

## **SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO:** Cabinet                      **DATE:** 14<sup>th</sup> October 2019

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**WARD(S):** All

**PORTFOLIO:** Cllr Swindlehurst, Leader of the Council

### **PART I** **KEY DECISION**

#### **COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND 2019/20 UPDATE**

##### **1     Purpose of the Report**

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to Cabinet regarding the 2019/20 Community Investment Fund

##### **2     Recommendation(s)/Proposed Action**

Cabinet is requested to resolve:

- a) the expenditure to date from the Community Investment Fund 2019/20 be noted;
- b) due to the current financial situation within the Slough Children's Services Trust (SCST) that any unspent revenue funding within the Community Investment Fund 2019/20 is paused until further notice; and
- c) any proposals for minor capital schemes within the Cabinet's remaining capital funding allocation of the 2019/20 Community Investment Fund.

##### **3.    The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan**

###### **3.1. Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities**

The report indirectly supports all of the strategic priorities and cross cutting themes. The maintenance of good governance within the Council to ensure that it is efficient, effective and economic in everything it does achieve through the improvement of corporate governance and democracy by ensuring effective management practice is in place.

### 3.2 Five Year Plan Outcomes

The Community Investment Fund allocations are intended to be used by Members to make small financial contributions within their Wards that support any, or all, of the Five Year Plan outcomes.

- Our children and young people will have the best start in life and opportunities to give them positive lives
- Our people will become healthier and will manage their own health, care and support needs
- Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work and visit
- Our residents will have access to good quality homes
- Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide jobs and opportunities for our residents

### 4 Other Implications

#### (a) Financial:

This report proposes pausing any further revenue funding initiatives from the Community Investment Fund 2019/20. £210k of revenue growth was agreed at full Council in February 2019 to provide for the scheme. To date, £53k revenue has been spent. Pausing this element of the scheme will make £157k available to offset against any future overspend.

In February 2019, full Council agreed a capital budget of £1.050m for the Community Investment Fund for 2019/20. In order to pay for the capital programme the Council needs to either sell capital assets, utilise Section 106 receipts or borrow funding. The revenue implications of setting the 2019/20 capital programme were taken into account and addressed in the revenue budget report 2019/20. The Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) borrowing rates are currently close to 1%. Therefore, for every £100k of capital expenditure there is an associated £1k revenue cost to the Council.

#### (b) Risk Management

<b>Recommendation from section 2 above</b>	<b>Risks/Threats/ Opportunities</b>	<b>Current Controls</b>	<b>Using the Risk Management Matrix Score the risk</b>	<b>Future Controls</b>
The Cabinet is requested to resolve: that the progress made to	Need to check that applications meet the requirements of the fund, are affordable, do	All applications are fully assessed against Council	9	N/A

date on the Community Investment Fund projects be noted; that the revenue element of the 19/20 scheme be paused; and to make any proposals for minor capital schemes.	not operate contrary to Council policy and that they will not afford any pecuniary advantage to the applicant.	policies and costed by officers. The final application is signed off by the Section 151 Officer.		
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<b>Risk</b>	<b>Mitigating action</b>	<b>Opportunities</b>
Legal	None	None
Property	None	None
Human Rights	None	None
Health and Safety	None	None
Employment Issues	None	None
Equalities Issues	None	None
Community Support	None	None
Communications	None	None
Community Safety	None	None
Financial	Detailed within the report	None
Timetable for delivery – capital programme delivered under the 80% mark	Monthly review at Capital Operational Board and quarterly by Lead Members and Directors	Ability to increase the deliver of capital schemes
Project Capacity	None	None
Other	None	None

(c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

No specific legal implications arise from this report.

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

Equalities Impact Assessments will be conducted, as required, for individual projects contained within the Community Investment Fund.

