

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

Date: 22 June 2023

Executive Member Councillor Bill Fairfoull – Deputy Leader (Children’s & Families)

Reporting Officer: Jane Sowerby, Assistant Director of Education
Julian Jackson, Director of Place

Subject: **EDUCATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE**

Report Summary: This report provides members of the Panel with an overview and updated position on the Council’s Education Capital Programme and seeks approval of the recommendations to Cabinet as set out in the report.

Recommendations:

1. That the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel recommend to Executive Cabinet to APPROVE:
 - i) School Condition grant for 2023/24 is updated to add £0.141m to the capital programme as detailed paragraph 2.7.
 - ii) The addition of £0.321m 2023/24 Devolved Formula Capital grant to the capital programme as detailed in paragraph 2.11.
 - iii) Additional funding of £0.200m for fire stopping works and replacement fire alarm at Oakdale Primary from Condition Grant funding as detailed in paragraph 4.13.
 - iv) Additional funding of £0.100m for asbestos removal, electrical rewire and redecoration works at Broadbent Fold Primary from Condition Grant funding as detailed in paragraph 4.14.
 - v) Funding of £0.350m for replacement roof works at Micklehurst Primary from Condition Grant funding as detailed in paragraph 4.16.
 - vi) Funding for provision of an automated gate at Cromwell High of £0.075m from Condition Grant funding and £0.025m school contribution as detailed in paragraph 4.17.
 - vii) A grant agreement for £0.720m is agreed with the New Bridge Academy Trust as detailed in paragraph 6.5 to expand temporary satellite provision at Hawthorns School from September 2023.
 - viii) The addition of £6,386 for the provision of a secure gate at St James Primary School for the resource base is agreed as detailed in paragraph 6.7, taking the total grant agreement amount for the scheme to £0.077m.
2. That the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel recommend to Executive Cabinet to NOTE:
 - i) The balance of completed Basic Needs schemes budget underspends (£0.035m) is returned to the unallocated Basic Need fund as detailed in paragraph 2.3.
 - ii) The balance of completed School Condition schemes

- budget underspends (£0.071m) is returned to the unallocated School Condition fund as detailed in paragraph 2.8.
- iii) The balance of completed High Need Provision schemes budget underspends (£0.114m) is returned to the unallocated High Need Provision fund as detailed in paragraph 2.13.
 - iv) The balance of completed Developer Contribution scheme budget underspends (£0.035m) is returned to the unallocated Developer Contribution fund as detailed in paragraph 2.15.
 - v) Corrie Primary – Roof Replacement (£0.490m) to be returned to the unallocated School Condition fund and (£0.010m) removal of school contribution as detailed in paragraph 4.15.

Corporate Plan:

The proposals contained within this report will support the delivery of the Community Strategy, through the delivery of sufficient and suitable school places to meet anticipated increased demand in 2022/23.

Schemes for replacement boilers at Stalyhill Juniors and St John's CE School support the climate and environmental strategy by supplementing gas boilers with air source heat pumps, solar and other decarbonisation measures in line with the Corporate Plan

Policy Implications:

None

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

This report provides an update in relation to the schemes already approved and any updates on progress. The Education Capital programme is funded entirely by Grants and contributions, which means the council has to prioritise this spending on priority schemes and emergency works. It is critical value for money considerations are at the heart of our decision making.

Section 2 of this report details the grant funding available, proposed changes to schemes and unallocated funding for each of the grant funding streams.

Education Capital Funding Analysis	Amount £m
Total Funding Available	32.456
Approved Programme Budget	28.366
Remaining Funding	4.090
Proposed Programme Changes	0.036
Funding Available to Allocate	4.053

Appendix 1 includes details of all current schemes, which have been previously approved.

Where a grant agreement is to be put in place, the amount requested for approval in this report should be the maximum amount paid. It will need to be made clear in the grant agreements that this is the case and any additional costs would need to be met by the relevant Trust.

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.

Where sufficient capital receipts and grants are not received, the Council will have to consider capital rationing. Any rationing exercise will have to consider the revenue implications of not progressing with a capital scheme to ensure any re-profiling or project cessations deliver the most financially efficient outcome for the Council.

