

Report to:	STRATEGIC PLANNING AND CAPITAL MONITORING PANEL
Date:	22 June 2023
Executive Member:	Councillor John Taylor – Executive Member (Adult Social Care, Homelessness and Inclusivity)
Reporting Officer	Stephanie Butterworth – Director of Adult Services
Subject:	ADULTS CAPITAL PLAN 2022/23 AND 2023/24 UPDATES
Report Summary:	<p>This report provides an update of the developments in relation to the Adults Capital Programme for –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • schemes previously approved and still underway, • the usage of the wider disabled facilities grant (DFG) including the housing adaptations budget.
Recommendations:	<p>That the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel be recommended to :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the progress updates of the Adult Services capital programme. 2. Approve the additional budget allocation of £0.039m via the Adult Services Community Capacity grant reserve to finance related IT system upgrade expenditure as referenced in section 1.2. The additional sum to be included in the 2023/24 approved capital programme. 3. Approve the inclusion of the 2023/24 Disabled Facilities Grant allocation of £2.849m to the 2023/24 approved capital programme.
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)	<p>The report provides an update on the previously approved projects that are financed via Adult Services capital grant reserve balances. The projects were approved at the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel (SPCMP) on 17 November 2022. Appendix 1 and 2 includes the full details of the Adult Services capital programme for 22/23 and 23/24 respectively.</p> <p>In addition the report provides an update on the use of the Disabled Facilities Grant awarded to the Council in 2023/24 of £2.849m. The grant award is also recommended to be added to the approved capital programme.</p> <p>The financial implications of relevant schemes within the programme are as follows :</p> <p>Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)</p> <p>As previously referenced the Council has been awarded £2.849m in 2023/24. Section 5 of the report provides an update on the programme supported in 2022/23 via the same grant award value. All related expenditure has to comply with the related grant conditions and will be monitored accordingly. The funding is</p>

provided to enable people to live independently and safely at home and avoid related care package expenditure on the Adult Services revenue budget.

The annual sum is pooled by the Council with the Tameside locality Integrated Care Board within the wider Better Care Fund (BCF). The sum is reported in the annual plan and year end returns that are approved by the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Further updates on the use of the 2023/34 grant will be reported in subsequent update reports that will include any existing revenue savings that have or will be realised via proposals supported by investment of the grant.

Disability Assessment Centre

A budget sum of £0.250m is allocated for the project in 2023/24.

It is noted (section 3 of the report) that work is ongoing to identify a potential location and suitable property.

The revenue budget implications of the proposal will require additional due diligence that includes the benefits that will be realised together with the associated financing arrangements. This will be then subject to separate approval. It is noted that further updates will be presented in subsequent reports.

Changing Places Toilets

Section 7 of the report provides an update on the programme and installation of four toilets at separate locations. The programme is financed via a £0.100m grant award from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) together with £0.120m via Adult Services capital reserve balances, a total budget of £0.220m.

The toilets will be located in three buildings that are not in the ownership of the Council and one building (Loxley House) that is in the process of a Community Asset Transfer. Therefore the Council will not be liable for any ongoing revenue costs of the facilities.

The expenditure that is financed via the grant award of £0.100m from DLUHC must comply with the related grant conditions and will be monitored accordingly.

Accommodation In the Pipeline (Grosvenor Street and Former Police Station, Stalybridge)

Section 12 of the report provides supporting details where it is noted that the budget allocation of £0.390m will finance related adaptations at the properties to support the needs of residents. This will avoid related care package expenditure on the Adult services revenue budget.

Payments to the property developer will be subject to a payment profile within a separate agreement. It is essential that related payments are made in arrears and that value for money can be robustly evidenced within the procurement process of the adaptations and is within the approved budget.

Further updates will be presented in subsequent reports.

Community Response Service – Digital Switchover

Section 14 and Appendix 1 provide an update on the switchover of assistive technology from analogue to digital which needs to be

completed by 31 March 2025.

The investment will continue to support residents to live independently at home and avoid related care package expenditure on the Adult Services revenue budget.

The budget allocation is £0.650m and it is essential that value for money can be clearly evidenced within the procurement process of the related equipment.

Adult Services are currently reviewing all fees and charges levied in the provision of care services within the revenue budget to ensure that all related expenditure is recovered. The investment in this programme will need to be evaluated and included where applicable.

