



**Report of the Cabinet Member for Economy, Finance & Strategy and the
Cabinet Member for Investment, Regeneration, Events & Tourism**

Cabinet – 18 April 2024

**Financial Procedural Rule 7
Additional Community Budget Capital 2024-2025**

Purpose:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To commit and authorise capital schemes approved for changing room improvements at a total value of £1m.2. To commit an additional £1m community budget to support wider community improvements.
Policy Framework:	Community Budget and Council Constitution - Financial Procedure Rule 7.3
Consultation:	Access to Services, Finance, Legal.
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that Cabinet: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Approves the additional capital allocation of £1m to the community budget dedicated to specific changing room improvement schemes outlined in the report.2) Approves the additional capital allocation of £1m to the community budget to support wider community improvements. Authority is delegated to the Cabinet member for Economy, Finance & Strategy, the Cabinet Member for Investment, Regeneration, Events & Tourism and the Director of Place to determine eligibility for each scheme. In the event of a scheme being submitted in one of the wards of those Cabinet Members with delegated authority, the decision would be made instead by the Deputy Leader in conjunction with the Director of Place.
Report Author:	Geoff Bacon
Finance Officer:	Ben Smith
Legal Officer:	Tracey Meredith
Access to Services Officer:	Rhian Millar

1. Introduction

1.1 Council approved the Capital Budget & Programme 2023/24-2028/29, on 6th March 2024. The following budgets were proposed, and approval recorded.

2. Changing Room Improvement Scheme – Capital Value £1m

2.1.1 An initial review of the condition surveys for sports changing rooms (located primarily with parks/sports fields) has been undertaken by the Building Services department.

2.1.2 An indicative shortlist of facilities that would benefit from investment has been developed at this stage. It is anticipated that following further review, it is likely that the list may need to be refined according to demand and budget available. However, it must be noted that the list which has been informed by high level estimated costs at this stage is not finalised or exhaustive.

Key criteria to consider in developing individual specifications and cost plans for each site will focus on the following areas, as a principle;

- Demand from local clubs
- Re-enabling building to be safely used/prevent falling into disrepair.
- Modernising of internal facilities in line with governing body guidelines
- Encourage/enable use by women and girls
- Future financial Sustainability through self-management/lease to enable further direct funding.
- Energy efficiency improvements

2.1.3 The indicative example shortlist will be informed through more detailed surveys to inform the cost plan with an intention to prioritise assets are supported for improvement works as part of a rolling programme:
e.g.

Cwm Level Changing rooms
Tir Canol Changing rooms
Bonynmaen Park Changing rooms
Ynystawe Park Changing Rooms
Cadle Mill
Trallwyn

2.1.4 Following further reviews and final cost estimates, the Director of Place in consultation with relevant Departments and Cabinet member, will determine package of works, costs and sites.

2.1.5 This programme falls outside the wider community budget spend criteria and will be managed internally by Building Services.

3. Additional Community Budget Fund – Capital Value £1m

3.1 Capital Allocation

As part of the 2024-25 budget setting process Council has identified a specific capital allocation of £1m to form part of the overall community budget scheme. The following principles will apply:

- The eligibility criteria in place would be the same as set out for revenue funding in paragraphs 1.2 to 1.4 of the Community Budget Report 16th June 2022. **Appendix A.**
- In addition, there would be a need to satisfy the criteria for capital projects as set out in the council's Financial Procedure Rules. I.e. the work is intended to "add" to the asset such as new equipment or maintain the longevity of an asset by replacing something that already exists. Acquisition of assets or donations are not permitted from this budget.
- As the project will be capital in nature the minimum scheme value would be £20,000 and schemes have to be procured in line with contract procedure rules.
- Any capital made available would be to a maximum of 70% of the total costs of the scheme with the balance being derived from other sources which could include grant, revenue community budget allocation or wider community donations.
- Once the budget has been fully committed no further schemes can be considered until a new allocation is made. A deadline or series of deadlines may be declared to allow a phasing approach to bid consideration.
- If capital funding is made available, it cannot be applied retrospectively.
- Any capital budget remaining at the end of the council term will be rolled over to the next cycle and added to any new amounts allocated.
- Expressions of interest must be made via an application process and approval process; where applicable future maintenance costs **MUST** be included. **Appendix B.**
- Decisions as to eligibility for each submitted scheme would be delegated to the Cabinet member for Economy, Finance & Strategy, the Cabinet Member for Investment, Regeneration, Events & Tourism and the Director of Place. In the event of the scheme being submitted in one of the respective wards of the Leader and relevant Cabinet Member then a Deputy Leader would sit on the panel.
- In the event of more approved bids than the remaining money available the panel could decide to "ration" the approval on pro rata basis
- Each ward member is allowed one application. If funding remains after the first round a further call of submissions may follow

4. Integrated Assessment Implications

4.1 The Council is subject to the Equality Act (Public Sector Equality Duty and the socio-economic duty), the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure, and must in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Acts.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Deliver better outcomes for those people who experience socio-economic disadvantage.
- Consider opportunities for people to use the Welsh language.
- Treat the Welsh language no less favourably than English.
- Ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

4.1.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 mandates that public bodies in Wales must carry out sustainable development. Sustainable development means the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the 'well-being goals.

4.1.2 Our Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) process ensures we have paid due regard to the above. It also considers other key issues and priorities, such as poverty and social exclusion, community cohesion, carers, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and Welsh language.

4.2 An IIA Screening Form **Appendix C**. has been completed with the agreed outcome that a full IIA report is not required due to the following:

Summary of impacts identified, and mitigation needed (Q2) Positive impacts are high for everyone within the community.

Summary of involvement (Q3) Ward members must discuss proposed schemes with the council lead officers to ensure there is capacity to deliver. Eg highways and play schemes.

WFG considerations (Q4) All activities align with the Wales Future Generations Act objectives and ways of working. A healthier, greener more prosperous Wales.

Any risks identified (Q5) No risks identified in this scheme.

Cumulative impact (Q9) The community budget scheme has been successfully running since 2013. All Swansea wards have benefitted from ward members collaboratively making local decisions on what is required within their communities.

Investment has been made in play areas, traffic management, etc. This additional budget will support further capital projects within our wards, for example changing room improvements.

All activities align with the Wales Future Generations Act objectives and ways of working.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 Council on the 6th of March approved an amendment to the budget to add an additional £1m capital for changing room upgrades and a further £1m for capital schemes associated with the community budget programme. Details of both are set out in this report and particular reference is made to the need for all schemes to be eligible for capital expenditure the costs of which would include the resources required to deliver the programme. As such the financial implications have been taken into account when setting the budget for 24/25.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1. There are no additional legal implications over and above those set out under FPR7 rules. Schemes must comply with the council's Contract Procedure Rules.

Background Papers:

None

Appendices:

Appendix A	Community Budget Cabinet Report 16 th June 2022
Appendix B	Expression of Interest Form
Appendix C	IIA