

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

meeting date: 29 MARCH 2022
 title: CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2022/23
 submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
 principal author: ANDREW COOK

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To inform members of the schemes approved for inclusion in this Committee's 2022/23 capital programme.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 All committees were asked to put forward proposals for any new capital schemes for inclusion in a five-year capital programme for 2022/23 to 2026/27. At its meeting on 18 January 2022, members considered schemes that had been put forward for this Committee.
- 2.2 In light of the uncertainty regarding local government funding beyond 2022/23 and the impending fair funding review, all new bids, across all committees were set aside until later in the 2022/23 financial year for consideration once there is more certainty around local government funding. As a result, a three-year capital programme for 2022/23 to 2024/25 is now in place.
- 2.3 The Council's overall capital programme for the three-year period 2022/23 to 2024/25 totals £5,563,970 for all committees. The total for this Committee is £541,760 over the three-year life of the programme. £335,480 of this relates to the 2022/23 financial year.

3 CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2022/23 – APPROVED SCHEMES

- 3.1 For this Committee there are six schemes approved in the 2022/23 capital programme, totalling £335,480. These are shown in the table below and detailed information for the schemes is shown in **Annex 1**.

Cost Centre	Scheme	Budget for 2022/23 £
BRKFT	Brookfoot Footbridge, Ribchester – Replacement of Bridge	110,000
ITINF	ICT Infrastructure Refresh	116,600
DHRST	Dewhurst Road, Langho – Resurfacing Works <i>(Budget moved from 2021/22)</i>	62,850
NTWRK	Network Infrastructure <i>(Budget moved from 2021/22)</i>	30,000
COADM	Committee Administration IT System <i>(Budget moved from 2021/22)</i>	7,600
CFUPG	Financial System Upgrade <i>(Budget moved from 2021/22)</i>	8,430
	Total – Policy and Finance Committee	335,480

3.2 Responsible officers will complete and update capital monitoring sheets for each scheme, which will be reported regularly to members to give an indication of progress.

3.3 During the closure of our capital accounts there may be some slippage on the schemes in the 2021/22 current year capital programme. If there is any slippage on those schemes, the details will be reported to a future meeting of this Committee and to the Budget Working Group.

4 CONCLUSION

4.1 This Committee has an approved 2022/23 capital programme of £335,480 for six schemes.

4.2 Any slippage on the schemes in the 2021/22 capital programme will be reported to this Committee.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

PF12-22/AC/AC
14 March 2022

For further background information please ask for Andrew Cook
BACKGROUND PAPERS – None

POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Schemes Approved for the 2022/23 Capital Programme

Brookfoot Footbridge, Ribchester – Replacement of Bridge

Service Area: Estates

Submitted by: Adrian Harper

Brief Description of the Scheme:

The Council are responsible for the maintenance of Brookfoot Footbridge in Ribchester. The bridge crosses Stydd Brook before it joins the River Ribble and connects Council owned land to a track leading to an adopted highway.

A large part of the land is currently leased to Ribchester Parish Council and is used as allotments. The remaining grassed area is maintained by Ribble Valley Borough Council. The land on both sides of the brook is susceptible to flooding and the bridge itself is at risk of damage when this occurs. The bridge is inspected by Engineering Services on a 3 monthly basis and whilst it is currently considered to be safe, defects have been identified which will need to continue to be monitored.

It is considered that due to the structural type and condition of the bridge, it would only be feasible to replace rather than repair the structure.

Revenue Implications:

None.

Timescale for Completion:

10 Weeks.

Any Risks to Completion:

Any works would require planning permission and the consent of the Environment Agency, as they are responsible for the watercourse that flows below the bridge. Access to the allotments would need to be restricted and if possible, alternative arrangements agreed with the adjacent private landowner, whilst works took place.

Capital Cost:

2022/23
£
110,000

POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Schemes Approved for the 2022/23 Capital Programme

ICT Infrastructure Refresh

Service Area: IT Services

Submitted by: Lawson Oddie

Brief Description of the Scheme:

Current infrastructure would be 5 years old in 2022/23.

