

APPENDIX C: CAPITAL PROGRAMME FOR 25/26 ONWARDS

Project Ref	Responsible Service Director	Description of Proposal	Total Project Investment 2025/26 onwards	Total Anticipated Funding from Grants or Other Contributions	Proposed Investment in 2025/26	Proposed Investment in 2026/27	Proposed Investment in 2027/28	Proposed Investment in 2028/29	Proposed Investment in 2029/30	Proposed Investment 2030 - 2035	Anticipated Impact of Proposal
			£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
ECP10	Service Director - Customers	Backup and Business Continuity Hardware	105	0	57	0	0	16	0	32	Hardware relating to Back Up and Disaster Recovery / Business Continuity. Items previously listed separately including: DR Hardware Refresh inc UPS Battery Pack for Unit 3 (DR site) - this includes, servers, switches and UPS at Unit 3 Back Up Diesel Generator at the DCO (to continue with diesel option due to cost of alternative and how infrequently it is used) . 3 x 40 UPS Device or Battery replacement - lifespan of these items is 3 years therefore ongoing replacement is required to ensure the UPS continues to work effectively.
ECP11	Service Director - Customers	Infrastructure Hardware	226	0	0	18	18	190	0	0	Physical hardware supporting the corporate IT infrastructure which require updating at regular intervals. Includes Items previously listed separately: Dell servers - upgrade and maintenance of servers at regular intervals New Blade Enclosures - an integral part of the servers, require updating at the same time as the servers Core Backbone Switch - links the virtual servers to the Storage Area Network Data Switch Upgrade - The main data switch within the IT Server estate is a critical piece of hardware that connects the data packets moving between the Network Servers, Data Storage and the fibre infrastructure. It is critical to ensure that these are updated regularly Cabinet Switches to ensure that traffic is routed immediately from the servers to the desktops / laptops. There will be costs for the period 2030-35, but all costs to be reviewed in 2027/28 as may be able to reduce spend if more software has moved to cloud based servers.
ECP12	Service Director - Customers	Laptops - Refresh Programme	1,056	0	319	79	35	40	349	234	All staff now have laptops instead of desktops. Laptops need refreshing current budget profile allows for 4 yearly bulk refreshes, warranties are for 3 years. Interim budgets allow for replacements as required. Members also have laptops to support them in their role. Previously treated as two separate refresh programmes, but the budget has now been combined.
ECP14	Service Director - Customers	Microsoft Enterprise Software Assurance	2,920	0	679	0	0	747	0	1,494	MS E5 licences required for all staff to work. Amount is linked to existing staffing levels. An allocation of £747k is earmarked in 2031/32 for the renewal of the three-year licenses.
ECP15	Service Director - Customers	PC Refresh Programme	41	0	7	8	5	8	5	8	Periodic refresh of desk-based PCs that are required in the Council and cannot be replaced with laptops (i.e. self-serve pcs in reception).
ECP16	Service Director - Customers	Security - Firewalls	90	0	0	18	0	18	0	54	Firewalls help protect against cyber threats and it is important these stay up to date and current. Firewalls need updating every 2 years to keep ahead of threats.
ECP17	Service Director - Customers	Tablets - Android Devices	40	0	10	10	4	4	4	8	Periodic replacement of tablet devices
ECP18	Service Director - Customers	WiFi Upgrade	40	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	Wi-Fi upgrade within District Council Offices, Hitchin Town Hall/ North Hertfordshire Museum and Buntingford Depot.

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NCP2	Service Director - Customers	An alternative set of 25 machines that are outside of the Windows Environment for Disaster Recovery	100	0	15	0	0	15	0	30	To aid recovery in the event of a successful cyber attack. To also look at options to lease equipment in the event that it is required.
			4,618	0	1,127	133	62	1,038	358	1,860	
ECP29	Service Director - Enterprise	Museum and Commercial Storage Facility at Burymead Hitchin	2000	0	2000	0	0	0	0	0	The Museum Store in Burymead is no longer fit for purpose. Objects from the collection are being held in make shift storage units, garages and dilapidated structures. The original intention was that this would be a complete new build, and is still one of the options being considered. As the indicative costs that we received were much higher than we expected, we are now looking at alternative options. These options include refurbishment, smaller additions and new storage locations. A business case will be completed over the summer which will determine the approach to take. This may impact the final capital required. There is a £2million capital allocation in 2024/25, therefore the total estimated resource required is £4million.
ECP30	Service Director - Enterprise	Hitchin Town Hall Kitchen Enhancement	25	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	Further enhancements to the HTH kitchen area to improve catering quality. This will namely involve laying new more hygienic flooring and the purchase and installation of a heated pass for events and functions, which will require bringing power through the floor to the centre of the kitchen area. May be brought forward to 2025/26 during the budget setting process, depending on capacity to carry out the work sooner.
NCP6	Service Director - Enterprise	Air conditioning at Hitchin Town Hall	100	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	To make the facility better for events. To consider the revenue implications (additional energy costs and any additional income that could be generated)
NCP7	Service Director - Enterprise	Mel Tax Offices, Royston	25	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	This property has been vacant for a number of years. It has not been formally marketed to date but there have been enquiries from prospective tenants. It has potential to be used for an alternative use, similar to the successful conversion of similar properties (e.g. Kneesworth Street to a coffee shop- The Nest). To seek a pre-let based on the Council undertaking some main roof and structural works and the tenant fitting out, subject to suitable terms.
			2150	0	2125	25	0	0	0	0	
ECP2	Service Director - Housing and Env Health	S106 Projects - Funding for additional Social Housing	193	193	193	0	0	0	0	0	Payments are made in two tranches, 50% at start on site (made in 2023/24) and 50% at practical completion. The remaining £193K will be paid in December 2025/ January 2026. Total investment of £385k.