Capacity Within The Housing Adaptations Team, Occupational Therapist – Equipment Review, Environmental Occupational Therapist

The three projects all relate to additional posts that will be financed via capital grant reserve balances in 2023/24. The Housing Adaptations team posts will be recruited on a permanent basis and will be financed via the annual Disabled Facilities Grant award allocation from 2024/25 onwards.

It is essential however that the cost benefit impact of the team is monitored and reported when compared to the annual investment.

In addition, the same will apply to the Environmental and Equipment Review Occupational Therapists posts if they are to be considered for continuation beyond a 12 month period.

The related details will be reported in subsequent update reports.

Loxley House

Section 18 of the report provides an update on the project which relates to the Community Asset Transfer of the building. The capital programme includes investment of £0.080m to carry out related works to the building which the Council is liable prior to the transfer.

The estimated annual recurrent property related revenue expenditure that will be avoided by the Place directorate (Strategic Property service) following the transfer is £0.139m (based on 2022/23 outturn).

IT System Upgrade

The cost of the upgrade following procurement is £0.323m compared to an existing capital programme budget of £0.284m. Therefore, approval to increase the funding for the project by £0.039m will be required and is referenced at recommendation 2. The additional cost will be financed via the Adult Services Community Capacity grant reserve.

The annual revenue costs (£0.098m plus annual inflation) of the upgrade (system support and maintenance) will be financed via the Adult services transformation reserve for a five year period. The directorate will be required to identify annual revenue budget beyond this period to finance the related expenditure.

It is expected that the investment in the upgrade will realise process related efficiencies within Adult Services and Resources directorates, the details of which will be evaluated and provided in subsequent reports once the upgraded systems are live.

Future Programme Of Work

Section 22 of the report provides details of initiatives that will be subject to further robust business cases that will be required to state the investment required and financing source together with the related recurrent benefits that will be realised. The approval of any further initiatives will be subject to separate governance.

The table below provides summary details of the capital funding reserve balances that are available to finance any further capital projects within the Adult Services directorate. The balances are at 1 April 2023 and are the remaining values after financing the existing 2023/24 capital programme.

Grant Reserve	Balance at 1 April 2023 After Existing Programme Commitments	Additional Commitments	Remaining Balance
	£'m	£'m	£'m
Disabled Facilities Grant	2.165	0.000	2.165
Housing Assistance Contributions	1.016	0.000	1.016
Community Capacity Grant	1.476	0.039	1.437
Total	4.657	0.039	4.618

Members should note that the Council has limited resources available to fund Capital Expenditure and the current capital programme, which is based upon receiving capital receipts of £15.410m is fully allocated to Council priorities.

Careful monitoring of progress in realising these capital receipts must be undertaken throughout the year to ensure that there is timely and pro-active disposal of assets and that the actual receipts are in line with projections.

Legal Implications:

(Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)


This report is not seeking any decisions as each project is subject to its own due diligence, governance and decision making.

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: Tracey Harrison, Assistant Director, Adults

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The individual projects within the Adult Services capital programme for 2022/23 were as follows:

- **Moving with Dignity** - Following the success of the project in prior years, the funding for the team continued in 2022/23.
- **Disability Assessment Centre** - This funding has been reallocated to 2023/24 to give the service time to review this project and consider long-term revenue implications. Planning and accommodation options need to be explored.
- **Replacement of ageing and obsolete equipment** - The DFG funded post has been vacant due to recruitment issues.
- **Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)** – This is explained further in section 5 of the report.
- **Changing Places Toilets** – The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) have confirmed the allocation of £0.100m to support the installation of three Changing Places Toilets following the expression of interest submitted. The Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel (SPCMP) approved further investment of £0.120m on 17 November 2022. This investment will support the installation of four toilets at locations across the borough as stated in the previously referenced report.

