

**Forward Plan Select Committee**  
**10<sup>th</sup> May 2004**

Briefing Note on Issues included in the Forward Plan 2003/04

**SERVICE AREA:** Education, Arts and Libraries

**Report ref** EAL0045

**Report title** **Capital Investment 2004/05 : Allocation of Education, Arts and Libraries Capital Funding**

**Summary**

The Report advises the Executive of the Capital funding presently available for EAL (including resources likely to be cashflowed from 2003/04 and hitherto unallocated to schemes) - £8,330,574 for New Start schemes in schools - following the decision by Council on 1 March 2004 and asks that the Executive agree its allocation to a programme. The recommended allocation will invite the Executive to allocate resources to Asset Management Plan (AMP) driven schemes (high priority, poorest condition buildings and those with highest "suitability" needs) to improve the performance of elements of the school buildings; the Executive will also be invited to consider allocating resources to a programme aimed at replacing huts with more permanent accommodation mainly at primary schools.

The Executive will be asked to note the reliance on the LEA's Asset Management Plan (AMP) in establishing the proposed allocations. The report also updates the Executive on the submission made to the DfES for resources under the Government's Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme. The Borough Solicitors have taken Counsel opinion on the application of the Prudential regime (for borrowing resources) to schools; this advice will be reported to Executive. Subject to the further advice of the Borough Solicitors, and decisions by Executive, a further £2,000,000 may be available under the Prudential regime for the Capital Programme 2004/05.

The AMP – Statement of Priorities is available on the Intranet and both it and the AMP as a whole have been the subject of wide consultation.

The proposed Capital programme for 2004/05 has also been the subject of wider consultation with the schools community.

The report was intended for the 26<sup>th</sup> April Executive. Given the need to address some of the structural issues in the report (and subject to the concurrence of Cllr Michael Lyon), arising from the presentation of the Capital Investment plan over a three year period, it is proposed to present this report to the May Executive following a steer from the Council's Capital Board on 28 April 2004.

## **Nature of Decision to be taken/Intended Outcome**

The Executive will be asked to :

1. Agree allocation of resources to schemes and a mechanism for re-allocating resources as new resources are identified in-year;
2. Note the ongoing Capital needs across the following years (2005/07);
3. Note the progress on the LEA's submission of BSF and endorse action taken aimed at potentially enhancing the existing site at John Kelly schools so that they may better be fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

### **Timescale for decision:**

May 2004  
(see above)

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