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

This report provides Members with an opportunity to review the capital programmes and is seeking recommendations for Cabinet to consider various funding and budgetary matters.

Each programme is subject to its own due diligence, governance and decision making.

Risk Management:

The Council has a statutory duty under Section 14 of the Education Act 1996, to secure sufficient and suitable places for pupils in primary and secondary schools in its area. Failure to deliver sufficient school capacity places the Council in breach of its statutory duties.

Background Information:

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Susan Keymer, Capital Projects Manager



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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This report provides an update on the latest position with the Council's Education Capital Programme and seeks approval for various proposals in line with Council priorities.
- 1.2. The Council's powers to provide and maintain educational facilities are set out in the Education Act 1996. The Council also has a statutory duty under Section 14 of the Education Act 1996, to secure sufficient and suitable places for pupils in primary and secondary schools in its area.
- 1.3. The government allocates funding for school buildings under a number of categories and these are described in Section 2 of this report.
- 1.4. Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel (SPCMP) is requested to note the content of the report and to make recommendations to Executive Cabinet in respect of the proposed allocation of funding.

2. FUNDING AND FINANCIAL POSITION

- 2.1. The government allocates ring-fenced capital grant funding for school buildings under the following main categories:
- 2.2. **Basic Need Funding** - Creating additional places in schools to ensure there are enough places for children in our local area. Full details of existing and proposed schemes are set out in **Appendix 1**.
- 2.3. The table below provides details on the funding available for Basic Need and the total of approved schemes.

Basic Need Funding	Amount £m
Funding Brought Forward	21.557
Total Funding Available	21.557
Approved Schemes	19.710
Unallocated Funding	1.847
Proposed Changes:	
Schemes Finalised in 2022/23 (see paragraph 2.15)	(0.035)
Unallocated Funding if Proposals Approved	1.883

- 2.4. Plans will continue to be developed with schools to utilise the unallocated funds to provide additional capacity requirements in line with sufficiency assessments in both mainstream and specialist provision.
- 2.5. **School Condition Grant Funding** - Maintaining and improving the condition of school buildings. Full details of existing and proposed schemes are set out in **Appendix 1**.
- 2.6. On 28 March 2023, the Government announced the 2023/24 provisional allocations for local authorities. On 11 May 2023, the final allocations were released; the allocation for Tameside is £1.541m.
- 2.7. In the 16 March 2023 Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel (SPCMP) report, a provisional allocation of £1.400m was added to the capital programme. It is now requested that the increase of £0.141m be added to the programme.
- 2.8. The table below provides details on the funding available for School Condition and the total of approved schemes.

School Condition Allocation (SCA) Funding	Amount £m
Funding Brought Forward	1.041
2023/24 Allocation	1.541
Contributions from Schools	0.172
Total Funding Available	2.754
Approved Schemes	2.337
Unallocated Funding	0.418
Proposed Changes:	
Schemes Finalised in 2022/23 (see paragraph 2.15)	(0.071)
Oakdale Fire Stopping (see paragraph 4.13)	0.200
Broadbent Fold Asbestos & Rewire (see paragraph 4.14)	0.100
Corrie Primary Roof Replacement (see paragraph 4.15)	(0.500)
Micklehurst Primary Roof Replacement (see paragraph 4.16)	0.350
Cromwell Automated Gate (see paragraph 4.17)	0.100
Unallocated Funding if Proposals Approved	0.238

- 2.9. Schools contribute towards all school condition schemes. For 2023/24 this currently amounts to £0.172m for the following schools:

School No.	School	Project	Amount £m
2025	Broadbent Fold	Asbestos Removal & Rewire	0.010
2056	St Anne's Denton	Secure Front Entrance	0.137
7009	Cromwell	Automated Gate	0.025
	Total		0.172

NOTE: Schools can use funds from their DFC or their reserves should they choose to. This decision is devolved to each school.

