



Democratic Services

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**To: COUNCILLOR EDDIE LAVERY
CABINET MEMBER FOR RESIDENTS SERVICES**

**COUNCILLOR MARTIN GODDARD
CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE**

c.c. All Members of the Residents Services Select Committee
c.c. Ward Cllrs for Eastcote, Hillingdon West, Uxbridge
c.c. Neil O'Connor – Place Directorate
c.c. Perry Scott – Place Directorate

Date: 14 October 2022

Non-Key Decision request

Form D

CAPITAL RELEASE REPORT (October 2022)

DEPARTMENT: RESIDENTS SERVICES

SERVICE AREA / PROGRAMME: CHRYSALIS PROGRAMME 2022/23

RELEASE NO: 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 Monday 24 October 2022** 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.

Neil Fraser
Democratic Services Officer

Title of Report: CHRYSALIS PROGRAMME 2022/23 RELEASE NO: 4

Decision made:

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

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

SignedDate.....

Cabinet Member for Residents Services / Cabinet Member for Finance

CAPITAL RELEASE REPORT (October 2022)

DEPARTMENT: RESIDENTS SERVICES

SERVICE AREA / PROGRAMME: CHRYSALIS PROGRAMME 2022/23

RELEASE NO: 4

Cabinet Member(s)	Councillor Eddie Lavery Councillor Martin Goddard
Cabinet Portfolio(s)	Cabinet Member for Residents' Services Cabinet Member for Finance
Officer Contact(s)	Neil O'Connor – Place Directorate
Papers with report	Appendix A - Capital Release Requests for Approval

HEADLINES

Summary	To seek Cabinet Member approval for the allocation and release of capital funds for three new projects under the Chrysalis Programme 2022/23.
Putting our Residents First	This report supports the following Council objectives of: <i>Our People; Our Built Environment and Strong Financial Management.</i>
Financial Cost	This report seeks the allocation and release of £60.5k from the Chrysalis Programme 2022/23 budget. The works will commence upon release of the funds and are due for completion by the end of March 2023.
Relevant Select Committee	Residents' Services Select Committee
Relevant Ward(s)	Eastcote, Hillingdon West, Uxbridge

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) That the Cabinet Member for Resident Services approves the total allocation of £60,380 Chrysalis funding for the three new projects as detailed within the body of this report, as part of the asset enhancement programme for 2022/23;
- 2) That the Cabinet Member for Resident Services and the Cabinet Member for Finance agree to the capital release request of £60,380 from the 2022/23 Chrysalis Programme to fund the three new projects as summarised within recommendation one.

Reasons for recommendations

Hillingdon Council is striving to be the greenest London Borough, to protect and enhance the environment, and to provide a brighter prospect for generations. Chrysalis, the Council's asset enhancement initiative, funds projects ranging in scale from £5,000 to £100,000 for local initiatives that matter to residents.

Residents are encouraged to make suggestions for Chrysalis funding as the most effective way for local people to identify environmental and community safety projects and demonstrating how all residents can play an active part in decisions making them proud to live in Hillingdon.

In January 2022, the Cabinet Member for Resident Services reviewed all applications for Chrysalis funding received from residents, community groups and Ward Councillors and informally agreed 17 new projects to greatly improve community assets and resources across the Borough. In August 2022, the Cabinet Member selected a further three projects as outlined within this report.

The recommendations will enable works to commence on two new projects where contractor schedule of rates have been used, and one new project where competitive quotes have been sourced.

Alternative options considered / risk management

The Cabinet Members could decide not to accept the recommendations and either some, or none of the three new projects would not realise the improvements which have been requested by residents and Ward Councillors.

If the release of capital funds is not approved, the Chrysalis 2022/23 programme cannot be effectively and efficiently progressed as planned and the Chrysalis contribution towards the Council commitment to be carbon neutral by 2030 cannot be fully realised.

Select Committee comments

None at this stage.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

This report is seeking the allocation of funding and capital release for the following three projects, to be funded from the 2022/23 budget for implementation by March 2023.

1. Bessingby Bowls Club retaining wall and seating.

Bessingby Bowls Club is shared by both Bessingby Park Bowls Club and Dean Park Bowls Club who welcome visitors and have regular matches with other clubs.

Along the side of the green, next to the path, is a bank of soil held in place with wooden posts. These posts continue to rot, causing soil to spill out onto the path, which is both dangerous and unsightly which is why a new retaining wall is recommended.

Both clubs have a high number of members and visitors, many of whom are older in years, and seating is an especially important and necessary requirement. The recommended bench seating will be provided with a back rest and arms to make it accessible and comfortable.

The cost plan has been calculated from the fencing and gating term contractor schedule of rates including contingencies.

