

EXTRACT**POLICY & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, 2 February 2022

5. FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PROGRAMME (COUNCIL FUND) - 2022/23 TO 2026/27

The Cabinet Member for Resources presented the 5-year capital programme which provided an initial view of the 5-year Capital Programme from 2022/23 to 2026/27. The report formed the basis of the budget consultation process with Scrutiny Committees and other relevant parties and any feedback, along with the final settlement, would inform the final budget report which would be presented to members in March 2022. The proposed capital programme was a capital spend of some £269m over the next 5 years and current funding proposals included external funding of £150m. The report highlighted the provisional settlement received from the Welsh Government which indicated capital funding of £10.037m for the Authority in 2022-23. The funding was made up of Unhypothecated Supported Borrowing of £5.942m and General Capital Grant of £4.095m. The new capital programme remained fully funded over the five-year period.

Amongst the issues raised during consideration of the report were the following:

- In response to the questioning of the £73m allocation to schools whilst the 21st Century Band 'B' proposals were being reviewed the Head of Financial Services advised that it was important to maintain that allocation to schools overall pending the outcome of the review;
- In response to a concern that no award had been made by Welsh Government for Highways Refurbishment funding the Head of Financial Services commented that the Authority's own Capital programme included an annual allocation of £600k and Cabinet was proposing to add £1m for 2022/3 which would help in some way but still result in a shortfall. The Leader stated that the Welsh Government was being lobbied on the matter by local authorities and the WLGA and he also recognised concerns regarding the lack of pavements in some areas and the need to highlight the issue particularly within the concept of active travel;
- the Cabinet Member for Education and Children, in response to a question, gave an assurance that the 21st Century Band 'B' schools project at Ammanford remained a priority.

RESOLVED that the Five-Year Capital Programme 2022/23 – 2026/27 be endorsed.