



## CABINET REPORT

<b>Report Title</b>	<b>CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2007-08 – FURTHER ADDITIONS AND AMENDMENTS</b>
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**AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC**

<b>Cabinet Meeting Date:</b>	5 November 2007
<b>Key Decision:</b>	YES
<b>Listed on Forward Plan:</b>	YES
<b>Within Policy:</b>	YES
<b>Policy Document:</b>	NO
<b>Directorate:</b>	Governance and Improvement
<b>Accountable Cabinet Member:</b>	Malcolm Mildren
<b>Ward(s)</b>	Not Applicable

### 1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to request approval for further additions and amendments to the Council's Capital Programme for 2007-08.

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Cabinet approve:
- a) The proposed additions to the Council's General Fund capital programme for 2007-08, listed at paragraph 3.2.6 & 3.2.7
  - b) The funding sources for the proposed additions to the Council's General Fund capital programme for 2007-08 listed at paragraph 3.2.6 and 3.2.7
  - c) That approval for the scheme for improved car parking provision in communal areas for flats, a sub project of the Designing out Crime project, be subject to a consultation exercise.

- d) That the Member with Portfolio for Housing be given delegated authority to give final approval to the scheme at (c ) above.

### 3. Issues and Choices

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#### 3.1 Report Background

3.1.1 The Council's capital programme for 2007-08, and associated amendments, has been approved by Cabinet at meetings on the following dates:

- 9 December 2006
- 29 January 2007
- 30 July 2007
- 1 Oct 2007

3.1.2 The approved capital programme for 2007-08 is fully funded.

3.1.3 Further additions and amendments to the programme are requested in a separate report to this Cabinet (Item 12). However the additional schemes put forward in this report were not signed off in time to be included in the main report, and are being reported separately.

#### 3.2 Issues

3.2.1 All proposals put forward for approval have been submitted on capital project appraisal forms, which have been signed off by, amongst others, the relevant Corporate Director, the Section 151 Officer and the appropriate Member with Portfolio.

3.2.2 Copies of the capital project appraisals are available on request

#### General Fund Capital Programme

3.2.5 It is best practice for all schemes in the capital programme to be backed up by capital appraisals, and these are to be submitted for all schemes where they have not already been provided.

3.2.6 An appraisal for the following scheme in the agreed General Fund capital programme is hereby put forward for approval.

**Spring Borough Café Disabled Access.** The community cafe has been refurbished as part of the CASPAR+NR CASTLE Programme. This neighbourhood renewal programme is delivered through a partnership between NBC, NCC, the police and central government. The community cafe is a focal point for community activities. The purpose of this element of the cafe's refurbishment is to ensure that it is compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, both internally and externally. This will comprise building an external ramp to replace existing steps for disabled access and converting the toilets to disabled access, including reconfiguration of toilet area and new fittings.

The £30k capital budget for the scheme will come from the Leisure Facilities Disabled Access budget of £50k, agreed as part of original 2007-08 capital programme. The funding will come from capital receipts

There are no revenue budget implications

- 3.2.7 In addition, a number of new capital schemes from the externally funded CASPAR programme have been put forward for Cabinet approval for inclusion in the 2007-08 capital programme. The proposed additions to the programme are as follows:

**Designing Out Crime.** There are nine individual sub-projects in the overall Designing Out Crime project and two reserve sub-projects. All of these contribute towards reduction in crime in Spring Boroughs and have been proposed by the community led partnership of CASPAR + NR (Castle Ward). The projects all contribute towards improving Neighbourhood Renewal (element) Cleaner Safer Greener key objectives. The projects range from CCTV in the urban area to improved Door Entry Systems.

The total value of the project is £763,640. This is to be funded from government grants received from River Nene Regional Park (RNRP) and from CASPAR funding - Cleaner Safer Greener element.

It is proposed that one of the sub projects, improved car parking provision in communal areas for flats, be subject to a consultation exercise, and that following this, the Member with Portfolio for Housing be given delegated authority to give final approval to this scheme.

One of the sub projects, Improvements in Greenspace Lighting, has a potential minor revenue budget implication. Should it be decided to extend the scope of the existing lighting there would be a small additional annual maintenance cost, and the Asset Management service will bid for the necessary additional revenue funds.

**Environmental & Recreational Improvements.** There are eight individual sub-projects in the overall Environmental and Recreational Improvement project. All of these contribute towards community facilities or improving the greenspace environment that have been proposed by the community led partnership of CASPAR + NR (Castle Ward). The projects all contribute towards improving Neighbourhood Renewal (element) Cleaner Safer Greener key objectives. Delivering the outcomes in line with the Local Area Agreement in the areas of Safer Stronger Communities, Children and Young People, Economic Development Enterprise & Growth, Healthier Communities & Older People. The projects range from Breathing Spaces Improvements (Victoria Park, Footmeadow and Millers Meadow) to improving a Community Cafe for community use.

The total value of the project is £866,180. This is to be funded from government grants received from River Nene Regional Park (RNRP) and from CASPAR funding - Cleaner Safer Greener element.

One of the sub projects, New Recreation Facilities (Installation of a multi use games area, outdoor gym equipment and climbing boulders in Victoria Park) will incur additional annual maintenance costs of around £2.5k per annum. These will be funded by means of a commuted sum for the first five years;

thereafter Parks and Trusts will bid for this funding as part of the budget build process at the appropriate time.

### **3.3 Choices (Options)**

3.3.1 Cabinet are asked to approve the inclusions and amendments to the Council's capital programme for 2007-08.

## **4. Implications (including financial implications)**

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### **4.1 Policy**

4.1.1 The proposed capital schemes are within existing policy.

### **4.2 Resources and Risk**

4.2.1 All schemes put forward for approval are fully funded

4.2.2 Financial and non-financial risks related to the capital projects are addressed in the capital project appraisals.

### **4.3 Legal**

4.3.1 Legal implications related to the capital projects are addressed in the capital project appraisals.

4.3.2 There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

### **4.4 Equality**

4.4.1 Equalities implications related to the capital projects are addressed in the capital project appraisals.

### **4.5 Consultees (Internal and External)**

4.5.1 The capital project appraisals and project variations have been put together by the Project Manager, in consultation with:

- The Budget Manager
- The relevant Finance Manager
- The relevant Corporate Director (or the Chief Executive)
- The appropriate Member with Portfolio,
- The Section 151 Officer.

4.5.2 Specific consultations with stakeholders are described within the capital project appraisals

## **4.6 How the Proposals deliver Priority Outcomes**

4.6.1 The extent to which the project meets the Council's objectives and priorities is described within the capital project appraisals.

4.6.2 The use of capital project appraisals to determine and agree capital schemes in accordance with the objectives and priorities of the authority contributes to improving the CPA Use of Resources score. This, in turn, contributes to the priorities of:

- Continuing to improve our weakest services, and
- Continuing to strengthen our financial management.

## **4.7 Other Implications**

4.7.1 There are no other specific implications arising from this report.

## **5. Background Papers**

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5.1 Cabinet Report – 4 December 2006 – General Fund Capital Programme 2006-07 and onwards

5.2 Cabinet Report – 29 January 2007 – General Fund Capital Programme 2006-07 and onwards

5.3 Cabinet Report – 1 October 2007 – General Fund Capital Programme 2007-08 – Additions and Amendments

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