



## Democratic Services

**Location:** Phase II  
**Ext:** 0833  
**DDI:** 01895 250833  
**Ref:** CMD 271

**To: COUNCILLOR JONATHAN BIANCO  
CABINET MEMBER FOR PROPERTY AND  
INFRASTRUCTURE**

**COUNCILLOR MARTIN GODDARD  
CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE**

**COUNCILLOR SUSAN O'BRIEN  
CABINET MEMBER FOR FAMILIES, EDUCATION  
AND WELLBEING**

**COUNCILLOR EDDIE LAVERY  
CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT,  
HOUSING AND REGENERATION**

c.c. All Members of the Environment, Housing &  
Regeneration Select Committee  
c.c. Dan Kennedy, Corporate Director for Planning,  
Environment, Education and Community Services  
c.c. Peter Elliott-Smith, Infrastructure, Transport and  
Building Services  
c.c. Conservative and Labour Group Offices  
(inspection copy)

**Date:** 07 September 2021

**Non-Key Decision request**

**Form D**

### Environmental & Recreational Initiatives 2021/22: School Pollution Screening Works Phase 4

Dear Cabinet Member

Attached is a report requesting that a decision be made by you as an individual Cabinet Member. Democratic Services confirm that this is not a key decision, as such the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 notice period does not apply.

You should take a decision **on or after Wednesday, 15 September 2021** in order to meet Constitutional requirements about publication of decisions that are to be made. You may wish to discuss the report with the Corporate Director before it is made. Please indicate your decision on the duplicate memo supplied, and return it to me when you have made your decision. I will then arrange for the formal notice of decision to be published.

Jack Roberts  
Democratic Services Apprentice

**Title of Report:** Council Housing Home Release Reward Scheme

**Decision made:**

**Reasons for your decision:** (e.g. as stated in report)

**Alternatives considered and rejected:** (e.g. as stated in report)

Signed .....Date.....

*Cabinet Member for Property and Infrastructure, Cabinet Member for Finance, Cabinet Member for Families, Education and Wellbeing, Cabinet Member for Environment, Housing and Regeneration*

## CAPITAL RELEASE REPORT (September 2021)

**SERVICE AREA / PROGRAMME:** Environmental & Recreational Initiatives 2021/22: School Pollution Screening Works Phase 4

**RELEASE NO:** 1

<b>Cabinet Members</b>	Councillor Jonathan Bianco Councillor Eddie Lavery Councillor Susan O'Brien Councillor Martin Goddard
<b>Cabinet Portfolios</b>	Property & Infrastructure Environment, Housing & Regeneration Families, Education & Wellbeing Finance
<b>Officer Contact</b>	Peter Elliott-Smith, Infrastructure, Transport and Building Services
<b>Papers with report</b>	Appendix A with capital release requests for approval

## HEADLINES

<b>Summary</b>	This report seeks the release of capital funds for the procurement of pollution screening works through Green Spaces and appointed contractors in relation to anti-pollution measures at 15 Schools across the Borough.
<b>Putting our Residents First</b>	This report supports the following Council objectives of: Our People; Our Natural Environment; Our Built Environment; and Strong financial management.
<b>Financial Cost</b>	This report seeks the release of £179k from the Environmental and Recreational Initiatives pollution screening capital budget for the construction works, fees and contingency costs. The Capital Programme Works Service will manage the project. The project will commence upon release of the capital funds and works are due to be completed before March 2022.
<b>Relevant Select Committee</b>	Housing, Environment and Regeneration Select Committee
<b>Ward(s) affected</b>	All

## RECOMMENDATION

**That the Cabinet Member for Finance, Cabinet Member for the Environment, Housing & Regeneration, Cabinet Member for Property & Infrastructure and the Cabinet Member for Families, Education & Wellbeing approve the release of funds of £179k from the Environmental and Recreational Initiatives 2021/22 capital budget to carry out the phase 4 construction works associated with pollution screening works at 15 schools across the Borough (Appendix A).**

### Reasons for recommendation

The proposed anti-pollution measures at schools related to the Schools Environmental Audit aim to reduce exposure of air pollution levels at schools to children for proven health benefits.

### Alternative options considered

Failure to proceed with these works will risk pupils' exposure to potential pollution levels.

### Select Committee comments

None at this stage.

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### Background Information

The 'Right green infrastructure, right place guideline' published by the Greater London Authority provides best practice on using green infrastructure to protect people from air pollution (April 2019). The key guidelines are:

- A hedge or green wall between vehicles and people can as much as halve pollution in their immediate wake;
- A dense avenue of trees can provide effective protection from polluted air above and create a clean corridor for travellers; and
- A combination of hedge and dense line of trees can provide a taller vegetation barrier, offering protection over a greater distance downwind.