1.2 The individual projects for 2023/24 are as follows:

- **Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)** - This is explained further in section 5 of the report. A sum of £2.849m has been awarded to the Council for 2023/24.
- **Non-Adaptation Works (Discretionary Assistance)** – These refer to Home Repair Assistance and Stay Put Grants to help people maintain their homes. A budget allocation of £0.156m is available for 2023/24.
- **Moving with Dignity** – The programme will continue in 2023/24 with a budget allocation of £0.228m.
- **Disability Assessment Centre** – A budget sum of £0.250m is allocated for the project in 2023/24. The revenue budget implications of the proposal require confirmation together with the associated financing arrangements. Further updates will be presented in subsequent reports.
- **Occupational Therapy Equipment Review** – A sum of £0.046m has been allocated to support a review of equipment in 2023/24. The post will be financed via the Council's annual Disabled Facilities Grant allocation from 2024/25 if it is required for an extended period following the review that is due to be undertaken in the current financial year.
- **Existing Accommodation Options Group Stock – Adaptations to support for life.** – To provide a range of adaptations to nine properties identified as part of the review of existing stock. A budget sum of £0.220m has been allocated for 2023/24.
- **Accommodation in the Pipeline (Grosvenor Street / Former Police Station)** – The development of two new schemes in Salybridge in partnership with Great Places Registered Housing Provider and in line with the Councils Housing Strategy 2021 –

2026. A sum of £0.390m has been allocated in 2023/24 to finance service user adaptations required at both properties.

- **Environmental Occupational Therapist** – To ensure the goals outlined in the Housing Strategy 2012 – 2026 are delivered, a sum of £0.049m to finance an Environmental Assessment Officer post has been allocated for 2023/24. The post will be financed via the Council's annual Disabled Facilities Grant allocation from 2024/25 if it is required for an extended period beyond the current financial year.
- **Community Response Service Assistive Technology – Digital Switchover** – Replacement of the Community Response Service analogue system via an agreed procurement process working in partnership with the Council's IT Service. A sum of £0.650m has been allocated for 2023/24.
- **Capacity within Housing Adaptations Team** – A sum of £0.218m has been allocated in 2023/24 to finance five posts that will support the backlog of assessments and adaptations within the Housing Adaptations Team. The additional posts were approved on a recurrent basis in the report presented to the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring on 17 November 2022. The posts will be financed via the Council's annual Disabled Facilities Grant allocation from 2024/25.
- **Care Home Beds** – A sum of £0.258m has been allocated to purchase 496 suitable profiling beds for care homes across the borough to allow an efficient transition from hospital to home.
- **Community Support – Living Well at Home** – A sum of £0.028m has been allocated in 2023/24 to purchase a range of equipment to support providers to free up workforce capacity across "Support at Home" by purchasing gantries and lifting equipment which will potentially reduce ambulance call outs and hospital admissions.
- **Loxley House** – A sum of £0.080m that was originally approved in March 2013 via a Key Decision, will finance a range of building works required at Loxley House as part of the Community Asset Transfer process of the building that will be led by the Place Directorate.
- **IT System Upgrade** – Funding of £0.284m has been approved to implement updates and additional functionality within the liquidlogic case management system to improve efficiency, productivity and better meet the needs of the service. The system upgrade also include the implementation of ContrOCC, which is an Adult Social Care finance system that facilitates care package payments, financial assessments and service user charging. The project is progressing with a current go live date expected to be late autumn / winter this year. Further progress updates will be provided to SPCMP during the year.
- The cost of the upgrade following procurement is £0.323m. Therefore, approval to increase the funding for the project by £0.039m will be required and will be recommended in this report. The additional cost will be financed via the Adult Services Community Capacity grant reserve.
- The annual revenue costs (£0.098m plus annual inflation) of the upgrade (system support and maintenance) will be financed via the Adult services transformation reserve for a five year period. The Directorate will be required to identify annual revenue budget beyond this period.
- **Autism Community Response Service Offer** – This is a programme to support a range of developments for sensory and technology offers to support autistic people.

A budget of £0.045m has been allocated for 2023/24.

- **Changing Places Toilets** – The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) have confirmed the allocation of £0.100m to support the installation of three Changing Places Toilets following the expression of interest submitted. The Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel (SPCMP) approved further investment of £0.120m on 17 November 2022. This investment will support the installation of four toilets at locations across the borough as stated in the previously referenced report. There is a programme budget of £0.160m in 2023/24.

