

Future and Aspirational Capital Proposals

Older Persons Shared Ownership Units

Shared Ownership units, for older people on the former Whiteacre and Dilkeswood site. In addition a further 46 general needs units could also be developed.

This will meet the Improve Health and well-being to ensure people stay healthier longer, adding years to life and life to years Council priority.

(Government Grant Funded and Capital Receipts)

Grangewaters – a Commercial Operation

To explore a building conference/training centre, moving the facility into a more commercial based operation and provides income generation opportunities for the whole year.

This scheme meets the need to create a great place for learning and opportunity; and Improve health and well-being Council priorities. Subject to completion of the Aspire programme.

Alternative Theatre Provision

Construction of a new Theatre and multi-functional performance spaces in Grays. This is subject to further feasibility work on theatre options including consideration of potential providers being undertaken by consultants in the context of the Grays masterplan.

This scheme meets all of the Council's priorities.

Collins House Expansion

Develop an additional 3 storey wing for Collins House containing 30 single ensuite bedrooms, to help manage growing demand.

This will meet the Improve Health and well-being to ensure people stay healthier longer, adding years to life Council priority.

Housing Estate Regeneration

To consider the outcome of work on the business case for regenerating the Council's housing estates, being done in conjunction with the Department for Communities and Local Government and Local Partnerships. The work will be presented to Cabinet later this year for decision and implementation.

The project meets the building pride, responsibility and respect to create safer communities; encouraging and promoting job creation and economic prosperity; and Improving health and well-being Council priorities.

Tilbury Integrated Healthy Living Centre

Development of Tilbury Integrated Health Living Centre, in collaboration with Thurrock Clinical Commissioning Group, Community Health Partnerships and other key stakeholders as one of four hubs across the borough. This is subject to a business case being agreed with health partners.

This project meets all of the Council's priorities.

A Digitally "Smart" Borough

Deliver an enabling municipal infrastructure that will underpin Thurrock's development as a "Smart Place".

(Part Government Grant Funded)

We are looking at a number of smart place opportunities that can be commercialised. To support a smart place it is anticipated that we will need infrastructure to support borough wide sensor, camera and data networks. It is anticipated that commercial revenue streams will come from providing partners and customers access to these networks (including ultrafast broadband fibre) and selling data from them (traffic flows, pollution etc.)

It is expected that there will also be some cost avoidance as we are looking to move our corporate Wide Area Network onto this infrastructure.

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Finally there will be indirect benefits – developing a strong local digital offer will accelerate local regeneration and associated tax incomes, and the information from the networks will assist in the avoidance of front line service costs. Examples are social care (smart assisted living), public health (pollution control for chronic lung issues) and litter/flytipping prevention (improved cctv/surveillance capability).

We are still exploring options, but we expect benefits to be related on the amount of investment we are prepared to make.

The proposal supports all council priorities.

Use of Technology in Customer Services

Explore the introduction of innovative technology (such as Artificial Intelligence sometimes known as ChatBots) into the customer service contact centre. We are already looking to change the focus of our customer service offer as part of the emerging Customer Service Strategy and channel shift, enabling residents to self-serve as much as possible and make it easier to interact with the council outside of normal working hours. There is an opportunity to exploit the use of digital technology further to eliminate the need for introducing expensive on-call / shift rotas. ChatBots are just one idea to help drive efficiencies and provide a better customer experience. A detailed review of what other councils and organisations are using/moving too and feasibility study would be required to identify the most appropriate opportunities and solutions for Thurrock.

High House Artist Studios

High House Works (Artist Studios II), providing an additional 10,000 sqft of creative workspace to support micro and small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) from the creative industries sector on the production park.

This scheme will meet the encourage and promote job creation and economic prosperity priority.

New Commercial Space at Thurrock Parkway

Creation of industrial units at Thurrock Parkway, offering industrial, warehouse and office accommodation. Initial projection indicate net proceeds of between 2% and 5% depending upon method of financing, plus an increase to the business rates.

This project meets the encourage and promote job creation and economic prosperity priority.

New Commercial Space at Milehams Industrial Estate

Potential redevelopment of Milehams Industrial Estate to include a range of industrial, warehouse and office accommodation. Initial projections indicate net proceeds of between 1.25% and 5.25%, depending upon the method of financing.

This project meets the encourage and promote job creation and economic prosperity priority.

Blackshots Enhancements

Options at Blackshots to improve facilities and customer experience, such as the replacement of the roundhouse pavilion and improvements to the car park, to be considered as part of the implementation of the Active Places Strategy and subject to business planning.

Career & Development Portal

Creation of a career & development portal - a web based careers portal that would help strengthen our links and our role with community and businesses. Links to service review and selling services.

Released on evidence of a costed business case – Income Generation

Gap Analysis / Online Testing Tool

Organisational Development (OD) skills gap analysis / online testing tool to identify strengths and weaknesses of potential new job candidates and existing staff. This is linked to the service review

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and to the delivery of the staff survey action plan. There are generic skills needed by the workforce and we need to be able to identify these digitally, embedded in induction and delivered through development plans. Released on evidence of a costed business case.

Demolition Programme

Demolition of 4 buildings, Unit 1 Curzon drive, Unit E Dock Road, Unit 1 Hume Avenue to enable site assembly and allow sites to be leased creating an income stream.

Tilbury Community Led Local Development Fund (CLLD)

CLLD funding; including new cycling hub facility and shop front improvements in Tilbury. This will enable the Council to draw down capital match funding through the CLLD programme (once approved) and link with the successful Department for Transport Access Fund which will meet on-going revenue costs.

Public Realm Branding

Review all signage and public realm where the Thurrock brand is or could be used as part of developing the overall profile of, and pride in, the place in line with the emerging communications and brand strategy. This would require an understanding of the volume of assets such as street and building signage and the capital costs of replacement as well as opportunities for potential sponsorship as an alternative.

Energy Efficiency

Investigate the viability of solar panel installation to reduce the cost of utilities on Thurrock Council sites.

Industrial Estates in Housing Areas

To look at options to relocate businesses from industrial sites located alongside housing areas (Towers Road, Grays & Stanhope Industrial Estate, SLH) which could then be reused for housing supply.

Compactor Litter Bins

Installation of 20 Big Belly compactor litter bins in various locations throughout the borough, generating a saving of not emptying half empty bins. Decision will be based on a trial in three locations.

Fraud Modelling Tool

Predicated fraud modelling using Xantura's analytical data modelling software which relates to Revenue and Benefits and is comprised of real time fraud checks.

The government published in December 2016 that the latest estimate of fraud in Housing Benefits stands at 1.1%. Thurrock Council pays out circa £70m per annum and, if the estimate is correct, this includes £770k in fraudulent payments. It is impossible to say how much of this would be identified and saved through this software but, as an example, 5% equates to £38.5k paying back the investment in less than three years or 10% at £77k repaying the investment in 1.5 years.

Aveley Community Facility

Aveley community facility phase 2 - inclusion of nursery accommodation to be leased out to an independent operator, providing revenue to the Council. Phase 1 is already included in the current capital programme.

The scheme will create a great place for learning and opportunity, encourage and promote job creation and economic prosperity and build pride and respect to create safer communities. This is subject to the completion of a business case to justify phase 2 and the outcome of the review of

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libraries across the Borough, which will take account of the strategic approach to community hubs.

Linford Civic Amenity Site

To explore a second phase of capital works to create facilities for trade waste as an income generating opportunity.