Following completion of phase 3, it was agreed that the program should be offered to a wider selection of schools across the Borough, some amendments were made to the identification of schools which allows us to hit a given target. A new criteria for identifying schools was based on the following:

- A review of pollution levels in the locality of the school, based upon information from the Mayor of London;

- A Geographic Information System (GIS) review took place to assess whether there is close proximity to a road, is there any existing screening protection, is it adequate, is there scope for further screening
- Type of school e.g. community school, academy, voluntary aided etc.
- Then, undertake augmentation works at every school that falls within the criteria above where air NO<sub>2</sub> average levels exceed 32 µg/m<sup>3</sup>

The Council's Environmental Team identified 25 more schools that fall within the criteria above and where pollution screening measures would be beneficial. It is agreed that the works could be staggered over two phases, 4 & 5. This will mean every community school and special school in the Borough would have had augmentation works to reduce the 32 µg/m<sup>3</sup> No<sub>2</sub> levels previously measured.

### **Proposed Works**

Phase 4, the purpose of this report, will target works at 15 of the identified schools. Works include the planting of trees, hedges, fencing, groundworks and screening augmentation at the following schools:

Establishment Name	Age Group	Type of Establishment
Heathrow Primary School	Primary	Community
Harmondsworth Primary	Primary	Community
Hermitage Primary	Primary	Community
The Willows	Special Primary	Academy
William Byrd Primary	Primary	Academy
Cranford Park	Primary	Academy
Hillingdon Primary	Primary	Academy
Pinkwell Primary	Primary	Academy
Green Corridor	Special Primary	Special Institution
Hillingdon Manor	Special Primary	Independent
Botwell House Catholic Primary	Primary	Voluntary Aided
Hewens Primary School	Primary	Free school
Brookside Primary	Primary	Academy
St Mary's Catholic Primary	Primary	Voluntary Aided
West Drayton Academy	Primary	Academy

Works are to be undertaken predominantly utilising council resources with the Green Spaces team, the highways framework and term fencing contractor.

### **Programme**

Target completion for phase 4 of the works will be Winter 2021. All green and willow screening works can commence on capital release approval however due to planting seasons the planting of vegetation cannot take place until the Autumn of 2021.

## **Costs**

The estimated costs can be found in Table 1.

**Table 1:** Estimated costs for phase 4 pollution screening works

<b>Description</b>	<b>Estimated Costs (£)</b>
Construction Costs at 15 schools	£145,000
Planning and Site Surveys	£5,000
Capital Programme Fees	£14,500
Contingency (10%)	£14,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>£179,000</b>

## **Financial Implications**

### **Environmental & Recreational Initiatives Programme 2021/22 Revised Budget £823k, Previously Released £220k, Capital Release Requested £179k – Appendix A**

The 2021/22 revised programme budget for the Environmental and Recreational Initiatives (ERI) programme totals £823k, including £248k rephasing from 2020/21 budget for schemes completing this year, funded from a combination of Council resources, grants and S106. From the £823k ERI budget, an amount of £557k has been earmarked for the School Pollutions Screening, from which £57k was released in the previous financial year.

The report requests the release of £179k from the Environmental & Recreational Initiatives budget to enable the progress of the pollution screening works 15 schools.

The cost plan for the school pollution screening includes construction works and additional screen works which are based on scheduled rates within the approved highways term contract, quoted costs from the Council's term contractor Drayton Fencing, surveys and planning fees. Internal fees and project contingency are also included at 10% each of the construction costs.

## **RESIDENT BENEFIT & CONSULTATION**

### **The benefit or impact upon residents, service users and communities**

Reducing exposure of pollution levels of schools to children for proven health benefits.

### **Consultation carried out or required**

Consultation and agreement of works with the schools.

## CORPORATE CONSIDERATIONS

### Corporate Finance

Corporate Finance concurs with the financial implications above, confirming that an amount of £557k is earmarked towards pollution screening from the revised 2021/22 Environmental and Recreational Initiatives capital budget.

### Legal

The Borough Solicitor confirms that the Council is responsible for carrying out this function pursuant to Section 16 of the Education Act 1996. Thus there are no legal impediments to the capital release being authorised, although any contract that is entered into must comply with the Council's Procurement and Contract Standing Orders.

### Infrastructure / Asset Management

Asset management authored this report.

### Capital Release Protocol

The release of all capital funds, and certain revenue funds, held by the Council is to be made by a formal democratic decision. No expenditure can be placed or committed by officers until this formal approval is given by Democratic Services. Release of funds must be for identified projects only and strictly not for the general release of funds for projects to be identified at a later date. No block releases of capital or funding will be allowed, except if authorised by the Leader of the Council in advance to Corporate Finance. The release of funds will only be made if previous Council, Cabinet or Cabinet Member agreement has been given to the project and only if there is an approved budget.

## BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL.

## APPENDIX A

### Environmental & Recreational Initiatives Budget (2021/22)

Location	Project / Expenditure Title	Information	Funds Release Sought £000's	Approve	Hold	More Information Required
15 Schools as identified in report	Environmental & Recreational Initiatives 2021/22- Provision of Pollution Reduction Screening Phase 4	Construction costs, planning, site surveys, internal fees and project contingency	179			
<b>Total seeking release</b>			<b>179</b>			
<b>Previously released</b>			<b>220</b>			
<b>Budget</b>			<b>823</b>			
<b>Remaining budget</b>			<b>424</b>			