

2017 / 18 Environmental Services Capital Priorities	7th March 2017
To: Environmental Services Committee	
For Decision	

Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)	
Strategic Theme	Transition and Transformation Prosperity Health & Wellbeing Cohesive Community
Outcome	
Lead Officer	Director of Environmental Services
Cost: (If applicable)	Current Estimate c. £14.7m Capital

The purpose of this report is to present the results of the Capital Project Prioritisation Workshop to Members for approval.

Background

Members adopted the Council 4-Step Capital Project Management System in November 2014 Shadow Council. Since then, two Capital Programme workshops have been held each year to manage the ongoing Capital Programme and Members have adopted the following working principles;

Working Principles

1. Net Spend Capped at 1% increase on Rates i.e. this equates to approx. £7m.
2. Proactive approach to Infrastructure Investment – Prioritisation of our own essential estate / fleet.
3. Strict Application of Councils 4-Stage Capital Project Management System using objective Business Cases (including Legacy Projects).
4. Following strategic analysis based upon a need / evidence based approach, projects with Economic and Social Benefit will be developed, whilst endeavouring to secure and maximise the benefit of external grant funding for the Borough.

Summary of Councils 4 – Step Approval Process

- Approval Gateway for **Stage (1)** work; to undertake proportional Scoping, Feasibility and OBC Work (£ usually circa 1% total capital cost estimate and less for very large projects).
- Approval Gateway for **Stage (2)** work; approve OBC, complete Procurement to Final Tender Report and produce Final Business Case (£ usually circa 2% - 3% of total capital cost estimate and less for very large projects).
- Approval Gateway for **Stage (3)** work; approve / appoint winning tenderer, sign contract and manage construction (£ up to 110% of total capital cost estimate); **INVESTMENT DECISION.**
- Approval Gateway for **Stage (4)** work; approve handover of asset into service and manage operations.

It is of note that the Capital Programme does not supersede the 4–Step project approval process already approved by Council. While the Capital Programme is a necessary tool for financial and project delivery business planning, every project within it still requires the specific approval of Council at each point on the 4–Step process. The Capital Programme provides Members with the necessary context in terms of overall affordability when considering individual Business Cases and Tender Report Investment Decisions on each specific project throughout the year.

Capital Project Prioritisation Workshop - Pre-Stage 1 Projects / “Pipeline” Projects

At the last Capital Workshop on 2nd November 2016, 64 Pre-Stage 1 Projects totalling c. £43m were presented for consideration. Members instructed that a separate workshop be held with further information being presented on each project to enable Members to prioritise these projects for progress to Stage 1.

The Project Prioritisation Workshop was held on 10th November 2016 and Members prioritised projects from each Committee service area for progress. This was done using the Consensual Decision Making Model whereby each Member assigned their top ten priorities and within that, 10 points to their highest priority project down to 1 point for their tenth ranking project. The points assigned by each Member were then totalled across all the projects and the 10 overall highest scoring projects were thus established as Members overall priorities.

Results

The following table summarises the results of the Consensual Decision Making exercise;

*Projects highlighted were identified as ‘must do’ schemes.

Rank	Scheme and Stage Pre Stage 1 -likely to be for consideration 2017/18 or beyond
*	Extension[s] @ Crosstagherty Waste Handling & Transfer Facility
1	Dunluce Toilet Refurb
*	Coastal Sea Defences
*	LED Upgrades phase 3
*	Car Parks Upgrades Phase 3
*	CHP Joey Dunlop
2	Changing Places(facilities for disabled adult changing)
3	Riverside Park, Ballymoney Phase 2
*	Capital Dredging
*	Water Regulation Compliance
4	Portandhu Harbour Phase 1b- Clear navigation channel
5	Investigate & Deliver capacity for visiting boats at Portush Harbour for British Open
6	Strategic Mixed Dry Recyclable MRF'
*	Purchase of Land for new Portrush Cemetery
7	West Bay Access Ramp
8	AD Plant
9	Solar Thermal
*	Slipway,quay & pontoon upgrades(across Council area)
10	Christmas Light upgrade - Phase 2 & 3

Recommendation

It is recommended that Council adopts the Environmental Services Projects listed in the table above as being the 2017 / 18 Priorities for progression to Capital Programme Stage 1 within the overall context of Members Working Principles and with all projects being subject to Councils 4 – Step project approval process requiring a need based business case, and economic appraisal to be approved by Council for each project before it proceeds. On this basis, officers are to progress with scoping and options on the Priority Projects and bring reports back to Committee for Members consideration.