## 5 **Supporting Information**

### 5.1 **Background**

- 5.1.1 The Capital Programme report, agreed at full Council on 22 February 2019, set out the mechanism of the Community Investment Fund for 2019/20. A capital budget of £1.050m was agreed.
- 5.1.2 A budget of £210k was also agreed, at Full Council, as growth in General Fund for the revenue elements of the CIF for 2019/20 and thereafter.
- 5.1.3 Under the scheme, for 2019/20, each elected Councillor has up to £20,000 capital funding and £5,000 revenue funding available to spend on community projects within their Wards; and Cabinet have up to £210,000 of capital funding to further the outcomes in the Five-Year Plan. Cabinet can also utilise any unused revenue funding, remaining in the scheme, at year-end.
- 5.1.4 Allocations are provided to individual councillors but two or more Councillors can pool resources in order to fund a larger project.
- 5.1.5 Below are some example indicative costs of initiatives funded under the scheme:
- Speed cushions – £2,400 each (additional for Traffic management approx. £300 per unit)
  - Slough Bollards – £400 each
  - Signs without post – £120-£450 each depending on sign
  - Sign pole only – £190-£320 each depending on size and length of pole
  - Low level street nameplate – £195 each
  - Road Markings – £750 minimum charge (all day booking), lettering, lines, etc. additional on top.
- 5.1.6 When Councillors submit bids for approval, officers check they meet the fund's requirements, are affordable and comply with the Council's policies, and legal requirements and that they do not afford any pecuniary advantage to the applicant.
- 5.1.7 At Cabinet, in April 2019, Cabinet agreed to allocate a proportion of its 2019/20 capital allocation towards:
- £100k to replace signs in parks and public spaces; and
  - Up to £15k for St Mary's Church War Memorial restoration/improvements
- 5.1.8 Subsequent to the above decision being taken officers have established that the contribution towards the St Mary's Church War Memorial was no longer required. Cabinet therefore have £110k of Capital Funding for allocation during the remainder of 2019/20.

## **5.2 Current Position**

- 5.2.1 The table below summarises the amount spent to date, as at 30 September 2019, and the budget remaining on a ward by ward basis. A more detailed analysis is shown in Appendix A.
- 5.2.2 The 2019/20 budgets for individual wards have been revised to reflect carry-forwards from the previous financial year where schemes were correctly identified and requested by Members in-year but the schemes were not concluded by the end of the financial year.
- 5.2.3 It can be seen, in the table below, that currently £634k of capital funding and £157k of revenue funding remains unallocated. The Community Investment Fund runs from 1 May to 31 March each year. It is for individual ward members to make applications for funding from the scheme during the course of the financial year. Not all councillors have utilised their full amount available to date and future proposals are expected.
- 5.2.4 Cabinet will recall that the recent Q1 revenue monitoring report, presented in September 2019, noted Slough Children's Services Trust (SCST) had recently highlighted that it was forecasting significant pressures on its revenue budget. The Q1 revenue monitoring report also considered the possible impact of these SCST pressures on the Council's revenue budget. It is therefore recommended that, until the Council has a clearer picture of the SCST's overall financial position, Cabinet prudently pauses the use of revenue funding under the 2019/20 Community Investment Fund, with immediate effect, to provide the availability of some revenue resources should they be required in future.

<b>Community Investment Fund 2019/20 Schemes</b>				
<b>Ward</b>	<b>19/20 Revised Capital Budget</b>	<b>Remaining Budget - Capital</b>	<b>19/20 Budget Revenue</b>	<b>Remaining Budget - Revenue</b>
Baylis & Stoke	70,635.98	5,192.79	15,000.00	0.00
Britwell & Northborough	112,880.56	19,920.59	15,000.00	14,586.72
Central	118,797.42	55,151.64	15,000.00	14,586.72
Chalvey	121,000.00	58,765.20	15,000.00	737.70
Cippenham Meadows	119,771.00	76,138.60	15,000.00	19,086.67
Cippenham Green	16,543.47	16,543.47	15,000.00	14,586.72
Colnbrook with Poyle	87,754.25	33,744.91	10,000.00	9,586.72
Elliman	119,114.67	59,575.54	15,000.00	15,506.72
Farnham	166,669.13	0.00	15,000.00	0.00
Foxborough	31,614.20	379.36	5,000.00	0.00
Haymill & Lynch Hill	100,957.58	58,765.20	15,000.00	14,586.72
Langley Kedminster	107,831.79	18,266.86	15,000.00	9,614.73
Langley St Marys	122,679.90	60,702.35	15,000.00	14,586.72
Upton	169,000.00	169,000.00	15,000.00	14,586.72
Wexham	108,380.67	2,033.02	15,000.00	14,586.72
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,573,630.62</b>	<b>634,179.53</b>	<b>210,000.00</b>	<b>156,639.58</b>

## 6 Comments of Other Committees

None

## 7 Conclusion

The Cabinet are requested to note spend to date on the Community Investment Fund 2019/20; agree that any unspent revenue funding within the Community Investment Fund 2019/20 is paused until further notice; and submit proposals for minor capital schemes within the Cabinet's remaining funding allocation.

## **8 Appendices Attached**

'A' - CIF Report September 2019

## **9 Background Papers**

- Community Investment Fund – Cabinet April 2019
- Q1 Revenue Monitoring Report – Cabinet September 2019
- Capital Programme 2019/20 – Full Council February 2019
- Revenue Budget 2019/20 – Full Council February 2019