

Report to: STRATEGIC PLANNING AND CAPITAL MONITORING PANEL

Date: 6 September 2021

Executive Member: Councillor Eleanor Wills – Executive Member (Health, Social Care and Population Health)

Reporting Officer: Stephanie Butterworth – Director of Adult Services

Subject: ADULTS CAPITAL PLAN

Report Summary: This report provides an update of the developments in relation to the Adults Capital Programme for:

- schemes previously approved and still underway
- the usage of the wider disabled facilities grant (DFG)

Recommendations: That the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel be recommended to ask Executive Cabinet to note the progress updates, and to approve the re-profiling of £98k of Housing Assistance works into FY22/23 owing to limited capacity within the Adaptations team as discussed in section 5 of the report.

Corporate Plan: The proposals contained within this report support the delivery of the Corporate Plan.

Policy Implications: In compliance with Council policy.

Financial Implications: (Authorised by the statutory Section 151 Officer & Chief Finance Officer)

Background
The current anticipated level of capital receipts of £15.3m is based on the disposal of surplus assets approved by Executive Cabinet in September 2020. The current approved capital investment programme requires a minimum of £22.219m of capital receipts or reserves. Additional Statutory Compliance works are also expected to be approved requiring a further £0.499m of receipts or reserves, bringing the total call on corporate resources to £22.718m. Any additional priority earmarked schemes that are approved by Executive Cabinet will increase the amount of corporate funding needed for the capital programme.

Available Corporate Funding:	£000s
Capital Reserves	£14,593
Anticipated Capital Receipts	£15,300
Total	£29,893
Funding committed to approved schemes:	
2020/21 approved programme	£7,953
2021/22 approved programme	£14,266
Statutory Compliance earmarked pot	£499
Total	£22,718
Balance of forecast funding available	£7,175
Earmarked Schemes previously on capital programme*	£39,867
Shortfall in funding for earmarked schemes	-£32,692

Earmarked schemes previously included on the capital programme (reflected as * in the figures above) are almost £40m. Assuming that the planned disposals proceed there is a forecast balance of £7.175m of capital receipts to fund future earmarked capital schemes – a shortfall of more than £32m - meaning the broader capital ambition of the Council is currently unaffordable until such time as additional capital receipts are generated. Many of the earmarked schemes were identified in 2017/18 and therefore are now the subject of a detailed review and reprioritisation.

The Growth Directorate is reviewing the estate and developing a further pipeline of surplus sites for disposal, and a full refresh of the Capital Programme is being undertaken alongside this review of the estate. With the exception of the Statutory Compliance works, all other earmarked schemes will be removed from the programme and subject to review. A refreshed and reprioritised Capital Programme will then be proposed for Member approval in Summer 2021.

Financial Summary

The financial position of the Adults Capital Programme as of the end of June (Period 3) is summarised at Appendix 1. Overall, and inclusive of Disabled Facilities Grant, the programme has budgeted capital expenditure of £2.664m and is forecast to spend £2.556m within the year. As noted at 5.3 there is a single request for re-profiling of capital budget, where £98k of Housing Assistance grant is now not expected to be spent until FY22/23. All other projects are currently forecast to complete on budget.

Specific comments regarding individual projects are as follows:

1. Moving with Dignity

The remaining funding allocated to the scheme is expected to be sufficient for the entirety of FY21/22, subject to vacancies that may arise over the year. There is in principle scope for additional funding to be drawn down from DFG to continue the work. As noted at 2, the team's work absorbed demand equivalent to around one thousand homecare hours per week over the past year. Although the emphasis has now shifted to hospital discharges, the work will remain crucial in managing demand on the Support at Home budget.

2. Disability Assessment Centre

As noted in previous reports no detailed proposal or premises to proceed with the scheme has yet been firmly identified, and the allocation has already been brought forward from FY20/21. The department has yet to identify budget for the staffing and premises costs of the centre, although there is potential for Disabled Facilities Grant to fund some aspects of the running costs.

3. Neighbourhoods Replacement of ageing and obsolete equipment

No actual expenditure has yet been incurred, although recruitment to the post is under way and some of the workload could be covered by existing staff in the meantime, with staff salaries funded from Disabled Facilities Grant on the same principles as for the Moving with Dignity team.

4. Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)

As noted at 5, work on the DFG-funded Adaptations programme is progressing as restrictions ease, although a re-profiling of £98k is

requested for Housing Assistance. Complications arising from the pandemic and constraints on staffing resource have limited the amount of work that can be carried out, although the funding will remain available to be applied in FY22/23.

