

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL14 September 2016Report by Director of EnvironmentCAPITAL INVESTMENT IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. The purpose of this report is to ask Council to agree that approved capital investment in energy efficiency measures within Eastwood HQ be transferred to support investment in the Council's school estate for the reasons outlined in this report.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

2. The Council is asked to approve the recommendation that the £140,000 intended for energy efficiency upgrades within Eastwood HQ be utilised instead to fund energy conservation measures in primary schools.

**BACKGROUND AND REPORT**

3. In March 2016, the Council agreed the 2016/17 Capital Plan.

4. Within the agreed Capital Plan for 2016/17, £140,000 investment was approved to undertake energy efficiency measures within Eastwood HQ. The intention of this project was to install energy efficiency measures which would lead to reduced energy consumption, resulting in financial savings which could be directed towards other important areas such as investment in property and supporting front line services and jobs.

5. Subsequent to this an opportunity has emerged which would allow the Council to deliver a significant programme of investment in energy efficiency measures across the Council's property estate through investment funded by the resultant financial savings arising from reduced energy consumption. A further report regarding this will be brought to the Council in due course.

6. As the anticipated 2016/17 works within Eastwood HQ are now likely to be able to be financed through alternative funding arrangements consideration has been given to the alternative use of the £140,000 energy conservation measures which were intended for works within Eastwood HQ. Having considered the energy performance of buildings across the Council's property estate, it is now proposed that this £140,000 be redirected from Eastwood HQ and instead used to deliver a programme of capital energy conservation works within the buildings with the poorest energy performance from a previously compiled shortlist of energy inefficient properties. These are the following schools:

- Busby Primary School
- Eaglesham Primary School
- Netherlee Primary School
- St Cadoc's Primary School
- St John's Primary School
- St Mark's Primary School
- Thornliebank Primary School
- Uplawmoor Primary School

7. It is proposed that this £140,000 be supplemented by Central Energy Efficiency Funds (already agreed within the approved Capital Plan) and SALIX funding which is used by the Council to implement energy efficiency improvements within our accommodation estate (also approved by the Council). Together, these funds will allow investment of over £400,000 within our school estate.

8. It is estimated that, as a result of the investment in energy conservation measures proposed within these schools, energy related financial savings of up to £51,000 per year can be achieved.

## **FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY**

9. This report asks the Council to agree that the approved capital sum of £140,000 to undertake works within Eastwood HQ is instead utilised to implement energy efficiency measures within our primary school estate.

10. As this provision currently exists within the approved Capital Plan, there are no financial implications arising from this report.

11. Utilising this £140,000 and supplementing this with other sources of existing funding will allow a £400,000+ programme of energy efficiency investment to be delivered within our school estate.

## **CONSULTATION**

12. Consultation on these proposals has taken place with relevant officers from across the Council.

## **PARTNERSHIP WORKING**

13. These proposals have developed following on from positive discussions with a wide range of partners including Scottish Futures Trust and those responsible for the administration of the SALIX funding arrangement

**IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSALS**

14. There are no staffing, property, legal, IT or equalities implications associated with this report. The proposed measures, once implemented, will have a positive impact upon environmental sustainability through a reduction in the tonnes of carbon dioxide emitted by the Council.

**CONCLUSIONS**

15. The proposals contained within this report can be undertaken within existing financial resources and will lead to improvements in environmental energy performance and will have a positive impact upon future revenue costs.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

16. The Council is asked to approve the recommendation that the £140,000 intended for energy efficiency upgrades within Eastwood HQ be utilised instead to fund energy conservation measures in primary schools.

Director of Environment

Further information can be obtained from Iain MacLean, Head of Environment on 0141 577 3720

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**KEY WORDS**

Capital, investment, non-domestic, energy conservation, efficiency, property, carbon management

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