



**REPORT of  
DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES**

---

to  
**STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
19 NOVEMBER 2020**

**CAPITAL PROJECT BIDS 2021 / 22**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider the Capital projects that have been put forward by officers prior to the approval of the 2021 / 22 budget and updated Medium Term Financial Strategy in February 2021.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

That the Committee reviews the project bids set out in **APPENDIX A** in preparation to recommend a 2021 / 22 capital programme at the Strategy and Resources Committee in January 2021 for approval by the Council in February 2021.

**3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES**

3.1 The Council's capital programme will need to reflect the three strategic themes set out in the Council's Corporate vision of Place Community and Prosperity.

3.2 The 2021 / 22 project bids set out in the table below and detailed projects sheet can be found as **APPENDIX A**. The projects have been categorised by Officers into four main groups:

- Essential (E): Failure to carry out the project is likely to have health and safety implications and/or will have fundamental impact on service provision;
- Service failure (SF): Relating to an operational asset that requires capital funding to ensure continued reliability or service provision;
- Service improvement (SI): An asset that can be updated / upgraded to improve performance or function.
- Commercial (C) - A project that can generate an income for the Council

<b>Project Category</b>	<b>Project Category</b>	<b>£'000</b>
<b>I.T Services</b>		
E	Employee Laptops and Accessories - Rolling replacement programme	47

<b>Project Category</b>	<b>Project Category</b>	<b>£'000</b>
<b>Vehicle and Plant Replacement</b>		
E	Parks team Vehicle - Rolling replacement programme	56
E	Parks team new Tractor	68
E	Parks team - Cemetery Tipper truck	17
E	Community Protection team new vehicle	18
E	River Bailiff - New vehicle	22
<b>Maldon Promenade</b>		
SF	New Playsites feature	25
SI	Resurfacing of main entrance road including new pathway and lighting	25
SI	New improved Skate Park	100
<b>Blackwater Leisure Centre</b>		
E	New Car park entrance layout and drainage works	25
<b>Dengie 100 Sports Centre</b>		
SI	Gym expansion	30
<b>Parks and open Spaces</b>		
E	Riverside Park Information boards and signage	11
SI	Riverside Park new play area	100
SI	Riverside Park - installation of new car park hard standing	35
SF	Oaktree Meadow and Orchard Meadow resurfacing improvement	35
SI	Drapers farm New development for men's shed (community improvement)	35
<b>Rivers</b>		
E	Removal old slipway at St Lawrence	10
C	Burnham on crouch Houseboats berth	120
<b>Total Capital Programme</b>		<b>779</b>
E	Essential	274
SF	Service Failure	60
SI	Service Improvement	325
C	Commercial	120

- 3.3 As part of the budget strategy the broad principles adopted in relation to capital are that expenditure should be financed from existing capital resources and not directly from revenue.

- 3.4 At the start of 2020 / 21 the Council had capital reserves totalling £2.3m. £0.4m was scheduled to be used to support the 2020 / 21 capital programme, which would leave £1.9m to support future programmes for 2021 / 22 and beyond.
- 3.5 In considering the demands on the capital programme for 2021 / 22 and beyond, it must be noted in the absence of any sizeable capital receipts from disposals of assets, the Council is likely to use up its usable capital reserve within the next few years. This would mean that future capital programmes would need to be funded from borrowing. Whereas, Maldon District Council (MDC) is currently debt free.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

- 4.1 It is essential that the Council's assets are maintained to ensure continued reliability and service provision either at current or improved level.
- 4.2 The Committee is invited to comment on the capital schemes prior to their inclusion in the 2021 / 22 Capital Programme for Council approval in February 2021. Any revenue consequences of the approved capital projects will be included in the 2021 / 22 revenue budget.

#### **5. IMPACT ON STRATEGIC THEMES**

- 5.1 The Strategic and Financial Planning process is designed to ensure the Council delivers its organisational focus on Performance and value.
- 5.2 Each of the capital projects is also linked to the Strategic Themes.

#### **6. IMPLICATIONS**

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – The aims of the projects and impact on customers is outlined in **APPENDIX A**.
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – None.
- (iii) **Impact on Risk** – Risks have been considered as part of each project brief; this includes information about the risks should the project not be taken forward, as well as risks that may impact on the success of the project.
- (iv) **Impact on resources (financial)** – Both capital and revenue implications are outlined within **APPENDIX A**. The capital programme will be financed internally by utilising capital reserves and the consequent impact on revenue will be factored into the Medium Term Financial Strategy.
- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – As well as financial factors, staff resources to deliver each project has been considered and this has been included within each project brief.

- (vi) **Impact on the Environment** – Many of the capital project bids are to maintain existing facilities or infrastructure. Any repair works will be undertaken sensitively to minimise the impact upon the wider environment.

Background Papers: None.

Enquiries to:

Lance Porteous Lead Specialist Finance, (email: lance.porteous@maldon.gov.uk).