



Report of the Cabinet Member for Care Services

Corporate Briefing – 4 May 2023

Capital Improvement of Residential Care Provision in Adult Services

Purpose:	To approve the Capital improvement and development scheme for existing Adult Services Residential Care Settings in Swansea Council and to comply with Financial Procedure Rule 7 (Capital Programming and Appraisals) to commit and authorise a scheme to the Capital Programme.
Policy Framework:	Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 The Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 Financial Procedure Rule No. 7 and Care Inspectorate for Wales (CIW) requirements
Consultation:	Access to Services, Finance, Legal.
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that: 1) The Capital Improvement and Development Scheme together with the financial implications are approved and included into the capital programme for the next 4 years - 2023 to 2027.
Report Author:	Jane Whitmore
Finance Officer:	Chris Davies
Legal Officer:	Caritas Adere
Access to Services:	Rhian Millar

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Adult Services Residential Care Provision includes 8 care settings located through-out the Swansea Council area to provide residential and emergency support for older people with complex needs.

- 1.2. The aim of the service is to focus on strength-based solutions whilst building effective relationships at every level, working on outcome-focussed practices and strong integrated partnerships.
- 1.3. The Social Services and Wellbeing Act 2014 imposes duties on local authorities, health boards and Welsh Ministers to promote the well-being of those who need care and support, or carers who need support.
- 1.4. The Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 places a statutory duty on each local authority to act to improve the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of Wales. It ensures that public bodies listed in the Act think more about the long-term, work better with people and communities and each other, look to prevent problems and take a more joined-up approach.

2. Use Capital Funding

- 2.1 Working with staff and communities who use the residential care settings we have identified the need to implement essential up-grading and improvement works so adults and families have a safe, secure, accessible and friendly environment.
- 2.2 The funding will be used for internal and external modifications to improve the care facilities to meet the needs of individuals as identified by the settings managers and the Corporate Building Services.
- 2.3 Analysis will be undertaken to align the needs of the “Capital Improvement and Development Scheme” to the criteria of the HCF with the expectation of submitting a project proposal to the Regional Partnership Board (RPB) to maximise funding opportunities.

3. Summary of Proposed Works to be added to Capital Programme

- 3.1 A full financial implications summary and detail for the total capital scheme is outlined in the table below:

	TOTAL 23/24	TOTAL 24/25	TOTAL 25/26	TOTAL 26/27
General adaptations and improvements across all 8 Residential Care Settings	£300,000	£300,000	£300,000	£300,000
TOTALS	£300,000	£300,000	£300,000	£300,000

- 3.2 Total Capital Investment for the Scheme 1.2 Million, provision was made for this in 2021/22 which will be drawn from Capital reserves and added to the Capital Programme for 2023/24 onwards.

4. Integrated Impact Assessments

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.

4.2 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'.

4.3 Our Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) process ensures we have paid due regard to the above. It also takes into account 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.

4.4 In order to comply with the relevant regulations, an IIA screening has been completed, which highlights that a full report is not needed. As this scheme progresses engagement with communities and residents will be ongoing. Each of the 8 Adult Services Residential settings modifications will be subject to their own IIA.

4.5 The IIA process takes into account the United Nation Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), which the Council has embedded into the Authority's Policy Framework. UNCRC is relevant as this develops further and will be fully considered within a full IIA report.

4.6 The full IIA reporting process will also provide evidence that the initiative complies with Welsh Language Standards: specifically, that we have considered how to maximise any benefits and minimise any adverse effects on:

- opportunities for people to use the Welsh language
- treating the Welsh language, no less favourably than English.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 It is proposed that the scheme outlined in section 3 is added to the Council's Capital Programme.
- 5.2 In 21/22 the Directorate received significant additional funding late in the financial year to cover costs we have already borne out of core budgets.
- 5.3 At that point we assessed the situation and the specific guidance in relation to older people as specified in the Social Care Recovery Grant, to understand how we can maximise this funding to meet the needs in a different way in the future via a Capital Improvement and Capital Investment Programme over the next 3 to 5 years.
- 5.4 We have made a transfer from revenue to capital for a Capital Investment Programme, specifically for social care and to be developed in conjunction with any future Regional Capital Programme.
- 5.5 Over the period, applications will be made to maximise grant opportunities through the Welsh Government's Housing with Care Fund.
- 5.6 Revenue budgets are in place to ensure running costs of these buildings are able to be met.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1 The Council will need to ensure that all necessary planning consents are obtained.
- 6.2 The Council will need to ensure that it complies with its Contract Procedure Rules and any relevant procurement legislation when procuring any of the works and related contracts referred to above.

Background Papers: None

Appendices:

Appendix A - IIA Screening