
CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2024/25 – BLOCK ALLOCATIONS

Report by Director of Finance & Procurement
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

12 MARCH 2024

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report seeks Executive Committee approval for the proposed individual projects and programmes within the various block allocations in the 2024/25 Capital Investment Plan.**
- 1.2 Appendices A-Q contain proposals for various projects to be allocated from the block allocations. These overall block allocations were approved in the 2024/25 Capital Investment Plan at the meeting of Scottish Borders Council on 29 February 2024.
- 1.3 Due to ongoing development of our asset plans, not all projects have been fully identified at this point (refer to para 3.3 and 3.4) and as and when this information is available this will be brought to the Executive Committee for consideration as part of the quarterly monitoring reports.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Executive Committee:-**
 - a) approves the block allocation breakdowns contained in Appendices A-Q;**

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Council approved the 2024/25 to 2033/34 Capital Investment Plan on 29 February 2024 and this programme contained a number of block allocations.
- 3.2 Section 7 of the current Financial Regulations covers Budgetary Control and paragraph 7.15 onwards details the framework for Capital. The Regulations stipulate detailed expenditure plans must be presented for approval. This report provides that detail for the initial allocation of items in the Blocks for financial years 2024/25 – 2026/27.
- 3.3 During 2023/24, survey work on the material condition of the primary school estate was undertaken. This was partnered by an audit that determined the current suitability of these facilities from the point of view of the users. These two activities have created a valuable data set that will result in a sequenced capital investment programme for the primary school estate. On completion, the sequencing which is ongoing, will impact the Learning Estate Block unallocated spend presented for 2025/26 and 2026/27, and may impact the shape of the proposed 2024/25 block.
- 3.4 A similar piece of work is being undertaken across the remainder of the estate and this will inform future sequencing of works across the Building Upgrades, Energy Efficiency Works and Health & Safety Works blocks.

4 CAPITAL BLOCK ALLOCATIONS 2024/25 – 2026/27

- 4.1 It is proposed that the following budget headings within the 2024/25 Capital Investment Plan, as approved on 29 February 2024, are treated as block allocations within the context of the Financial Regulations as they apply to Capital Budgetary Control. They are listed below along with the Appendix number where detail of the proposed allocations can be found.

APP	CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROPOSALS	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	Total Operational Plan £'000
Flood & Coastal Protection					
A	Flood Prevention Works & Scheme Preparation	372	372	372	1,116
B	Costal Change Adaptions	120	0	0	120
Land and Property Infrastructure					
C	Asset Rationalisation & Demolition	1,868	0	0	1,868
D	Cemetery Land Acquisition & Development	50	40	334	424
E	Building Upgrades	577	397	624	1,598
F	Energy Efficiency Works	1,291	795	795	2,881
G	Live Borders Energy Efficiency Works	500	500	500	1,500
H	Health and Safety Works	1,400	400	500	2,300
I	Play Areas and Outdoor Community Spaces	1,673	1,596	298	3,567
Road & Transport Infrastructure					
J	Cycling Walking & Safer Streets	515	507	247	1,269
K	Lighting Asset Management Plan	160	160	160	480
L	Roads & Bridges -inc. RAMP, Winter Damage & Slopes	7,040	7,000	7,100	21,140
Corporate					
M	ICT - Out with CGI Scope	56	56	80	192
Learning Estate					
N	Learning Estate Block	2,614	1,790	1,790	6,194
Sports Infrastructure					
O	Culture & Sports Trusts - Plant & Services	215	215	290	720
Economic Regeneration					
P	Borders Town Centre Regeneration Block	202	70	100	372
Social Care Infrastructure					
Q	Care Inspectorate Requirements & Upgrades	41	43	43	127
Total		18,694	13,941	13,233	45,868

5 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial

- (a) The blocks in Appendices A – Q are as the amounts approved in the 2024/25 Capital Investment Plan approved at Council on 29 February 2024.
- (b) It is proposed that in order to comply with the Financial Regulations, the individual lines contained in the Appendix for each block will be interpreted as the detailed plans for the block. Each line in the block is therefore an individual project or budget heading for the purpose of Budgetary Control. This means that, if required, virements between these budget headings will be subject to the appropriate approval

process. The only exception to this is where there is still an Unallocated Balance.

- (c) These block allocations may be affected by the 2023/24 capital monitoring out-turn which will be reported to Executive Committee in June 2024 and any changes as a result of this will be reflected in future monitoring reports.

5.2 **Risk and Mitigations**

There is a risk that as a project progresses through the various phases from inception to construction and commissioning, adjustments will be required to the phasing of the projects delivery or cost estimate, or that the project may not be able to be progressed as anticipated. These risks will be managed through regular capital project monitoring meetings with budget holders and project managers and timely reporting to elected members for decision-making at an appropriate Committee.

5.3 **Integrated Impact Assessment**

No Equalities Impact Assessment has been carried out in relation to the contents of this report; it is, however, expected that for individual projects this work will have been undertaken by the relevant project manager/ budget holder prior to budget being approved.

5.4 **Sustainable Development Goals**

There are no direct economic, social or environmental issues with this report although there may be within individual projects and these will be identified and addressed as appropriate as part of their specific governance arrangements.

5.5 **Climate Change**

There are no direct carbon emissions impacts as a result of this monitoring report; however, there may be within individual projects and these will be identified and addressed as appropriate as part of their specific governance arrangements.

5.6 **Rural Proofing**

This report does not relate to new or amended policy or strategy and as a result rural proofing is not an applicable consideration.

5.7 **Data Protection Impact Statement**

There are no personal data implications arising from the proposals contained in this report.

5.8 **Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation**

No changes to the Scheme of Administration or Delegation are required as a result of this report.

6 **CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 The Director of Corporate Governance, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Director of People, Performance & Change, the Clerk to the Council and

Corporate Communications are being consulted and any comments received will be reported to the meeting.

6.2 The Director Infrastructure & Environment has been consulted in the preparation of this report and the content of the detailed appendices.

Approved by

Suzy Douglas **Signature**
Director of Finance & Procurement
Author(s)

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Background Papers: None

Previous Minute Reference:

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