

**REPORT TO:** Executive Board

**DATE:** 19 July 2007

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director - Health & Community

**SUBJECT:** Capital Programme for Adult Social Care Division within 2007/8

**WARD(S)** Borough wide

## 1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide detailed information in relation to the proposals to develop and improve services within Adult Social Care, through the use of capital resources.

## 2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 **That the Board recommends the Council to approve the Capital Programme for Adult Social Care within 2007/8 as outlined in this report.**

## 3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### Background Overview

3.1 Adult Social Services departments can access a range of resources from a variety of sources to support capital developments. In the main they are from two major routes:

- Department of Health Capital grant.
- Council Capital programme & other specific grants

3.2 In December 2006 the Department of Health issued guidance LASSL (2006) 2 outlining how Adult Social Services departments could access capital funding and the amount allocated. In essence, the guidance clearly states an allocation of Supported Capital Expenditure (Capital Grant) for Halton in 2007/8 of £58,000 allocated towards Adult Services (generic).

3.3 Other specific capital grants include the Mental Health Supported Capital expenditure (SCE) grant for 2007/8 £95,000. Since 2005/6 under DOH guidance the Mental Health SCE is no longer ring fenced. Excellent councils under CPA are able to use this grant for any capital purpose. Bearing this in mind, alternative uses of the grant have been identified for the 2007/8 grant. Additionally, a new ring-fenced capital

grant to improve care homes £150,000 was introduced by the Department of Health in 2007/8.

3.4 The table below highlights this position for Adult Social Care:

	Capital for 2007/08 (£)
Mental Health SCE	95,000
LASSL	58,000
Capital Grant – Improvement of Care Homes	150,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>303,000</b>

3.5 Mental Health SCE

The funding for 2007/8 @ £95K should be redirected to refurbishments at John Briggs House. This Council owned building will accommodate the Older Peoples team on the Ground floor and transfer the Private Sector Housing team to the upper floor in order to integrate the Independent Living Team and the care and repair agency. Connecting these services will deliver the efficiencies agreed as part of the savings proposals in 2007-08 and lead to future resource efficiencies. The works also bring some parts of the building to Disability Discrimination Act (DDA standard) and improve the door access system.

3.5.1 Capital Grant Improvement of Care Homes

Halton BC acts as an agent on behalf of the Department of Health for the new Dignity in Care Grant. This grant aims to enhance the physical environment of Care Homes as part of the Government's dignity campaign, which places dignity and respect at the heart of caring for older people. Applications have been received from private and voluntary sector nursing and residential homes for this grant of £150,000 to improve the lives of local people. These have now been prioritised. Payment will be made on completion of the work in 2007/8.

3.5.2 LASSL

a) Bredon £23,500

As part of the service redesign at Bredon, it is intended to undertake the following additional works for potential adjustments to the kitchen at Bredon Respite unit to comply with Commission for Social Care Inspection recommendations; install a door entry system and unforeseen additional items from the original specification.

b) Bridgewater £1,000

To fund kitchen improvements to enable the kitchen to be used as a resource for PSD and Older People service users to promote rehabilitation.

c) IT for Mobile Working £11,836

To fund various projects across Adult Social Care

d) DDA projects £21,664

Various projects across Adult Social Care will be undertaken to improve our DDA requirements.

**4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no policy implications as a result of this report.

**5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 Provision exists to meet this expenditure within the Council's approved capital budget.

**6.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

6.1 All capital budgets will be closely managed to minimise any slippage and expend the full capital programme.

**7.0 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY ISSUES**

7.1 The proposed programme of work will help tackle housing and social care problems of those in greatest need.

**8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

<u>Document</u>	<u>Place of Inspection</u>	<u>Contact Officer</u>
Executive Board Report – 22 February 2007	Widnes Municipal Building	Bill Dodd Operational Director Financial Services