The eventual level of activity (and hence cost) this year is heavily dependent on staffing resource and the availability of contractors and materials, which are currently uncertain. The previous drawdown assumed £2m of works would be delivered this year, but this may be revisited later in the year depending on new demand and the service's capacity to deliver new works. The remaining balance of unspent Disabled Facilities Grant for 2021/22 may then be carried forward to underpin possible future reductions in funds or for new initiatives.

**Legal Implications:
(Authorised by the Borough
Solicitor)**

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with a general oversight of the works being undertaken in the Adults Capital Plan.

The plan helps to underpin the council's statutory duty to deliver adults social care and to ensure that staff are also provided with the appropriate equipment to deliver the services safely for both them and our service users e.g. lifting equipment.

The covid pandemic has had an impact on the progress of some of the projects resulting in some reprofiling being undertaken and updates are provided in the main body of the report.

When considering this report Members need to give careful consideration to the financial implications in order to satisfy themselves that there is sufficient budget to fund the projects and that the projects themselves represent good value for the council and the residents of Tameside.

In addition, the projects summarised in this report will also be subject to their own due diligence, governance and decision making as they progress. No decisions are being sought in relation to the individual projects in this report.

Risk Management:

Risks are contained within the body of the report.

Background Information:

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting:

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report seeks to provide an update on:

- The previously approved projects that are funded through capital monies and delivered through the Adults Directorate, noting progress since the last update to Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel (SPCMP) in July 2021.
- The usage of the wider disabled facilities grant (DFG) and other related adaptations funding.

1.2 The approved projects for 2021/22 include:

	Project	Total Funding Approved	21/22 Allocation	Projected Outturn	Re-profiling
1.	Moving with Dignity (Single Handed Care)	£375k DFG	£190k	£190k	£0
2.	Disability Assessment Centre	£250k DFG	£250k	£250k	£0
3.	Replacement of obsolete and ageing equipment	£46k + oncots	£46k	£46k	£0

1.3 Details about the wider DFG and other related adaptation funding and discretionary non-adaptations funding are also contained within this report.

1.4 Appendix 1 includes the full details of the Adult Services capital programme.

2. MOVING WITH DIGNITY (SINGLE HANDED CARE)

Progress update

2.1 Following review of the last year, the project was able to evidence a reduction of over 1,000 hours per week in homecare packages during financial year 2020/2021. Figures for 2020/21 are presented in the table below:

Tameside Adult Social Care Clients		
Status	No.	%
Completed - not eligible	100	36%
Assessment Ongoing	5	2%
Assessment Completed - reduction actioned	130	46%
Deceased	31	11%
Potential Assessments	15	5%
Total	281	100%

2.2 More recently there has been a shift in focus from the project team, who are now working collaboratively with health colleagues at the 'front door' and part of the hospital discharge process to provide more timely assessments. This is to target a reduction and avoidance at, or, as close to discharge as possible and to prevent the need for unnecessary spend on homecare provision.

2.3 In the initial month of June, these focused Moving with Dignity assessments indicated two immediate avoidances, and a number of potential reductions within months of discharge.

2.4 The financial position is as follows:

- £190,000 staffing budget for the financial year 21/22. The team composition is made up of:

- x1 Senior Occupational Therapist
- x1 Manual Handling Advisor
- x1 Occupational Therapy Assistant
- x1 Occupational Therapist / Manual Handling Advisor vacancy – current locum OT

2.5 The project is expected to deliver within budget.

3. DISABILITY ASSESSMENT CENTRE

Progress update

- 3.1 A project group has been established and an outline plan of the business case and future requirements of the Disability Assessment Centre (DAC) has been drafted, which will align with the review of the need for a Health and Social Care hub requirement.
- 3.2 It is crucial to align the DAC with this as it is envisioned to be a multi-disciplinary centre to provide triage, assessment and provision of equipment in line with Care Act legislation concerning wellbeing and prevention. Appropriate contacts will be filtered from this new hub into the DAC for fast track assessment and interventions. This will allow for the Core Occupational Therapy Neighbourhood Teams to concentrate on complex long term work and adaptations.
- 3.3 A visit to Able World disability equipment retailer in Hyde has been completed. This was with a view to a potential joint venture, and unfortunately this is not a viable option going forward. The space within the premises was not large enough and the organisation commissioned their own therapists on a private basis.
- 3.4 Loxley House and Rosscare have both been explored and neither facility have the available space required or capacity to accommodate the DAC.
- 3.5 The project group will be identifying and exploring alternative accommodation options, the next meeting for the DAC project group is 05.07.21 and further updates will be provided in due course.