2. MOVING WITH DIGNITY (SINGLE HANDED CARE)

Progress update

- 2.1 The Moving with Dignity team continues to work closely with NHS colleagues both in acute services and intermediate care services, in order to promote and embed this practice. Work is also ongoing to ensure the wider education of the benefits of single handed care.
- 2.2 The Moving with Dignity team and Commissioning team are working together with the intermediate care facility, Stamford unit and acute wards, they have met with the lead for manual handling across the Intermediate Care Foundation Trust (ICFT) and have agreed that training will be delivered to ICFT Occupational Therapists to ensure consistency and safety.
- 2.3 A lower level non-complex equipment store has been established which is based within one of the living well at home providers building which all living well at home providers can access. The trusted assessor model has now been implemented across the homecare providers for all manual handling and single handed care and providers are able to carry out their own risk assessments.
- 2.4 With close joint working we remain focussed on the priority of reducing the length of stay and improved discharge from hospital, and further work is ongoing in this area.
- 2.5 The team continues to lead on embedding singled handed care principles and achieve positive outcomes in terms of dignified care and support for individuals as well as reduced direct care and support hours. .
- 2.6 The funding approved for the programme to continue for the additional two years (2022/23 and 2023/24) was to finance the following posts which are all occupied.
 - Senior Occupational Therapist
 - Occupational Therapist
 - Manual Handling Assessor
 - Occupational Therapist Assistant

3. DISABILITY ASSESSMENT CENTRE

Progress update

- 3.1 Work is ongoing to identify a potential location with Adult Services and the Place directorate working together to search for a suitable property. Until this is achieved, it is difficult to make a determination of the timescales or final cost of the project. Once premises have been identified and assessed to meet all requirements, a revenue budget and source of financing will have to be established to finance the staffing of the centre as well as any premises costs (utilities, rates, etc.).

3.2 The Occupational Therapy Service has reviewed its referral process and have adapted an early intervention and prevention approach. This early intervention focusses on asset based solutions to promote independence and reduces further risk by offering information, advice, and signposting where appropriate and completing visits earlier to provide equipment and/or minor adaptations. The Disability Assessment Centre will be central to this approach and the sourcing of an appropriate location still remains a priority.

3.3 Further updates will be presented in subsequent reports.

4. REPLACEMENT OF AGEING AND OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT

Progress update

4.1 The replacement of equipment continues on a reactive basis.

4.2 The new procurement exercise for lifting and hoisting equipment led by Oldham Council with Tameside includes for the supplier to provide a limited Occupational Therapy (OT) provision. This option will allow the Council to request the supplier to engage the services of an external Occupational Therapist with the sole purpose of carrying out an assessment of need on those individuals whose equipment is likely to fail, or has failed. The cost for this service, as per the long term maintenance, will be 'front-loaded' onto the cost of the replacement unit and form part of the grant award to the applicant. It is possible to fund the service of a private OT as this forms part of the Specified Services and Charges Order covering what is permitted as part of an application.

4.3 As per the previous report, the assessment would be added to the client case file in LAS or a new file created. Any additional needs would then be part of the normal Adult Services process for a further intervention.

5. DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT AND OTHER RELATED ADAPTATIONS FUNDING

DFG Allocation for 2022/23

5.1 The Department of Health and Social Care awarded the £2.849m for 2022/23.

5.2 Approval to spend this allocation via the Adults Capital Programme was approved at SPCMP on 18 July 2022.

Progress update

5.3 Delivery of adaptations is continuing and the rate of delivery is slowly increasing as post pandemic issues recede. The number of contractors is still an issue.

5.4 A report was approved in September 2022 for the rates in the existing contract to be increased, in order to allow the contractors to continue to deliver adaptations.

5.5 The cost of extensions to properties remains a problem for homeowner applicants who are required to fund the shortfall between the value of the grant and total construction costs. However most of the current extensions under development are with social landlords.

5.6 The Service has 10 requests for extensions active at the end of the financial year. There are additional extensions in the pipeline with Adults and Children's Services.

5.7 As noted in the previous updates expenditure continues to be slower than pre-pandemic years, although the number of grants approved and completed has increased, many of these are low

cost grants associated with stair lifts and ceiling track hoists.