Table 1: Bessingby Bowls Club retaining wall and seating. cost plan:

Item	Cost £
Replace retaining wall	4,700
Purchase bench	600
Install bench	500
Contingency 10%	580
Total project cost:	6,380

2. Dowding Park continuation of path.

Dowding Park is a Green Flag awarded park in the centre of Hillingdon West Ward. It is a popular attraction for residents and a well-used walking route for children attending the John Lock Academy. The Council's School's Transport and Road Safety Team have been working with John Lock Academy to promote greater non-vehicular travel to school.

The continuation of the path will link it from the centre of the park to the southern section, creating a continuous route from north to south of the site, so that those using the park as a cut through and those visiting the park can enjoy the use of it year-round, regardless of ground conditions.

The cost plan has been calculated from the term contractor schedule of rates for Highways allowing for contingency and fees.

Table 2: Dowding Park continuation of path cost plan:

Item	Cost (£)
To continue the installation of the path	28,500
Highways fees, 10%	2,850
Contingency 10%	2,850
Total project cost	34,200

3. Uxbridge Lawn Tennis Club wheelchair accessible path

Uxbridge Lawn Tennis Club has around 300 members, (all local residents), who enjoy use of the facility all year round. They have created a program specifically aimed at wheelchair users and people with specific needs such as dementia and people with a hearing impairment.

The current path is narrow and uneven, preventing ease of access for some users who struggle to access the courts and coursing some reported accidents.

The recommendation is to resurface and widen the current path to create a smoother and safer route to the courts, benefitting all members of the club but especially wheelchair users. This will also help in attracting potential new members.

The cost plan has been calculated from the term contractor schedule of rates for Highways allowing for contingency and fees.

Table 3: Uxbridge Lawn Tennis Club wheelchair friendly path cost plan:

Item	Cost (£)
To resurface the footpath	16,500
Highways fees, 10%	1,650
Contingency 10%	1,650
Total project cost	19,800

Financial Implications

Chrysalis Programme 2022/23 Budget £1,274k, Previously Released £1,066k, Capital Release Requested £60k - Appendix A

The 2022/23 capital programme, approved by Cabinet and Council in February 2022, included a budget of £1,000k for the Chrysalis Programme, funded from Council resources. In July 2022, Cabinet approved the re-phasing of £274k unspent funds from 2021/22 into 2022/23, of which £249k had previously been released for schemes completing this year.

The report seeks the allocation and capital release of £60.5k from the Chrysalis Programme budget for the three projects detailed in the body of the report.

The cost plans for the projects are based on schedule of rates within the approved highways and fencing / gating term contracts and includes internal fees where applicable and contingencies at 10% each.

The remaining £148k of the Chrysalis Programme 2022/23 budget is subject to the allocation and capital release process.

RESIDENT BENEFIT & CONSULTATION

The benefit or impact upon Hillingdon residents, service users and communities

Hillingdon Council is committed to making the Borough a cleaner, greener and safer place. Chrysalis, the Council's asset enhancement initiative, funds projects ranging in scale from £5,000 to £100,000 for local initiatives that matter to residents. Residents are encouraged to make suggestions for Chrysalis funding, and this is an effective way for local people to identify environmental and community safety projects that are on Council land.

The three projects as detailed within this report collectively will achieve greater access to green spaces and sporting facilities for residents to enjoy and gain health benefits.

Consultation carried out or required

All proposals have been submitted by residents themselves and supported by relevant Ward Councillors.

CORPORATE CONSIDERATIONS

Corporate Finance

Corporate Finance concurs with the financial implications above, noting that the proposed schemes will be funded from the 2022-23 Chrysalis Programme budget, financed by Council resources.

Legal

The Borough Solicitor confirms that all the projects mentioned in this report are eligible for funding under the Chrysalis Scheme. 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.

Asset Management

Asset Management concurs with the proposals above and does not see anything that conflicts with department plans or future scope of works planned from the AM direction.

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 (by the Cabinet Member for Finance). 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 – CAPITAL RELEASE REQUESTS FOR APPROVAL

Chrysalis Programme 2022/23 - Release No 4

Location	Project / Expenditure Title	Information	Funds Release Sought £000's	Approve	Hold	More Information Required
Bessingby Bowls Club, Eastcote Ward	Replace retaining wall and provide more seating	To replace the wooden posts of the retaining wall with concrete slabs and provide more seating with arms and a back rest	6			
Dowding Park, Hillingdon West Ward	Path work	To continue the path to create a complete route from the North to the South of the site	34			
Uxbridge Lawn Tennis Club, Uxbridge Ward	Path improvement	To resurface and widen the uneven and narrow path	20			
Total seeking release			60			
Previously released / pending release			1,066			
Budget			1,274			
Remaining budget			148			