

ADDENDUM

REPORT TO: WEST OF ENGLAND COMBINED AUTHORITY

DATE: 17 March 2023

REPORT TITLE: RECENT BUDGET ANNOUNCEMENTS

DIRECTOR: STEPHEN FITZGERALD, INTERIM DIRECTOR OF INVESTMENT AND CORPORATE SERVICES

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Purpose of Report

1. To update on the award of Department for Levelling Up Homes and Communities (DLUHC) In Year Capital funding and Department for Transport (DfT) Pothole Funding.

Recommendations:

1. **The Committee is asked to endorse and approve the approach for the £18.175m DLUHC In Year Capital funding as set out in the report.**
2. **The Committee is asked to endorse the additional DfT Pothole Funding for 2023/24 to be passported to the relevant West of England UAs in line with proportions agreed for the Highways Maintenance Capital Grant.**

Voting arrangements

Decision requires majority agreement of Committee Members in attendance, or their substitutes (one vote representing each Authority) and including the West of England Combined Authority Mayor.

Background

2. In late 2022, DLUHC confirmed the intention to award funding to authorities to deliver additional capital spend in 2022/23 which would enable enhanced delivery, or additionality through freeing up committed funds for new projects. Working with the local authorities, Universities and Colleges a list of potential projects which could deliver immediate capital spend was produced which was submitted to Government. Following their consideration of this list of candidate schemes, a number of projects were selected with an overall value of £18.175m and funding was confirmed in February. Communication regarding the funding award has been embargoed until a formal announcement by Government. This has prohibited inclusion in the published papers for this meeting.

Funding Awards

3. The projects selected for funding are set out in Figure 1. For the College and University projects within the Further Education Estate Enhancement and Strategic Innovation Investment Programme packages, grant funding agreements have been issued to the beneficiaries.

Project	Promoter	Funding Allocation (£m)
Bath Quays	Bath & North East Somerset Council	3.000
South Bristol Light Industrial Workspace	Bristol City Council	4.900
Further Education Estate Enhancement		
Construction Skills Centre Upgrade	Bath College	0.900
Motor Vehicle Centre Upgrade		
Advanced Engineering Centre/Parkway Upgrades	City of Bristol College	0.819
South Bristol Skills Academy Health Centre Classroom		
Construction Centre Upgrades		
College Green Professional Kitchen		
Horizon 38 - Kitting Out	South Gloucestershire and Stroud College	1.116
Engineering Equipment Upgrade	Weston College	0.165
Construction Equipment Upgrade		
Creative and Digital Equipment Upgrade		
Virtual Classroom		
Replacement HGV Vehicle		
Strategic Innovation Investment Programme		
Future Space - Enterprise Support	UWE	3.885
Creative Technologies		
Integrated Healthcare		
Hydrogen Research and Production	Bath University	3.390
Centre for the Analysis of Motion, Entertainment Research and Applications (CAMERA) project		

Total	18.175
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Figure 1 – DLUHC In Year Capital Allocations

4. The Bath Quays project is swop of DLUHC funding into the approved Bath Quays North (£350k) and Bath Quays South (£2.65m) projects releasing Council match funding to extend the overall funding for Bath Quays North by £3m to £68.856m.
5. The South Bristol Light Industrial Workspace project is a swop of funding into the existing approved Investment Fund project releasing funding of up to £4.9m into the Investment Fund headroom to support new projects. This increase to the headroom is to be included in the next report to Committee based upon actual spend.
6. At this time it is understood that only spend in 2022/23 will be eligible for the In Year Capital funding, although the provision of some flexibility to enable spend to roll into 2023/34 is being explored for use at need.

Additional Budget 2023 Highways Maintenance and Pothole Repair Funding 2023-2024

7. The Department for Transport have announced additional funding for maintaining and improving the highway network totalling £2,828,400. This will be passported to the relevant West of England UAs in line with proportions agreed for the Highways Maintenance Capital Grant.

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