- 2.10. **Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) Funding** - Devolved Formula Capital is provided to schools to maintain their buildings and fund small-scale capital projects that meet their own priorities, schools arrange these works directly.
- 2.11. On 28 March 2023, the Government announced the 2023/24 provisional allocations for local authorities. On 11 May 2023, the final allocations were released; the total for Tameside maintained schools is £0.321m and £0.173m for Voluntary Aided schools.
- 2.12. **High Needs Provision Capital Allocation (HNPCA) funding** - is provided to support the provision of new places and improve existing provision for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), this is not time limited. Full details of existing and proposed schemes are set out in **Appendix 1**.
- 2.13. The table below provides details on HNPCA funding available and the total of the approved schemes.

High Needs Provision Funding	Amount £m
Funding Brought Forward	4.623
2023/24 Allocation	3.522
Total Funding Available	8.144
Approved Schemes (See paragraph 2.14)	6.320
Unallocated Funding	1.825
Proposed Changes:	
Schemes Finalised in 2022/23 (see paragraph 2.15)	(0.114)
St James' Church of England Primary School (See paragraph 6.7)	0.006
Unallocated Funding if proposals approved	1.932

- 2.14. Approval was sought at Executive Cabinet on 26 April 2023 for the progression and increased budget of the expansion and relocation of Hawthorns School. The additional budget requirement from Education Capital Grants is £8.917m and this has been split equally between the Basic Need and High Needs Provision. The capital programme assumes we will receive £0.770m grant from the football foundation and £0.075m from S106 funds to support the cost of the football pitches at the new site. If the football foundation bid does not materialise this will need to be replaced with Education capital grant funding.
- 2.15. A number of schemes in 2022/23 were completed and resulted in underspends against the approved budget. These underspends are being returned to the relevant unallocated funds to support future schemes.

Scheme	Funding Source	Balance Remaining £
Denton Community College	Basic Need	(30,770)
Hyde Community College	Basic Need	(4,310)
Place Planning	Basic Need	(250)
Cromwell School	High Needs	(67,760)
Rosehill Methodist Primary Academy	High Needs	(3,520)
Wildbank Primary	High Needs	(42,790)
Arlies Primary	School Condition	(380)
Broadbent Fold	School Condition	(70)
Hurst Knoll Primary	School Condition	250
Milton St Johns Primary	School Condition	(950)
Oakdale School	School Condition	(430)
St Johns Dukinfield	School Condition	(5,810)
Tameside Pupil Referral Unit	School Condition	(69,620)
Aldwyn Primary	School Condition	9,710
Fairfield Road Primary	School Condition	(2,580)
Gorse Hall Primary	School Condition	(690)
Tameside Pupil Referral Unit	Developer Contribution	(35,000)
	Total Basic Need	(35,330)
	Total High Needs	(114,070)
	Total School Condition	(70,570)
	Total Developer Contribution	(35,000)
	Total	(254,970)

- 2.16. **Section 106 Developer Contributions** - Additional income intended to contribute towards the provision of additional school places is sometimes provided by developers as part of the planning conditions for new housing developments. These are known as Section 106 agreements. When housing estates are completed the payments become due and the Council is in receipt of several payments which have not as yet, been formally allocated to specific schemes. The current known funding available is £0.158m. Further work is being undertaken to identify where these monies can be allocated to schemes.

3. BASIC NEED FUNDED SCHEMES

- 3.1. **Appendix 1** provides a financial update with details of current Basic Need funded projects, including proposed changes to scheme funding.
- 3.2. The current focus of the Council's Basic Need programme is to create additional places in secondary and special schools where forecasts have indicated a need.
- 3.3. The following paragraphs update the Panel on the position with the current Basic Need works.

3.4. **Alder High School: Secure front entrance.**

RAG STATUS: RED

The SPV has given an update to inform the council that there will be further delays due to them struggling to get refresh costs for the project from their subcontractors. These are required in order for the deed of variation to be completed. It is therefore unlikely that the works will be completed over the summer break.

In the meantime, a project manager has been enlisted by Mitie, the facilities management provider for the PFI contract, to oversee and progress these works.

Budget Remaining: £0.615m approved.

Remaining Issues: A plan of action needs to be discussed with school to agree if the building works could still be progressed whilst the school is operational. If the refresh costs are higher than the budget available, additional governance will be required to agree any increase.