The scheme is based on the projected ICT needs in 5 years. However, the actual requirements may be quite different in 5 years when compared to those forecast within this bid due to the speed of change/development in ICT. The scheme would look to equip the Council to meet the actual needs in 2022/23. Possible solutions anticipated are:

1. Replacement of the current infrastructure with a similar solution (based on the 2016/17 capital scheme).
2. Move all server resources into the cloud.
3. Investigate the use of new end user technologies.

Revenue Implications:

There may be increased revenue costs to both hardware and software maintenance, such as licensing changes, but it is not possible to quantify this at this stage. The 2016/17 scheme resulted in additional revenue costs for licenses of just less than £4k per annum.

Timescale for Completion:

Over the 12 months within 2022/23.

Any Risks to Completion:

Loss of data, resource shortage, supplier pull-out.

Capital Cost:

2022/23 £
116,600

POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Schemes Approved for the 2022/23 Capital Programme

Dewhurst Road, Langho – Resurfacing Works

Service Area: Estates

Submitted by: Adrian Harper

Budget moved from 2021/22:

The Council are responsible for the maintenance of the majority of Dewhurst Road, Langho. This resurfacing scheme was included in the capital programme because the road was subject to regular costly repairs.

The 2021/22 approved budget for this scheme was £69,650.

Pre-tender works have been completed in 2021/22. However, at January 2022 there had been less progress than previously planned on specifying the main contract works required and this had been exacerbated by the recent vacancy in the post of Engineering Services Manager.

It was therefore expected that the main contract works would now take place in 2022/23, but there may be some survey design expenditure before 2021/22 year-end to support the main contract works tender specification.

Given the above, in January 2022, this Committee approved that the 2021/22 revised estimate budget be reduced to £6,800 and that the remainder of the scheme budget, £62,850, be transferred to 2022/23.

Capital Cost:

2022/23
£
62,850

POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Schemes Approved for the 2022/23 Capital Programme

Network Infrastructure

Service Area: IT Services

Submitted by: Lawson Oddie

Budget moved from 2021/22:

This scheme is for the replacement of the current hardware that supports the Council's network infrastructure.

At January 2022, no progress had been made on this scheme due to other pressures on the ICT service, which had been exacerbated by the recent vacancy in the post of ICT Infrastructure Officer and the re-introduction of home working. The ICT Infrastructure Officer's post had subsequently been filled and IT Services expected to engage with suppliers in relation to this scheme in the near future. However, it was not expected that the scheme would be completed in 2021/22.

Therefore, in January 2022 this Committee approved the transfer of the £30,000 scheme budget from 2021/22 to 2022/23.

Capital Cost:

2022/23 £
30,000

POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Schemes Approved for the 2022/23 Capital Programme

Committee Administration IT System

Service Area: Legal and Democratic Services

Submitted by: Mair Hill

Budget moved from 2021/22:

The implementation of the ModGov system software is now complete. The remaining budget of £7,600 on this scheme was set aside to fund any IT hardware purchases required to support the use of the system (possibly some laptops).

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services wants the system software to be used for face-to-face meetings in the Council chamber for a full year before deciding whether any IT hardware is required. So this decision will not be taken in 2021/22.

Therefore, in January 2022 this Committee approved the transfer of the £7,600 remaining scheme budget from 2021/22 to 2022/23.

Capital Cost:

2022/23
£
7,600

POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Schemes Approved for the 2022/23 Capital Programme

Financial System Upgrade

Service Area: Financial Services

Submitted by: Lawson Oddie

Budget moved from 2021/22:

The main financial system upgrade has been completed. The remaining budget of £8,430 is to be used to make further enhancements to the system.

At January 2022, options were continuing to be appraised for further enhancement of the system. There will be some trialling of options to assess workability over the coming months, but some further enhancements, which may incur a cost, could be needed subject to the outcome of these trials. As such officers continue to be in discussions with the software company, but any further spend would be unlikely to be needed until the 2022/23 financial year.

Therefore, in January 2022 this Committee approved the transfer of the £8,430 remaining scheme budget from 2021/22 to 2022/23.

Capital Cost:

2022/23 £
8,430