition to the Capital Grant Allocation, in 2017 The Department for Education also announced Special Provision Capital Funding for local authorities to invest in provision for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities aged 0-25 to improve the quality and range of provision available to the Local Authority. The funding was for a range of provision types where this benefits children and young people with education, health and care (EHC) plans aged between 0 and 25 and commenced in 2018/19. Halton's allocation over a 3 year period was £500,000 (three payments of £166,666 each year). It was confirmed in May 2018 that the Local Authority would receive an additional amount of

£116,279, taking the total Special Provision Capital Funding allocation to £616,279.

- 3.3 On the 20th September 2018 The Executive Board approved works to create foundation/Key Stage 1 Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) Resources bases at Beechwood Primary School and Halton Lodge Primary School. Provisional costs have been provided and in addition to the details provided in paragraph 3.2 above, the Local Authority will also be allocating an element of its School Condition Allocation Funding towards this scheme, to maximise the build quality, facilities, and resources within the bases.
- 3.4 Detailed in the table below is the funding available to support capital projects across the school estate:

GOVERNMENT FUNDING	
<p>School Condition Allocation – Local Authority maintained schools i.e. community and voluntary controlled schools (INDICATIVE FIGURE BASED ON 2018/19)</p> <p>Allocated to fund condition and suitability projects at Local Authority maintained schools.</p>	£1,007,078
<p>School Condition Allocation – Voluntary Aided maintained schools (INDICATIVE FIGURE BASED IN 2018/19)</p> <p>Allocated to fund condition and suitability projects at Voluntary Aided schools.</p>	£646,810
<p>Special Provision Capital Fund – 2019/20 allocation</p> <p>Allocated to create foundation/Key Stage 1 SEMH Resources bases at Beechwood Primary School and Halton Lodge Primary School. The total allocation was initially £500,000 then an additional amount of £116,279 was confirmed in May 2018. This equates to £205,426 per year for 3 years, with the first allocation for 2018/19 now received.</p>	£205,426
<p>Devolved Formula Capital – Local Authority maintained schools i.e. community and voluntary controlled schools (INDICATIVE FIGURE BASED ON 2018/19)</p> <p>Allocated directly to Local Authority maintained schools for their own use to address school building and Information Communication Technology needs.</p>	£228,528
<p>Devolved Formula Capital – Voluntary Aided maintained schools (INDICATIVE FIGURE BASED ON 2018/19)</p> <p>Allocated directly to Voluntary Aided maintained schools for their own use to address school building and Information Communication Technology needs.</p>	£159,106

4.0 School Condition Allocation funding.

4.1 The table below details how the School Condition Allocation will be utilised.

Description	Estimated costs	Description
Computer Aided Design Plans	£2,500	Used to update plans of school buildings where improvement works have been carried out.
Kitchen gas safety / ventilation	£45,000	A rolling programme to address gas safety issues in school kitchens.
Asbestos Management	£35,000	Annual update of asbestos surveys and undertaking of resulting remedial works.
SEMH Resource Base	£60,000	This will be used to support the creation of the SEMH Resource Bases at Halton Lodge Primary School and Beechwood Primary School.
Contingency	£98,534	Used for emergency and health and safety works that arise during the year.
Capital Repairs	£800,000	A programme of capital works undertaken at community and voluntary controlled schools, determined by the Local Authority.
Total	£1,041,034	

The total amount of £1,041,034 detailed above comprises £1,007,078 (based on 2018/19 School Condition Allocation), together with a required total contribution from schools.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The programme of works will allow the Council to continue to meet its requirement to enhance the school environment through capital projects, and to ensure the Council has sufficient school places.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 In March 2018 the DfE announced the final capital allocations for 2018/19, for Halton this was £1,007,078. At the time of writing, the 2019/20 allocation has not yet been announced, but it is likely to follow the same methodology as previous years, therefore for the purpose of planning the capital programme for 2019/20 the 2018/19 allocation figure has been used; in the

event that the allocation is reduced, the amount of funding available for elements of the capital programme will be reduced accordingly.

7.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The Capital Repairs Programme will contribute to Halton's Carbon Management Programme by producing more energy efficient buildings.

8.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

8.1 Children and Young People in Halton.

The Capital Programme will address condition and suitability issues within school buildings and will improve the learning environment for children and young people.

8.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton

As above.

8.3 A Healthy Halton

N/A

8.4 A Safer Halton

N/A

8.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

N/A

9.0 RISK ANALYSIS

9.1 Capital Repairs

It is current practice for schools to contribute towards the cost of works. Consultation with schools on their contribution to any proposed works will take place following the Council's consideration of the budget report in March 2019. If schools cannot or are not willing to contribute, any proposed projects will not be carried out in 2019/20.

10.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 10.1 The works to be carried out at Beechwood Primary and Halton Lodge Primary Schools to create a foundation/KS1 SEMH Resource Base at each, will broaden the range of educational provision within Halton and provide specialised in-borough provision, and support inclusion.