5.8 Contract for the Provision of Adaptations for Disabled People and Home Repairs for Vulnerable People.

- The above contract for the period 13 July 2018 to 12 July 2022 was extended for a period of 10 months to 11 May 2023. The tender was published and is now complete, however, due to the number of bidders, poor quality submissions and a lengthy evaluation and moderation process, along with gaining clarity from STAR Legal on process, unfortunately there has been a delay with awarding the contract.
- The response to Lots 3, 4 & 5 in the bidding process was very low, leaving the number of contractors in Lots 4 & 5 inadequate. As a result, it was confirmed with STAR Procurement that it would not be possible to run competitive quotes. In Lot 3 there was no qualified electrical contractor to carry out the Visual Impairment work so this could not be let. Following discussions between Adults Commissioning, Housing Adaptations and STAR Procurement, it was decided that it would not be practical or beneficial to the Council to let these three Lots.
- An update to this effect was deposited onto the Chest to advise bidders that the Council was not awarding Lots 3, 4 & 5. Bidders were able to object within 10 working days. No objections were received.
- Lots 4 and 5 will continue with the current option of works being procured via the Chest. Lot 3 may have to be retendered as an individual contract for the provision of electrical and Visual Impairment work. Discussions with STAR Procurement continue.
- Due to the delay to the award, an extension is required and a report has been drafted by the Housing Adaptations Manager to extend the current contract to 30 November 2023.
- For the remaining Lots, an award report is due to be completed by the Housing Adaptations Manager for presentation to Executive Cabinet to request the approval to award to Lots 1A, 1B and Lot 2. These Lots comprise the bulk of the adaptation works.

5.9 Contract for Delivery of Lifting and Hoisting Equipment

- This is a joint contract between Tameside MBC and Oldham MBC with Oldham acting as lead LA. The contract for the period 1 June 2018 to 31 May 2023 is currently out to tender with a closing date of early June.
- Unfortunately, delays with Oldham's processes have meant this tender is behind schedule. The current contract is due to expire on 31 May 2023 and as such an extension will be required which Oldham MBC is leading on. Oldham have confirmed that the extension will be for six months to 30 November 2023. An extension report has been drafted by the Housing Adaptations Manager and advice from STAR Procurement is being sought.

5.10 Contract for Inspection, Service, Maintenance and Repair

- This is a joint contract between Tameside MBC and Oldham MBC with Tameside acting as lead LA. The contract for the period 16 July 2018 to 15 July 2023 is currently out to tender with a closing date of 3 July 2023.
- Due to the previous issues reported above, this is also behind schedule and will require an extension. The Housing Adaptations Manager has drafted a report with a request to extend the current contract to 30 November 2023.
- If the extension is approved the new contract will be for the period 1 December 2023 to 30 November 2027 and will not be required to be renewed.

Table 1 - DFG Activity as at 31 March 2023

Referrals received in year	220	Urgent and Substantial	From Adults and Children's Services including 20 hospital discharge requests
Approved schemes	211	Urgent and Substantial	Including 53 carried over from 2021-2022. This figure also includes 3 personal applications.
Completions to date	197	Urgent and Substantial	Including 2 completed personal applications
Scheme currently being worked on – not yet approved	69	Urgent and Substantial	
Referrals awaiting allocation	37	Current waiting list for Substantial	Oldest referral is dated 26 March 2021
Referrals Cancelled	51	Including 8 grants cancelled following approval	Various reasons. Residents passing away, moving home, not willing to progress, failing to respond to enquiries.
Number of Advice Visits requested	79	Request to confirm an adaptation can/can't be provided	Requests from Children's and Adult Services
Minor Adaptations Ordered	295	All tenures less than £1500	Including 71 carried over from 2021-2022
Minor Adaptations Completed	213	All tenures less than £1500	13 cancelled
Hospital Discharge Grants Approved	20	All tenures less than £1500	Majority have been deep cleaning requests from Social Workers

6. NON-ADAPTATION WORKS (DISCRETIONARY ASSISTANCE)

Progress update

- 6.1 The two schemes approved for Home Repair assistance have been completed. Both were for serious roof defects – one in Hyde and one in Mossley.
- 6.2 The Mossley scheme was a difficult one to progress. Due to the tenant not having a bank account, arrangements were made to grant the payment to a representative of the tenant in order to ensure the essential repair works could be carried out. Support is ongoing to assist the tenant with other issues.

7. CHANGING PLACES TOILETS (CPT)

Progress Update

- 7.1 The information provided in the previous report remains generally the same with the exception of the design process.
- 7.2 The funding from DLUHC is available until the end of the 2023/24 financial year and the schemes funded through this program must be complete by this time.
- 7.3 Additional funding has been awarded from capital funds to bring the total available budget to £0.220m. This means there is £0.055m available for each of the 4 schemes including design

costs.

