

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

31 January 2012

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

**CHILDREN'S HOMES – MINOR WORKS IMPROVEMENTS 2011-12 –
(Young People)**

1. **Purpose of Report** To seek approval to a capital allocation from the Corporate Capital Programme Contingency to fund minor works improvements in Children's Homes.
2. **Information and Analysis**
 - 2.1. Until 2008/09 it was normal practice for an annual capital allocation to be approved to carry out minor works improvements in Children's Homes, many of which respond to issues raised during Ofsted inspections.
 - 2.2. Since 2009/10 a number of 'traditional' capital allocations, including the allocation for Children's Homes, have been retained within a Corporate Capital Contingency Budget and allocated according to need.
 - 2.3. An annual round of visits and meetings has taken place with the managers in all of the Authority's Children's homes and the most urgent improvement priorities have been identified with outline budget costs. These are listed in the Appendix to this Report.
 - 2.4. It is proposed that when tenders are received for the individual projects listed in the Appendix, orders will be placed by the Strategic Director of Children & Younger Adults in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders, provided the expenditure is within the limit of the approved estimate.
3. **Financial Considerations** The funding of £215,000 can be met from the Corporate Capital Programme Contingency Budget.

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, health, human resources, legal & human rights, property and transport considerations.
5. **Key Decision** Yes
6. **Call in to be waived?** No
7. **Chief Officers' Recommendations**
- 7.1 That approval be granted to an allocation of £215,000 from the Corporate Capital Programme Contingency Budget to fund a programme of minor works improvements in Children's Homes as listed in the Appendix.
- 7.2 That the Strategic Director for Children & Younger Adults be authorised to place orders for the individual projects as tenders are received provided the total expenditure does not exceed the allocation of £215,000.

Ian Thomas, Strategic Director for Children & Younger Adults

Jeremy Goacher, Director of Property

Appendix

Children's Homes Capital Contingency Funding Bid

List of improvements arising from the annual Property Review Meetings held in September 2011

Home	Project	Budget cost £
19 College Road, Buxton	Substantial internal remodelling project to create new kitchen in laundry area, and relocate laundry & storage into old kitchen.	50,000
Linden House, 34 Church Street, Swadlincote	Work arising from Fire Risk Assessment Audit, especially new fire alarm, emergency external lighting and board upgrade. New front door	30,000
1 Mundy Street, Heanor	Refurbishment of main bathroom.	10,000
25 Top Road, Calow, Chesterfield	Refurbishment of main bathroom. Improvements to house frontage. Fit window restrictors Upgrading staff sleeping-in room	30,000
Stephenson Home, 125c Market Street, Clay Cross	Extension to provide new space for 'social pedagogy' work with young people. Fit window restrictors	95,000
Total		215,000