4. REPLACEMENT OF AGEING AND OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT

Progress update

- 4.1 This work is progressing at present with existing Occupational Therapy staff. The update is as follows:
- Since 01 April 2021, 25 stair lifts have been replaced and 3 ceiling track hoists.
 - There are currently a further 9 stair lifts and 2 ceiling track hoists and one through floor lift on order.
 - There are referrals to replace 14 stair lifts, 2 ceiling track hoists awaiting action/approval.
 - New referrals for replacements have fallen to less than 1 per week.
- 4.2 As agreed, the service is in the process of recruiting an additional Occupational Therapy post for 12 months to carry out this pro-active piece of work to avoid potential unplanned costs.

5. DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT AND OTHER RELATED ADAPTATIONS FUNDING

Progress update

- 5.1 As restrictions ease residents are allowing access and contractors will be able to resume near-normal working. There are no referrals on hold due to Covid-19. Contractors are however

experiencing difficulties in obtaining some materials/ items due to issues around Brexit, import tariffs, shipping, etc. In addition material costs are rising above inflation.

- 5.2 One aspect of the pandemic is an increase in referrals for more complex cases resulting in more requests to extend properties. The maximum grant for DFG is £30,000 and as all extension exceed this amount, this is creating some issues with housing providers where contributions are required. There are currently 6 referrals for extensions on Jigsaw properties. One was refused permission because the tenants refuse to move however with this case there are other issues Jigsaw are investigating. Onward has refused one extension due to serious arrears as per their policy.
- 5.3 Expenditure on adaptations is currently lower than expected for the first two full months of this financial year. The change from charging individual fees will have an effect. There is also approx. £25-£30k of invoices not yet received from one supplier. It is difficult to be precise with spend for adaptations due to the nature of the works (many small grants, variations, works completing quicker, or taking longer than anticipated, etc.). Works relating to Housing Assistance will be limited due to the need to focus on delivery of adaptations.

Capital Scheme	2021/22 Budget	2021/22 Projected Outturn	2020/21 Outturn Variation	Re-profiling to be approved	Re-profiled Budgets 2021/22	Funding carried forward to 2022/23
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
DFG	2,000	2,000	0	0	2,000	0
Housing Assistance	178	80	98	98	80	98

5.4 As of 31 May 2021:

Referrals received in year	70	Urgent and Substantial	From Adults and Children's Services
Approved schemes	131	Urgent and Substantial	Including 53 carried over from 2020-21. There are 0 approvals on hold due to Covid19
Completions to date	18	Urgent and Substantial	There are a number awaiting submission of invoices causing a distortion in numbers completed
Scheme currently being worked on – not yet approved	137	Urgent Only	Including 1 on hold due to Covid19 Number of Urgent cases has increased
Budget committed	£766,761	Value of schemes approved and ordered	Major and Minor Adaptations
Expenditure to date	£209,996	As per Agresso – includes minor works and fees	To 25 June 2021
Referrals awaiting allocation	48	Current waiting list for Substantial	Oldest referral is dated 25 June 2020
Referrals cancelled	10		Various reasons. Residents passing away, moving home, not willing to progress, failing to respond to enquiries.
Minor Adaptations Ordered	137	All tenures	Including 87 carried over from 2020-21
Minor Adaptations Completed	9	All tenures	2 cancelled

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 A number of projects are now completed or due for completion shortly including 4C Community Centre which is due to officially launch in July (in line with government guidelines), as well as Brain in Hand which is undergoing evaluation. Further updates for this will be brought to this panel as appropriate.
- 6.2 Services continue their best to deliver projects and meet improved outcomes for people through challenging and changing times.
- 6.3 All costs and benefits are being monitored and reviewed regularly taking into account people's changing needs and ensuring the right support is in place; whether that be assessment staff or adaptations to enable people to remain as independent as possible in their own homes.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 As set out at the front of the report.

APPENDIX 1

Expenditure and Total Re-profiling on Adults Capital Programme FY2021/22

Adults Capital Programme						Re-profiled Budgets	
Capital Scheme	2021/22 Budget £000	Future Year Budgets £000	2021/22 M3 Forecast Position £000	2021/22 Outturn Variation £000	Re-profiling to be approved £000	Re-profiled Budgets 2021/22 £000	Funding carried forward to 2022/23
Disabled Facilities Grant	2,000	0	2,000	0	0	2,000	0
Housing Assistance	178	0	80	98	98	80	98
Moving With Dignity	190	0	190	0	0	190	0
Disability Assessment Centre	250	0	250	0	0	250	0
Neighbourhoods- replacement of obsolete and ageing equipment	46	0	46	0	0	46	0
Total	2,664	0	2,556	98	98	2,556	98