

## Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2018

**Report submitted by: Director of Property Services**

**Part I**

Electoral Division affected:  
(All Divisions);

### **Capital Strategy for Schools – Condition Led Capital Investment Programme, part 2018/19**

(Appendix 'A' refers)

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#### **Executive Summary**

This report sets out the proposals for the allocation of schools capital funding provided by the Education and Skills Funding Agency to address a further phase of high priority building condition repairs on Community, Voluntary Controlled and Maintained Schools in Lancashire. This is an interim report to address recently identified urgent works.

This is deemed to be a Key Decision and the provisions of Standing Order C19 have been complied with.

#### **Recommendation**

Cabinet is asked to agree to the proposed list of maintenance schemes in Lancashire schools, as set out at Appendix 'A', totalling £969,980 as a further phase of high priority school repairs.

#### **Background and Advice**

This is the seventh phase of the Condition Led Programme which first started in 2011. The capital funding for this programme is allocated annually by the Department for Education via the Education and Skills Funding Agency, and is in addition to the routine maintenance budget devolved to schools. Each round of the programme has addressed the worst condition issues that have been identified. Officers have formulated a schedule of Priority 1 school repairs by cross referencing asset management building condition data held by the county council. These are set out at Appendix 'A'.

The programme has been formulated using the most current information available however, from experience on earlier programmes, and the complexities of assessing the condition of existing buildings, there could be a risk that further Priority 1 issues may become apparent. With this in mind, a significant contingency is recommended, which will be available to capture any justifiable projects which come to light during the delivery of already identified works, and which meet the Priority 1 criteria.

The criteria for schools being included in the programme is based on the Department for Education Schools Asset Management Guidance which defines Schools Priority 1 repairs as:

**Priority 1.** *Urgent work that will prevent immediate closure of premises and/or address an immediate high risk to the health and safety of occupants and/or remedy a serious breach of legislation.*

The Department for Education provides Lancashire County Council with an annual budget of Schools Condition allocation, based on their set methodology for the Lancashire County Council controlled schools. Due to the finite budget, it will not be possible to address all high priority issues in all schools. Any remaining Priority 1 issues and any Priority 2 issues will be reviewed, prioritised and considered for any future condition led programmes.

All schemes will be commissioned with and delivered by Lancashire County Council's Design and Construction Service. The delivery timescales will be dependent on several factors linked to the practicalities of undertaking the work in occupied premises which would have an impact on education. It is anticipated therefore that the programme will be delivered when possible in school holidays, and this will likely include the summer breaks in both 2018 and 2019.

## **Consultations**

N/A

## **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

## **Risk management**

The works identified in Appendix 'A' are classified as urgent. If the recommended work is not undertaken, the risk could be managed by temporary measures, but these themselves could require significant funding e.g. provision of temporary heating plant or temporary mobile classrooms. If no action was taken, in some cases, further deterioration of the building fabric or discontinued components would result in closure of parts of, or the whole school, until significant emergency repairs could be undertaken. Due to the nature of building maintenance works, the full extent of repairs required may not be apparent, until the building infrastructure is exposed, which may result in the need to undertake additional work and therefore increased project costs.

## Financial

The Education and Skills Funding Agency School Condition allocations are as follows:

- 2016/17 £11.209m
- 2017/18 £10.956m
- 2018/19 £10.956m

The current balance of the Department for Education Schools Condition capital (this is the balance currently uncommitted before projects at Appendix 'A'), is £5.5m.

The proposed programme for part 2018/19 is set out at Appendix 'A' totalling £0.97m and will be delivered in 2018/19. The programme will be reviewed if there is a significant variance from the indicative amount for 2018/19. A report for a further programme of schools condition work will be submitted to allocate the remaining funding, based on the highest priority needs across the controlled school portfolio.

## Procurement

All Lancashire County Council procurement standing orders will be complied with. Contracts will be let through Lancashire County Council's approved frameworks.

Additional financial implications are set out at Appendix 'A' and are deemed to be **Part II** for the reasons set out below.

## List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

(Not for Publication – Exempt information in Appendix 'A' as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information in Appendix 'A'.)