- 7.4 Following on from discussions with STAR Procurement, Stockport Design and Build (Asset Management) will be designing and procuring the CPT. Stockport currently has a number of CPT schemes of their own. They state they could incorporate our schemes into their processes. The SLA is with Stockport for signing.
- 7.5 The design for the CPT for 4C at Christ Church in Ashton is complete and has draft approval from MDUK. The revised scheme still needs to be approved by MDUK and this will then be procured separately by their designer.
- 7.6 The remaining two schemes for Hyde Bangladeshi Welfare Association (HBWA) and Together Centre @ Loxley House along with the additional scheme at St Georges Church will be progressed by Stockport Design and Build. There are still some concerns about HBWA due to the original plan to locate the CPT in their new extension no longer being viable.
- 7.7 The costs associated with CPT schemes across the country have seen them exceed what many LAs had included in their initial bids.

8. DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT (DFG)

DFG Allocation for 2023/2024

- 8.1 The Council has been awarded the same grant allocation in 2023/24 as per the previous year, £ 2.849m.
- 8.2 Approval to include this grant award in the 2023/24 capital programme will be recommended in this report.

9. NON-ADAPTATION WORKS (DISCRETIONARY ASSISTANCE)

Progress Update

- 9.1 This is the Home Repair Assistance and Stay Put Grants to help people maintain their homes. On recruitment of the Housing Adaptations new staff, this will help with the delivery of this. A further update will be provided in the next report to SPCMP.

10. OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY EQUIPMENT REVIEW (2023/2024 UPDATE)

Progress Update

- 10.1 This review is ongoing by the Adult Service neighbourhood teams and a further update will be provided in the next report to SPCMP.

11. EXISTING ACCOMMODATIONS OPTIONS GROUP STOCK – ADAPTATIONS

Progress Update

- 11.1 Costings for the appropriate work at two of the identified properties ie. Charnwood Avenue, Denton and Sandy Bank Avenue, Hattersley, Hyde have now been received and are in the process of being reviewed.
- 11.2 Feasibility checks will be made on all existing stock following a full review of needs of each property.

12. ACCOMMODATION IN THE PIPELINE (GROSVENOR STREET/POLICE STATION)

Progress Update

- 12.1 All works for the build schedule are scheduled to be completed by summer 2024 (2024/25 financial year)
- 12.2 Grant Agreements are to be drafted for the agreed contribution payable by the Council within the capital programme for the necessary adaptations to support the needs of the residents.
- 12.3 Payments will be phased over the 2023/24 and 2024/25 financial years until completion of the project.

13. ENVIRONMENTAL OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST

Progress Update

- 13.1 This post has now been advertised. A further update will be provided in the next report to SPCMP .

14. COMMUNITY RESPONSE SERVICE ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY – DIGITAL SWITCHOVER

Progress Update

- 14.1 Work commenced in December 2022 and since then a range of digital kits have been procured which include care phone units and associated devices such as falls pendants, wrist pendants, epilepsy monitors, door alarms and also sim card renewals. **Appendix 1** provides an update on the project milestones
- 14.2 To date, of approximately 2600 households, 1000 households have had all equipment replaced with new digital kits. The remaining 1600 households will be included in the roll out plan and will be replaced as and when the remaining kit is received as stock supplies increase.

15. CAPACITY WITHIN HOUSING ADAPTATIONS TEAM (2023/2024 UPDATE)

Progress Update

- 15.1 The recruitment to the additional posts (stated below) within the Housing Adaptations team is progressing with an appointment made to the project officer post.
 - 1 x Project Officer
 - 2 x Case Workers
 - 1 x Administrator
 - 1 x Surveyor
- 15.2 Anecdotal evidence from other Greater Manchester local authorities suggests that recruitment of Technical Officers/Surveyors is challenging due to a lack of experienced people in the job market.

16. CARE HOME BEDS

Progress Update

- 16.1 Audits have now been completed for all care homes in Tameside. New costs for the beds/mattresses have been obtained and letters to care homes have been issued asking whether they require the Council to contribute to the purchase of new beds .

