

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

26 April 2018

Report of the Strategic Director for Children's Services

CHILDREN'S SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017-18 JOINT FUNDING INITIATIVE FOR SCHOOLS, FURTHER ALLOCATIONS – (YOUNG PEOPLE)

1. Purpose of Report

To seek approval to a schedule of joint-funded projects submitted by schools as a charge on the budget approved in the 2017-18 Children's Services Capital Programme.

2. Information and Analysis

On 20 July 2017, as part of the 2017-18 Children's Services Capital Programme, Cabinet agreed to allocate £500,000 to continue with the Joint Funding Initiative introduced in 2012-13. This initiative enables schools to bid for 50% funding support from the Authority to undertake priority schemes which will improve the condition of their school site/buildings and also included this year's bids to improve the safeguarding of children or to help with the creation of school places utilising existing accommodation. This initiative helps to reduce the backlog of school condition improvement works which is a national and local priority for capital investment.

The Joint Funding Initiative has proved to be very popular with schools, with 309 projects approved to date. Last year, the maximum project amount that schools could bid for was reduced from £50,000 to £30,000 (maximum school contribution £15,000) so that more schools would benefit from the funding available.

On 1 February 2018, Cabinet received a report and approved 53 joint matched funding projects totalling £457,406. This results in a balance of funds available of £42,594.

10 further projects have been received from schools (details set out in the Appendix to this report). The total value of these schemes is £176,100. The funding required from the Authority is £88,050.

3. Financial Considerations

A budget of £500,000 was approved in the Children's Services Capital Programme 2017-18. Cabinet received a report on 5 April which approved further allocations from the Children's Services Capital Programme and noted that the unallocated funds totalled £6,738,665. If all the schemes in this report are approved then the original allocation provided for Joint Matched Funding of £500,000 is short by £45,456 as the balance of funds available is only £42,594. The proposal being that the extra funding required of £45,456 is to be used from the Basic Need/School Condition Grant which currently has a balance of £6,738,665 and would reduce to £6,693,209.

4. Social Value Considerations

Schools presenting bids have the option of managing their own scheme or using County Property. In situations where schools are managing their own scheme, the project will be procured under the school's financial regulations. Most schools, however, choose to have the scheme delivered by County Property. In these circumstances, the project will not, therefore, be subject to an external procurement.

County Property's project delivery regime takes into account the Authority's Social Value Strategy and reflects the strong social value that it presents. County Property is developing its social value reporting and the benefits include contributions to Outcome 1 (strong local economy) and outcome 2 (a skilled and confident workforce). Particular values in these areas relate to: workforce development through apprenticeships, payment of the living wage and spend with suppliers within the local economy. The social value created by this and other projects delivered by County Property will be reported separately to Cabinet.

5. Other Considerations

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

6. Key Decision Yes

7. Call In

Is it necessary for the call-in period to be waived in respect of the decisions being proposed in the report? No

8. Background Papers

These are held on file in the Children's Services Development Section

9. Officer Recommendation

That approval be granted to the joint-funded projects as detailed in the Appendix to the report, with funding being split equally between the schools and the Authority, resulting in a charge of £88,050 against the Children's Services Capital Programme.

Jane Parfrement
Strategic Director for Children's Services

Appendix

School	Project	Total Cost £	LA Contribution £
Walton-on-Trent Primary	Internal refurbishment to enlarge a teaching space into a classroom.	£20,000	£10,000
Riddings Infant	Refurbish reception playground	£30,000	£15,000
Pinxton Nursery	Additional fencing (safeguarding) and refurbishment of playground soft surfacing.	£10,000	£5,000
Brockwell Schools	Additional JMF funding for two schools (Brockwell Jnr & Inf). £28/£14k approved 01.02.2018 for installation of controlled access gates to shared site.	£6,000	£3,000
Firfield Primary	Refurbish school hall and staff toilets	£30,000	£15,000
Middleton Primary	Resurfacing playground & paths.	£13,100	£6,550
Calow Primary	Security and condition improvements	£30,000	£15,000
Burbage Primary	Internal remodelling of resource room to increase safeguarding	£23,000	£11,500
Wirksworth Junior School	Hall floor replacement	£14,000	£7,000
	Totals	£176,100	£88,050