

**Report to:** **STRATEGIC PLANNING AND CAPITAL MONITORING PANEL**

**Date:** 9 March 2023

**Reporting Officer:** Councillor Bill Fairfoull, Deputy Executive Leader (Children and Families)  
Tony Decrop – Assistant Director Children’s Services

**Subject:** **CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE CAPITAL SCHEMES UPDATE REPORT**

**Report Summary:** This report provides an update on the Children’s Social Care Property Capital Scheme and sets out details of the major approved property capital schemes in this Directorate.

**Recommendations:** That Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel be recommended to note the progress update in the report.

**Corporate Plan:** The schemes set out in this report supports the objectives of the Corporate Plan and enable the delivery of the Children’s 7-point plan.


**Policy Implications:** In line with Policy and Financial Framework

**Financial Implications:** This report provides an update in relation to the schemes already approved and any updates on progress.  
**(Authorised by the statutory Section 151 Officer)**

**Legal Implications**  
**(Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)** There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report. Each of the projects are subject to its own due diligence, governance and decision making.

**Risk Management:** This is covered in the content of the report.

**Background:** The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Tony Decrop, Assistant Director of Children’s Services by:

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the Children's Social Care property capital projects, within the Capital Programme managed by the Directorate and sets out details of the major approved property capital schemes in this Directorate.
- 1.2 Full details of existing schemes are set out below:

<b>Scheme Name</b>	<b>2022/23 Approved Budget Allocation £</b>	<b>Re-Profiling £</b>	<b>2022/23 Budget (Subject to Re-Profiling Approval) £</b>	<b>2023/24 Budget (Subject to Re-Profiling Approval) £</b>
Respite Unit	367,000	(367,000)	0	367,000
Boyds Walk	500,000	(415,000)	85,000	3,180,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>867,000</b>	<b>(782,000)</b>	<b>85,000</b>	<b>3,547,000</b>

## 2. PROGRESS UPDATE

### Respite Unit

- 2.1 As reported to committee on the 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022, the purchase of a respite property did not conclude due to the report on title and the service conclusion that the property would not be fit for the purpose it is intended. The delivery of edge of care respite will now form part of the work Salford City Council are undertaking as Sector Led Improvement Partners commissioned by the DFE which will inform are future model and provision of in-house children's. The way forward on capital spend will also be influenced by the Governments response to the Independent Review of Children's Social Care (Stable Homes Built on Love), that includes proposals to establish regional commissioning care co-operatives (GM is already considering this proposal).

### Boyds Walk Replacement

- 2.2 Boyds Walk is Children's Home for children with disabilities requiring long term and short-term care. The property from which the service operates is not fit for purpose. The property has significant health and safety, safeguarding and Children's Home Regulation deficiencies and Ofsted, Fire Service and Children's Services senior management are all of the same opinion that an urgent replacement is required. An Executive Cabinet was approved at the 26 October 2022 meeting that recommends a new build replacement for Boyds Walk on the former Flowery Field Infant School vacant site. A bid to the DFE Children's Home Capital Programme funding opportunity was successful (50% of estimated capital cost and a Grant Offer Letter has been signed for £1.6m).
- 2.3 The start of the project has been delayed due to the DFE requirement for formal consultation on the appropriation of land (former Infant School site). The formal consultation period ended on the 10 February 2023. A pre-construction site agreement has been signed in order for design work and site investigations to start.

## 3. RECOMMENDATIONS

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