- 16.2 Responses are due in the next couple of weeks, following which orders will be placed where necessary with the Council's approved equipment provider. It is still envisaged that the allocated budget of £0.258m will be spent this financial year.

17. COMMUNITY SUPPORT – LIVING WELL AT HOME

Progress Update

- 17.1 **Lifting equipment** - This element of the project is now complete as five Raizer M's lifting equipment kits have now been purchased, as planned and have been allocated to the five Support at Home providers as previously agreed.
- 17.2 **Gantries** - The purchasing of the gantries via a three quote procurement plan is underway following a demonstration by suppliers last month. Nine Guldman GH1 205 gantries (rather than ten) due to an increase in cost, will be purchased from Simply Moving and Sleeping and should be ready and available by the end of the summer. There are some issues around the storage, servicing and delivery of the gantries still to be resolved, but this should not impact on the procurement process.

18. LOXLEY HOUSE

Progress Update

- 18.1 A schedule of works has been presented to the Together Centre Trustees as part of the ongoing discussions with the Place directorate regarding the Community Asset transfer (CAT).
- 18.2 Once the CAT has been formally agreed, this schedule will be included as part of the Joint Working Agreement (JWA) and will be monitored in partnership with the Place directorate.

19. IT SYSTEM UPGRADE

Progress Update

- 19.1 The Liquidlogic Adult Social Care System (LAS) contract has been renewed following a call off the Data and Applications Solution (DAS) Framework and is in place for five years with the option to extend for a further two years. This commenced 1 December 2022.
- 19.2 Additional modules have now been purchased for LAS to support the implementation of other IT systems as part of the wider programme.
- 19.3 The project is progressing with a current go live date expected to be late autumn / winter this year. Further progress updates will be provided to SPCMP during the year.

20. AUTISM COMMUNITY RESPONSE SERVICE OFFER

Progress Update

- 20.1 Work on this has not yet commenced and a further update will be provided in next report to SPCMP.

21. CHANGING PLACES TOILET

Progress Update

- 21.1 Site visits have now taken place with the Housing Adaptations Manager and the Contractor at Stockport MBC across all four sites.

- 21.2 Cost estimates and plans will be received from Stockport in the next few weeks.
- 21.3 A Service Level Agreement has been approved by legal Services and this is awaiting signature from Stockport MBC.

22. FUTURE PROGRAMME OF WORK – SUBJECT TO FULL BUSINESS CASES

22.1 Proposals to buy/build/partner with registered providers/developers

Exploration is ongoing and new sites have been brought forward by colleagues in the Place directorate. Further investigation is ongoing to secure new developments.

22.2 Emergency Assessment/Respite Accommodation

Information gathering is currently taking place to understand current demand and to develop a service specification. A full business case will be developed by the Team Manager in Homes for All.

22.3 Day Services Replacement

Initial work on Wilshaw House has commenced in terms of initial costings and specifications for Wilshaw House. A further review will be provided at a later date.

22.4 Care Homes

Work on reviewing the care home stock to assess equipment and adaptations has not yet commenced. A further review will be provided at a later date.

22.5 Private and Landlord Owned Homes

Exploration is ongoing and new sites have been brought forward by colleagues in Strategic Assets. Further investigation is ongoing to secure new developments.

23 CAPITAL RESERVE BALANCES

- 23.1 Table 2 provides a summary of the capital funding reserve balances that are available to finance any further capital projects within the Adult Services directorate. The balances are at 1 April 2023 and are the remaining values after financing the existing 2023/24 capital programme.
- 23.2 Approval to utilise the remaining balances will be subject to separate governance via SPCMP and the Executive Cabinet.

Table 2

Grant Reserve	Balance at 1 April 2023 After Existing Programme Commitments	Additional Commitments 2023/24	Remaining Balance
	£'m	£'m	£'m
Disabled Facilities Grant	2.165	0.000	2.165
Housing Assistance Contributions	1.016	0.000	1.016
Community Capacity Grant	1.476	0.039	1.437
Total	4.657	0.039	4.618

24 CONCLUSION

- 24.1 Recruitment to posts within social care continues to be challenging and impacts on a number of the capital schemes. However, work is underway with human resources to seek to improve the recruitment processes and attract more people to work in Adult social care and sustain them longer term.
- 24.2 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 live well and as independent as possible in their own homes.

25 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 25.1 As set out on the report cover.