3.5. **All Saints Catholic College: Works to sports and other facilities to support additional places.**

RAG STATUS: GREEN

The works are being overseen by the Shrewsbury Diocese. Phase 1 and 2 of the works are complete. Phase 3 is scheduled to be complete by the end of 2022/23 school year with work taking place over the summer holidays to ensure the impact of the work is minimised to existing students. The school will tender for the remaining work to improve the toilets and food technology facilities in the spring/summer terms, with work to be undertaken over the summer holidays. Conversations have taken place with the school to ensure that all outstanding work is completed in this financial year as far as is practicable.

Budget: £1.990m approved.

Remaining Issues: Further phases of work at the school will follow governance procedures to recommend grant agreements.

3.6. **Hawthorns Primary Academy: New school building.**

RAG STATUS: AMBER

On 26 April 2023, Executive Cabinet considered a report on the new building for Hawthorns School. The report provided members with a progress update on the Hawthorns SEND school scheme including the latest design solution, cost plan, programme, value for money assessment and grant funding bid submission to the Football Foundation. This report sought approval to progress the scheme including the development of standard BSF Design and Build Contract with the LEP now all the final construction costs are known for the school building. It is imperative that the building works are now undertaken as expediently as possible to meet the necessary Building Regulations requirements.

Executive Cabinet approved the following recommendations:

(i) Approved £9.762m additional budget allocation from the Education Capital funding budget to deliver the overall school project, £13.000m has previously been approved, and the capital programme be increased accordingly.

(ii) Agreed any increase in cost variations to the scope or design will need to be met by the Academy or the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

(iii) Approved entering into the standard Design & Build contract with the Inspired spaces (the LEP).

(iv) Approved entering into a Deed of Appointment with the LEP and Currie & Brown for the appointment of an Independent Certifier for the new school scheme.

(v) Agreed that any variations to the project that involve an increased cost for the scheme implication will be approved by the S151 officer in the first instance and the S151 will be the Council's authorised officer for executing any project variations.

(vi) Approved entering into an agreement for lease and thereafter a lease with the Academy on the terms set out in the report including a surrender of their existing lease.

(vii) Approved entering into any incidental agreements to facilitate the project subject to agreement by the S151 Officer and the Head of Legal.

(viii) Approved the advertisement of any proposed loss of open space due to the lease to the academy (in accordance with the provisions of Section (2A) of the Local Government Act 1972 and the Open Spaces Act 1906)

(ix) Approved the submission of a grant funding application to the Football Foundation as set out in section 6 of this report including the appointment of a grant bid specialist to make this application at an estimated cost of £6k.

(x) To receive a further report to advise on the delivery of the football pitches and resolve any funding for the football pitches following the outcome of the application to the Football Foundation for the grant in recommendation (ix).

(xi) Note that a further report will follow in relation to the use/occupation of the former Hawthorns school subject to a sufficiency review referred to in paragraph 2.6.

Further governance reports will be required to be considered by Executive Cabinet in relation to (a) the construction and costs of the Football pitches following a grant application to Football Foundation and (b) the use of the current Hawthorn School site.

Any programme slippage or approved overspend relating to this project would reduce the remaining Education capital budget. The programme at the New Hawthorns school must be contained within the overall Education capital funding envelope. This scheme will be closely monitored and updates provided through SPCMP and additional governance sought if required.

Budget: The total approved budget for the scheme is £22.762m

3.7. **Rayner Stephens Academy: Remodelling of Food Technology and Science Rooms**

RAG STATUS: GREEN

The school are currently progressing with plans to relocate Science labs into the main school building from temporary accommodation and remodelling design technology. The Trust have chosen the contractor and are looking to begin works in the next few weeks. An increase in costs has delayed the process as the school have needed to go back to Trustees for approval. They have secured an additional £0.550m for this work. Conversations have taken place with the school to ensure that all outstanding work is completed in this financial year as far as is practicable. Two separate grant agreements have now been signed and sealed for the cost of the work to the Food Technology rooms (£0.107m) and science labs is (£0.077m). Ongoing monitoring of the project will be through the grant agreement and reported to the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel.