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ECP3	Service Director - Housing and Env Health	Private Sector Grants	600	0	60	60	60	60	60	300	HRAGs are a discretionary form of assistance specifically designed to provide practical help through a grant for small-scale works. This grant provides cash limited assistance up to £5K within any three-year period, for minor works for owner / occupiers and private tenants who meet certain criteria. HRAG funding is also used to support the Warm Homes Fund project where homes without central heating are provided with central heating (either gas or zero carbon alternatives). HRAGs are means tested and help to eradicate CAT1 Hazards, such as excess cold.
			793	193	253	60	60	60	60	300	
ECP4	Service Director - Place	Playground Renovation District Wide	1,800	0	180	180	180	180	180	900	Moving forward from the previous policy to renovate a single play area annually to undertake a program of undertaking two locations each year. This ensures that each play area is renovated on an 18 year cycle, which still far exceeds manufacturer lifespan guidelines. To be looked at as part of the next Green Space Management Strategy review (in 2027). To develop a list of playgrounds with likely timings of need for renovations.
ECP6	Service Director - Place	Walsworth Common Pavilion - contribution to scheme	300	287	0	300	0	0	0	0	This is dependent on s106 funding. Moved back to 2026/27 to reflect more realistic timing. The cost is likely to increase based on latest estimate to around £500k, but left at current amount as will require a corresponding increase in 3rd party funding.
ECP7	Service Director - Place	Wilbury Hills Cemetery Footpaths	30	0	0	30	0	0	0	0	Due to high volumes of visitors the existing footpath network through the site are wearing out. This program will support an investment program over a period of time to maintain current standards.
ECP8	Service Director - Place	Howard Park Letchworth Path Resurfacing	20	0	0	10	10	0	0	0	Phased approach to resurfacing the pathways at Howard Park.
NCP3	Service Director - Place	Priory Gardens bandstand	50	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	Replace or capital renovations to the existing bandstand due to poor condition of existing feature. Will also seek S106 contributions.
NCP4	Service Director - Place	Howard Gardens Play Area	75	0	75	0	0	0	0	0	Central piece of play equipment has failed due to major wooden supports rotting at ground level - this is to replace the existing item with a new item. Depending on other renovations required in 25/26, some of the cost may be covered by ECP4.

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NCP5	Service Director - Place	Broadway Gardens resurfacing	250	0	250	0	0	0	0	0	Current york stone area is uneven and wil become unsafe and is breaking up due to use and frost. This project is to resurface this area with like for like but may be other alternatives. This will require confirmation by Planning due to the location being in a conservation area.
			2,525	287	555	520	190	180	180	900	
ECP20	Service Director - Place	HSC: Change Village Refurbishment	225	0	0	225	0	0	0	0	The Change village was last refurbished in 2014. To ensure customer satisfaction is maintained, refurbishment is programmed to take place on a 10-15 year cycle. To review in 2025/26 to see if it can be pushed back another year, and/or whether it could be a partial refurbishment.
ECP22	Service Director - Place	NHLC Male, Female and accessible wet change refurbishment	250	0	0	250	0	0	0	0	The wet side changing rooms were last refurbished in 2016. To ensure customer satisfaction is maintained refurbishment is programmed to take place on a 10-15 year cycle. Consideration will be given to reconfiguring area to accommodate a change village in line with HSC and RLC.
ECP23	Service Director - Place	NHLC: Interactive Water Feature	120	0	0	0	120	0	0	0	Proposal to transform the small pool into a highly interactive water play area for children of all age and ability groups. To be discussed with Everyone Active as to whether it would generate additional use, and may be removed.
ECP24	Service Director - Place	NHLC: Pool Flume Replacement	300	0	0	0	300	0	0	0	The pool flume was installed in 1992 and due to its age a proposal to replace the flume with a newer model is proposed. This will ensure continued customer satisfaction for users of the leisure pool. Brought forward from 2028/29 and estimated cost increased from £150k.
ECP25	Service Director - Place	Royston Leisure Centre Dry Side Toilet Refurbishment	30	0	30	0	0	0	0	0	To ensure customer satisfaction is maintained a project to fully refurbish the male, female and disabled dry side toilet areas is proposed.
ECP26	Service Director - Place	Royston Leisure Centre Café	20	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	The Council's new leisure provider put forward a proposal that if the Council provided capital funding for the capital investments within their bid, that they would provide additional management fee income. The additional management fee would be greater than the Council's cost of capital.
ECP27	Service Director - Place	RLC: Fitness Equipment Replacement	350	0	350	0	0	0	0	0	The Council's new leisure provider put forward a proposal that if the Council provided capital funding for the capital investments within their bid, that they would provide additional management fee income. The additional management fee would be greater than the Council's cost of capital.

