

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

**3 February 2015**

**Joint Report of the Acting Strategic Director for Children &  
Younger Adults and the Director of Property**

**SWADLINCOTE, LINDEN HOUSE CHILDREN'S HOME – MINOR  
WORKS IMPROVEMENTS**

**1. Purpose of Report**

To approve expenditure on minor capital works at Linden House Children's Home, Swadlincote.

**2. Information and Analysis**

On 3 February 2010, Council approved a Joint Report of the Chief Executive, the Director of Finance and the Director of Property on the Prudential Code for Capital Finance, Capital programme Approvals and Treasury Management Strategy which included an allocation of £1.2 million for Linden House.

The intention was to replace Linden House as it did not offer suitable accommodation. A suitable replacement building could not be found, and in 2013, a feasibility study was undertaken to remodel and refurbish the building to an acceptable standard. In March 2014, Cabinet agreed a review of the Residential Care – Children in Care service. It is therefore proposed to await the outcome of that review before deciding on whether to implement a complete refurbishment.

In May 2014, a shortlist of the most essential works at the home was drawn up. These works are for refurbishments of 5 bedrooms for young people, kitchen refurbishment, two bathroom refurbishments, addressing patches of ground floor damp, and external decoration of the building at a total budget of £175,000. Approval of capital expenditure for these urgent works is now proposed. A decision on a further refurbishment of this facility will be taken at a future date.

**3. Financial Considerations**

There have been no charges to date on the approved sum of £1.2 million. A budget estimate has been received from the Director of Property for this project for the sum of £175,000.

**4. Other Considerations** In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: prevention of crime & disorder, equality of opportunity; and environmental, legal & human rights, health, human resources, property and transport considerations.

**5. Background Papers** A file is held in the CAYA development section.

**6. Key Decision?** No

**7. Is it required that the call-in period be waived in respect of decisions being proposed within the report?** No

**8. Chief Officers' Recommendation**

That the Cabinet Member approves the expenditure on minor capital works for refurbishment at Linden House Children's Home, Swadlincote, at a total cost of £175,000 drawn from the existing allocation of £1.2m.

**Ian Johnson, Acting Strategic Director for Children & Younger Adults and Jeremy Goacher, Director of Property**