Budget: £1.300m approved.

Remaining Issues: None.

3.8. **St Thomas More: Contribution to provide Artificial Sports Pitch:**

RAG STATUS: GREEN

The school are currently progressing with a sporting facilities bid with the Football Foundation to obtain further funding towards the project. It is expected that the school will be in a position to submit a planning application in due course. The allocation from the Council will be used by the school as part of the match funding for this bid.

Budget: £0.120m approved.

Remaining Issues: None.

3.9. **Thomas Ashton: Additional Classrooms within Discovery Academy.**

RAG STATUS: COMPLETE

All works were completed at Discovery Academy during February 23.

Budget: £0.110m approved.

Remaining Issues: None.

4. SCHOOL CONDITION FUNDED SCHEMES

4.1. **Appendix 1** provides a financial update with details of current School Condition Allocation (SCA) funded projects, including proposed changes to scheme funding.

4.2. In order to develop an informed asset management plan for schools that remain under the Council's responsibility, condition surveys of existing school premises were undertaken by an independent surveyor appointed by the Council during 2019. The intention to create a transparent and targeted schedule of works required to school buildings.

4.3. The budget available is insufficient to meet the demands placed upon it and the surveyors were asked to identify priorities of the works required within each school and across the portfolio of schools, these priorities are continued to be programmed in to be undertaken.

4.4. In addition to the works identified in the condition survey, there are other calls on the SCA budget. This is the only central source of grant money to spend on schools (other than Basic Need, which is purely to create new school places). It has been custom and practice to address health and safety items and support disabled access by using the School Condition Allocation funding.

4.5. **Contingency**

A contingency allocation of £0.150m is allocated for the financial year 2023/24. This is to cover unforeseen and emergency works that may arise during the year.

4.6. An allocation of £45,000 for TMBC project management costs in relation to SCA schemes was approved at March 2023 Panel and Cabinet for 2023/24. This will be allocated against relevant schemes throughout the year.

4.7. The following paragraphs describe those schemes with significant variations from the original estimates or update the Panel on progress on schemes already within the programme.

4.8. **Russell Scott Primary: Funding for emergency works pending the rebuild of the new school**

RAG STATUS: RED

Programme: As and when required.

Budget remaining £0.042m approved.

4.9. **Gee Cross Holy Trinity CE Primary: Gable end/roof works.**

RAG STATUS: GREEN

The majority of works were completed over Easter break. Due to the bespoke window replacement, the frames have been fitted with temporary glass until the correct glass arrives.

Budget: £0.280m approved.

Remaining Issues: Bespoke glass panels to be fitted once received by contractor.

4.10. **St Anne's Denton: Secure entrance extension.**

RAG STATUS: RED

A further site visit has been undertaken by the council along with Robertson's project team to discuss alternative options for the secure entrance due to the unaffordability of the previous designed scheme. To move this forward, a new design and planning permission would have to be submitted.

Budget: £0.510m approved.

Remaining Issues: A further meeting is to be arranged with school to discuss whether the school would prefer to increase their contribution and gain the extra offices and toilet areas which were incorporated in the original project or whether they accept that a redesign for a secure entrance only is undertaken.

4.11. **St John's CE Dukinfield: Boiler replacement and decarbonisation measures.**

RAG STATUS: COMPLETE

All works completed end of April 23.

Budget: £0.154m approved (included within the Place Capital Programme).

Remaining Issues: Awaiting final invoices.

4.12. **Stalyhill Junior School: Boiler replacement and decarbonisation measures.**

RAG STATUS: GREEN

All works are due to be completed by the end May 23.

Budget: £0.176m approved (included within the Place Capital Programme).

Remaining Issues: None.

4.13. **Oakdale Primary School: Fire stopping and Fire alarm systems.**

RAG STATUS: GREEN

The Fire stopping survey was undertaken during the Easter break. A schedule of works is currently being written, when complete this will be sent out for tender along with the fire alarm specification. Both tenders are to be returned by the beginning of June 23. All works scheduled to be completed by September 2023. A high level budget was approved at the March 23 Panel of £0.250m but on the basis of the works now known to be completed a further £0.200m is required. Panel is asked to recommend to Executive Cabinet an additional £200,000 is allocated to this project.

