

Report title: Capital Programme Delivery	
Report to: Corporate Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
Report author: Ben Finlayson – Director Property and Investment and Delivery - ben.finlayson@essex.gov.uk	
Date: 27 June 2024	For: Discussion
Enquiries to: Sally Conybeare – Head of Capital Investment and Assurance – sally.conybeare@essex.gov.uk	
County Divisions affected: All Essex	

1. Purpose of Report

1.1. This report covers: -

1.1.1. An overview of the capital programme with a focus on why the capital programme is important; why there is a need for continued focus and how this is undertaken and managed (Slides 3 – 6)

1.1.2. A review of the 2023/24 programme with a focus on what was delivered; performance and analysing movement against the original programme set at Full Council in February 2023 (Slides 8 – 13)

1.2. The aim is to provide the Corporate Policy and Scrutiny Committee with an opportunity to understand the capital programme, the benefits it brings and challenges faced and the oversight and assurance that is in place across the programme.

2. Action required

2.1. To provide comment and feedback on the management and assurance over the capital programme at ECC.

2.2. To note the annexes and confirm that the current assurance of the capital programme remains appropriate.

3. Background

3.1. Capital investment is vital to deliver outcomes for our residents in line with Everyone's Essex Priorities. Benefits are significant, ranging from generating economic growth to reducing congestion and unlocking land to develop homes.

3.2. The economic fallout from the global pandemic and war in Ukraine led to a rise in inflation and interest rates during 2022/23. As a result, there has been a need for the capital programme to have focussed discussions and decisions made to ensure ECC remains financially sustainable.

- 3.3. Delivery of the programme set by Full Council is extremely important given ECCs limited resources and benefits to achieve, there is a need to be confident in delivery of the programme limiting movement of programmes of work given the prioritisation decisions made when setting the budget.
- 3.4. During 2023/24, 345 schemes were undertaken, actual expenditure was £292m against an Original Budget of £275m.

4. Update

- 4.1. See Appendix for update.

5. Appendices

- 5.1. Appendix 1 – Capital Programme Delivery - Power Point presentation