



Leicester
City Council

**WARDS AFFECTED:
ALL WARDS**

CABINET

1 OCTOBER 2008

CORPORATE CAPITAL PROGRAMME – TOWN HALL IMPROVEMENTS

Report of the Interim Corporate Director of Resources

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To seek authorisation for the release of capital monies for works on the Town Hall as identified within the report.

2. Summary

The 2008 Corporate Capital Programme has a provision of £500,000 for Town Hall restoration works.

This report provides the detail of the works and requests the release of £405,000 funding for the year 2008 – 2009.

3. Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet:-

Approve the works identified within the report and the release of £405,000 (including fees) from the capital programme which has been allocated for the Town Hall restoration works.

4. Report

- 4.1 Over the last few years, much work has been carried out on the Town Hall to bring it back into full use and occupation. The works carried out include the refurbishment of part of the ground floor for Registration Services, full refurbishment of the third floor for the Members accommodation, general redecoration and upgrading of committee rooms, meeting rooms and some corridors and stairs, upgrading of Electoral Registration accommodation and most recently the external refurbishment of the Bishop Street and Bowling Green Street elevations.

To progress further improvements, the following works have been prioritised for this financial year and they briefly comprise of:-

- Refurbishment of the external fabric to part of the Horsefair Street elevation and the clock tower. The repairs include masonry, cleaning, rainwater goods, metalwork, joinery and decoration. The remainder of the works to this elevation will be funded from the Central Maintenance Fund this financial year.
- New Mosaic floor to an approved design to the main foyer area replacing the existing carpet. The work will likely cause some disruption to the main entrance and alternative accesses will have to be used.
- Refurbishment of the Ladies and Gents toilets on the 1st floor e.g. replacement of sanitary fittings, partitions, floor finishes light fittings and decoration.
- Repairs, redecoration, upgrading of lighting and general appearance to Lord Mayors staircase and corridor/waiting area outside Lord Mayors accommodation.
- Installation of electronically controlled bollards to prevent unauthorised access and parking of vehicles to the front Town Hall.

4.1.2 These works are outside of the scope of budgets for normal maintenance and/or service requirements.

4.1.3 Cabinet is recommended to approve the release of the monies to address the issues identified.

4.1.4 Additional works have been identified including external works to the front Town Hall elevation, redecoration of the Town Hall Chamber and ante room, refurbishment of the coroner's accommodation, redecoration of the Lord Mayors accommodation and external refurbishment of the quadrangle. These works will be prioritised over the next few years.

5. FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial Implications – (Nick Booth – 297460)

It is estimated that the total cost of these works would be £405,000 which could be funded from a sum of up to £500,000 has been approved for Town Hall restoration works within the corporate capital programme. This was approved prior to the latest economic downturn which is impacting on our ability to generate capital receipts. In view of the current level of available funding in the capital programme, it is proposed to use the balance of £95,000 as a saving in the programme.

The above costs are budget figures and will be subject to lowest tender.

5.2 Legal Implications – (John Mclvor – 297035)

There are no legal implications contained within this report.

6. **Other Implications**

OTHER IMPLICATIONS	YES/NO	Paragraph Within Supporting information	References
Equal Opportunities	NO		
Policy	NO		
Sustainable and Environmental	YES	The works proposed will improve the visual appearance and help maintain the fabric of the building.	
Crime and Disorder	NO		
Human Rights Act	NO		
Elderly/People on Low Income	NO		

7. **Background Papers – Local Government Act 1972**

Capital Programme submissions.

8. **Consultations**

Consultations have taken place with Town Hall occupiers
Senior Conservation Officer, Urban Design, Regeneration and Culture
Nick Booth, Financial Strategy
John Mclvor, Legal Services

9. **Report Author**

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Key Decision	No
Reason	N/A
Appeared in Forward Plan	N/A
Executive or Council Decision	Executive (Cabinet)