Budget: £0.250m approved.

Remaining Issues: None.

4.14. **Broadbent Fold Primary School: Electrical rewire and Asbestos removal**

RAG STATUS: GREEN

Phase one of the Asbestos removal works were completed during the Easter break, phase two is scheduled for completion at May half term.

The majority of the electrical rewire works will be completed during the summer break with remaining elements undertaken by October 2023. A high level budget was approved for this project of £0.450m. A fixed cost was received for the asbestos removal but the tender has not yet been received back for the rewire redecoration works. On the basis of the rewire specification, it is likely that the project will be in the region of £0.550m. Panel is asked to recommend to Executive Cabinet that a further £0.100m is allocated to this project.

Budget: £0.450m approved.

Remaining Issues: None.

4.15. **Corrie Primary: Replacement roof**

RAG STATUS: RED

It was identified in the last condition survey that the whole roof needs upgrading due to its increasing deterioration. A roof survey has been undertaken to determine the varying conditions of the roofs and a tender package was in the process of being formulated which has now been put on hold.

A budget of £0.500m had been approved for this scheme. Unfortunately, due to other critical roof works at another school that have recently come to light, this project will have to be reprogrammed. Panel is asked to recommend to Executive Cabinet that this scheme is removed from the capital programme to allow the funding to be re-allocated.

Budget: £0.500m approved.

Remaining Issues: None.

4.16. **Micklehurst Primary: Replacement roof**

RAG STATUS: GREEN

Due to recurrent leaks to various areas of the roof and the school in jeopardy of closing due to health and safety related issues, a full roof survey was undertaken. This highlighted that parts of the roof structure was rotten and in need of urgent replacement and that 4 out of the 9 roofs needed additional works. A full specification and schedule of works have been written and are due to have completed the tender process by the middle of May.

Panel is asked to recommend to Executive Cabinet the allocation of a high level budget of £0.350m for the works to be undertaken over the summer break.

Budget: No budget currently approved.

Remaining Issues: None.

4.17. Cromwell High: Automated security gate**RAG STATUS: GREEN**

Due to a security breach when the fire alarm was activated, a pupil managed to leave site undetected. This is a high level Health and Safety issue which has identified that the school needs to have an automated security gate installed. Surveys have been undertaken funded through the contingency budget and the tender package is currently being worked on. Due to the current access and works that need to be undertaken, installation will need to be over the summer break. Panel is asked to recommend to Executive Cabinet a high level budget of £0.100m be allocated to this project for these works to be undertaken. The budget request is made up of £75,000 School Condition funding and a £25,000 contribution from the school.

Budget: No budget currently approved.

Remaining Issues: None.

4.18. Stalyhill Infants: Drainage.**RAG STATUS: GREEN**

Following on from the completed works, it was highlighted during a final snagging meeting held with the school that a few items had been missed off the original specification of works. These works have now been costed and are still affordable within the original budget approved.

Budget: £0.323m approved.

Remaining Issues: Additional works to be completed.

4.19. Asbestos Management Surveys**RAG STATUS: GREEN**

Asbestos surveys will be undertaken as and when required within the immediate area as part of any potential condition projects at schools.

Budget: £0.041m approved.

Remaining Issues: None.

4.20. Condition Surveys**RAG STATUS: GREEN**

Over the next 5 years, schools which continue to fall under the Councils responsibility, will have an updated condition survey undertaken to enable the council to continually assess their condition. 20% will be completed during 2023/24.

Budget: £0.044m approved.

Remaining Issues: None.

4.21. Structural Engineers' Fees**RAG STATUS: GREEN**

As and when required

Budget: £4,550 approved.

Remaining Issues: None.

5. SPECIAL PROVISION FUNDED SCHEMES

- 5.1. **Appendix 1** provides a financial update of the current Special Provision funded projects, including any proposed changes to scheme funding.
- 5.2. Special Provision funding is fully spent.