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ECP28	Service Director - Place	RLC: Fitness Facility Refurbishment	452	0	452	0	0	0	0	0	The Council's new leisure provider put forward a proposal that if the Council provided capital funding for the capital investments within their bid, that they would provide additional management fee income. The additional management fee would be greater than the Council's cost of capital.
			1,747	0	852	475	420	0	0	0	
ECP32	Service Director - Place	Refuse and Recycling Bins	900	0	90	90	90	90	90	450	Wheeled bins are considered to have on average a 10-12 year life. The bin replacement cycle for the purple residual waste bins means we are likely to see increased bin purchases over the coming years.
ECP33	Service Director - Place	Fibre Waste Bins	1,170	0	1,170	0	0	0	0	0	In line with the decision by Cabinet for a 3:3:3 waste collection schedule, a new blue lidded 240L bin will be issued to residents as the new 'paper and cardboard' bin, replacing the box. This is the estimated cost of purchasing and delivery of the additional bin to households.
ECP34	Service Director - Place	Vehicle fleet replacement program (Waste and Recycling)	11,770	2,300	5,270	0	0	0	0	5,500	We will be providing funding for the new vehicles required for the new cobntract in return for a reduction in the contract cost. The investment reflects the Council's expected share of the total cost of vehicles. It includes that all vehicles under 7.5 tonnes will be electric. Expected vehicle life is generally around 8 years so provision for replacement in around 2033.
ECP35	Service Director - Place	Waste depot facility co-located with a residual waste transfer facility	6,000	0	0	0	0	3,000	3,000	0	Herts County Council are planning to build a waste and recycling transfer station. There may be an option to co-locate a waste depot on the same site, to replace the current Letchworth depot. The current Letchworth depot is not of sufficient size to accommodate the additional vehicles that will come with population growth. A new depot would also be planned to include facilities to allow the decarbonisation of the waste fleet.

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NCP1	Service Director - Place	EV charging at the existing Letchworth depot	100	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	The installation of EV charging at the current depot for vehicles under 7.5 tonnes. Includes provision for increasing the overall supply to the site, which is likely to be required. Trying to obtain grant funding.
			19,940	2,300	6,630	90	90	3,090	3,090	5,950	
ECP1	Service Director - Resources	Capital maintenance to Council buildings	500	0	50	50	50	50	50	250	Condition surveys have been carried out on a substantial number of the Authority's premises (substantially consists of Community Centres and Pavilions). This bid relates to those premises which are not currently subject to separate plans or review. The surveys have identified necessary works within priority bands required to ensure the continued use of the premises and to maintain premises in a reasonable condition. Enhancement works of this nature will reduce reliance on reactive maintenance repairs.
ECP5	Service Director - Resources	Remote testing equipment - Emergency Lights and Water Temperature Monitoring	13	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	Provision of remote testing Emergency Lights and Water Temperature Monitoring at at least 4 small pavilion and cemetery sites.
ECP31	Service Director - Resources	Off Street Car Parks resurfacing and enhancement	139	0	19	43	77	0	0	0	Condition surveys have identified the need for a proactive programme of resurfacing for the council's off street car parking. Resurfacing, re-lining and enhancing the lighting enables the car parks to be used safely, reducing insurance claims for trips and falls, and allows the continued enforcement of the relevant traffic regulation orders. A. Planned maintenance programme should enable reduction in reactive repairs. B. No programme of repairs will require additional revenue maintenance funds for responsive repairs, and loss of income as Traffic regulation orders will become unenforceable. Updated assesment of condition includes works to Priory Gardens (25/26), King James Way (26/27), Bancroft (26/27 and 27/28) and the Warren (28/29). To be kept under review and will require further work in later years.
NCP8	Service Director - Resources	CCTV Control Room upgrade	45	0	45	0	0	0	0	45	Stevenage BC (who operate the control room on behalf of the partnership and company) have been notified that the core control room infrastructure is in need of an upgrade, as it will no longer be supported from the end of 24/25. The total cost is split between company and the partners. This is the estimated North Herts partnership (Council) share. May need to bring the spend forward to 24/25.
NCP9	Service Director - Resources	Public Sector Decarbonisation-phase 2	TBC	0	730	2,001	423	0	0	0	Consultants are looking at the decarbonisation options in relation to DCO, Hitchin Town Hall and District Museum and North Herts Learner Pool. This may lead to a successful decarbonisation fund bid, which would require a Council capital contribution.
			697	0	857	2,094	550	50	50	295	
TOTAL			32,469	2,780	12,398	3,397	1,372	4,418	3,738	9,305	