6. HIGH NEEDS PROVISION FUNDED SCHEMES

- 6.1. **Appendix 1** provides a financial update of the current High Needs Provision Capital funded projects, including any proposed changes to scheme funding.

- 6.2. **Pinfold Primary School: Support for pupil with Special Educational Needs:
RAG STATUS: RED**

The SPV has given an update to inform the council that there will be further delays due to them struggling to get refresh costs for the project from their subcontractors. These are required in order for the deed of variation to be completed.

In the meantime, a project manager has been enlisted by Mitie, the facilities management provider for the PFI contract, to oversee and progress these works

Budget: £77,000 approved.

Remaining Issues: School is liaising with Education as to whether the pupil should be in a mainstream school placement due to their complex needs.

- 6.3. **Longdendale High School: Accommodation to establish a 15 place resource base.
RAG STATUS: GREEN**

An initial budget of £0.650m was agreed in November 2022 to support the Stamford Park Trust to establish a resource base at Longdendale High School. The budget will be used to facilitate a new demountable building on the school site to cater for up to 15 children with Education, Health and Care Plans. The Trust have consulted on establishing the resource base and final plans are now in place which will be the subject of an application for planning permission. The Trust have finalised the significant change requested to the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) that will be submitted following the outcome of the planning application. The grant agreement will be finalised once this process is complete.

Budget: £0.650m approved.

Remaining issues: Signing the grant agreement once the Trust formally submitted a business case to the Education and Skills Funding Agency to establish a resource base, undertook the required public consultation and obtained the relevant planning permissions.

- 6.4. **Oakdale School: Refurbishment within existing areas of school to create additional teaching spaces.
RAG STATUS: GREEN**

RAG STATUS: GREEN

A design has now been agreed with school which will be sent out for tender in order for the works to be completed over the summer break. The works will be undertaken alongside the fire stopping and fire alarm replacement.

Budget: £0.150m approved.

Remaining Issues: None

- 6.5. **Hawthorns School additional provision
RAG STATUS: GREEN**

As set out in section 3.6, plans have now been finalised and increased budget approved for the new Hawthorns building. The school have already established satellite provision at Wild Bank Primary School and Discovery Academy as their current school site at Lumb Lane is not big enough for all the pupils who are registered at the school.

There is demand for the 220 places from this September but the school only have accommodation for 190 children across their current operating sites. In the 16 March 2023

SPCMP report, budget of £0.720m was approved to facilitate additional satellite accommodation for September 2023. This allowed New Bridge Academy Trust to complete their feasibility study on options to increase places across their sites in Tameside. The Trust originally proposed three options: four demountable classrooms on the Lumb Lane site, on the Wild Bank site; on the Samuel Laycock site or a combination of the sites.

Following the feasibility study, the preferred option for the Trust is to have two mobile units on the current Hawthorns Lumb Lane site and two mobile units on the Samuel Laycock School site.

This option has been chosen for a number of reasons:

- The installation of mobile units at each site will each consist of 2 classrooms with space for 12 pupils in each, an overall possible expansion of 48 school places.
- Mobile classrooms 3 & 4 at Samuel Laycock will house year 6 students from Hawthorns as this can also support year 6 to year 7 transition to Samuel Laycock.
- Once the new 220 place Hawthorns 2 school opens the units will support Samuel Laycock's expansion following increased transition numbers from Hawthorns into the secondary sector.
- Mobile classrooms 1 & 2 at Hawthorns will house year 3 and 4 pupils in order that the current offer can continue with as little interruption as is possible.
- There is a strong preference for the classrooms to be on the same site as the main school building to allow the continuance of the school ethos and culture. Whilst satellite sites have been and are purposeful they don't allow for regular mentoring, inclusion and team working with other staff across the whole school.
- Whilst the transition for our pupils going to Samuel Laycock will be made easier as stated, the two schools will be working in even closer conjunction with each other as a result of this option. Creating closer ties with Samuel Laycock is a key aspect of the school's Development Plan.
- Although the ideal scenario would be for all four mobile classrooms to be at Hawthorns main site, in a practical sense, having any more than two mobile classrooms at the Audenshaw site may overwhelm capacity there and jeopardise relations with Aldwyn School, especially whilst they are midway through a land transfer which may cause complications in the short space of time that we have.

The projected cost of the project has increased to £0.752m however, New Bridge Trust have agreed to meet the difference between the allocated budget of £0.720m and the current projected cost.

The Trust propose to buy the demountables. Once the school has transferred to new Hawthorns building, the demountables will be sold and the funding generated will be returned to Tameside Council and reallocated to future high needs projects in line with the SEN Sufficiency Strategy. Consideration must be given to who is responsible for costs in relation to re-instatement of the site/s and any other incidental costs when selling demountables.

Budget: £0.720m approved.

Remaining Issues: The Trust will apply for planning permission for the projects on the two school sites. It is recommended that SPCMP recommend to Executive Cabinet that a grant agreement for £0.720m is agreed with the New Bridge Academy Trust to expand temporary satellite provision at Hawthorns School from September 2023. This will be dependent on New Bridge Trust being granted planning permission and obtaining all the necessary permissions from the ESFA.

6.6. **Dane Bank Primary School: Resource Base** **RAG STATUS: GREEN**

The resource base will be for 10 pupils and the scheme involves remodelling a current classroom as well as creating a breakout space, sensory room and a safe outdoor space. A grant agreement with the Changing Lives in Collaboration (CLIC) Trust has now been signed

and sealed for £0.063m with work due to be complete by the end of the summer term. Ongoing monitoring of the project will be through the grant agreement and reported to the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel.

Budget: £0.063m approved.

Remaining Issues: Works to be completed.

6.7. **St James' Church of England Primary School, Ashton Resource Base proposal** **RAG STATUS: GREEN**

In line with the SEN Sufficiency Report, there is a current proposal to increase specialist resource provision at St James' Church of England Primary School.

The resource base will be a 10 place unit for primary aged children with communication and interaction needs from September 2023. The school has identified accommodation within the site that can be remodelled and used for the resource base. The capital works will create a safe outdoor space; toilets and remodel a classroom to accommodate the base.

The works will be commissioned by Forward as One Academy Trust with oversight from the Council's Capital Projects Team and a grant agreement would be put in place to fund the project. A grant agreement has been previously agreed with Forward as One Academy Trust for £0.070m to provide 10 places for at least 10 years. In addition to this, the school will also require £6,386 for the installation of a new gate to the public footpath entrance and access control. The grant agreement for the total amount is currently being prepared for signing. Ongoing monitoring of the project will be through the grant agreement and reported to the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel.

Executive Cabinet has previously agreed the allocation of £0.070m from the High Needs Provision Fund for this scheme. Panel is asked to recommend to Executive Cabinet a further £6,386 to this scheme as outlined above, taking the total cost of the scheme to £0.077m.

Budget: £0.070m approved.

Remaining Issues: The grant agreement for the total amount is currently being prepared for signing. Signing the grant agreement will happen once the Trust has formally submitted a business case to the Education and Skills Funding Agency to establish a resource base, undertaken the required public consultation and obtained any relevant planning permissions.

7. **PROCUREMENT AND ADDED VALUE**

7.1. In accordance with Council policy and contractual arrangements all capital projects should be procured through the Tameside Investment Partnership/LEP except alterations to PFI schools which are procured through the PFI contracts. Capital projects at Voluntary Aided schools are generally procured directly by the relevant governing body and diocese as they own the buildings and/or have separate governance arrangements.

7.2. In addition to a fixed price and scope being provided, the LEP has a responsibility to confirm to the Council that value for money is being delivered, either through tendering or benchmarking using independent review on the larger projects. The LEP has also committed to delivering added value in the form of using local supply chains and providing apprenticeships and work experience opportunities.

8. **RISK MANAGEMENT**

8.1. The specific risks and mitigation plans, associated with each of the projects, have been identified in the main section of the report.

8.2. Inflation in the building industry is also a more significant risk than previously experienced and larger schemes will be most affected. Early scoping and pricing of the works will mitigate against this and enable projects to be delivered in a timely and cost-effective manner.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1. As set out at the front of the report.