

**Summary of 2024/25 MTFP Capital Bids**

**All Figures in £000's**

**Criteria - Fully Externally Funded**

Ref	Directorate	Scheme	Description	Budget Holder	Profile of Spend					Total Request	Funded By		
					2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29		Borrowing	Grants	Total Approval
C24-010	Climate and Place	Signing and Lining Replacement Programme	Road markings Although every site is different depending on how much the route is trafficked, the average life of a thermoplastic road marking is 3-7 years. The average cost to replace the road markings on an A road is £5000 per km and a B Road is £2600 per km. With the average lifespan of 5 years this equates to the requirement of a Capital road marking replacement budget of £920,720 per annum.  Signing Although every route is different the average life of a modern road sign is 7-10 years. The average cost to replace the signs on an A road is £7000 per km and a B Road is £4000 per km. If we look at the maximum of a 10 year replacement programme this equates to the requirement of a Capital signing replacement budget of £661,100 per annum.	Mike O'Dowd-Jones	500	500	500	500	500	2,500	0	2,500	2,500
C24-011	Climate and Place	Traffic Signal PSTN Replacement Project	As at the 31 August 2023 there are currently 299 Traffic signal sites across Somerset. Approximately 220 of these sites will be affected by the national plans to convert the public switched telephone network (PSTN) to a fully digital network by the end of 2025, when every phone line in the UK will be digital, routing calls over IP (Internet Protocol) rather than the traditional PSTN. These telephone connections to the traffic control sites are vital in the monitoring, maintenance and management of these sites. This project is to invest in the upgrading of these 220 Traffic Signal sites to IP communications. Traffic signals are generally located at strategically important or vulnerable locations and their continued effective and efficient operation needs to be safeguarded. We have estimated that an investment of £2.2M would deliver the 220 improvements required to convert the sites. This is due to the current estimated costs of approximately £10,000 per site.	Mike O'Dowd-Jones	1,100	1,100	0	0	0	2,200	0	2,200	2,200
C24-012	Climate and Place	Traffic Signal Refurbishment Programme	As at the 31 August 2023 there are currently 299 Traffic signal sites across Somerset. Approximately 137 of these sites have been identified as being in a critical condition, many of which are operating with obsolete equipment which is unmaintainable and would be a health and safety risk for the public in the event of failure.	Mike O'Dowd-Jones	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	6,000	0	6,000	6,000
C24-013	Climate and Place	Road Safety Engineering Programme	This programme of high priority works is identified through the Road Safety Team as a result of their ongoing review of collision sites and will deliver collision and casualty reduction benefits. Schemes are prioritised based on injury collision volumes and injury severity.	Mike O'Dowd-Jones	500	500	500	500	500	2,500	0	2,500	2,500
C24-014	Climate and Place	Highways Basic Need	This bid is for the basic needs funding for the annual capital funded maintenance programme to maintain the highway network for which Somerset Council is the Highways Authority (HA). This comprises the core, annual capital funded maintenance of the HAs key highways assets - carriageways, footways and cycleways, structures, drainage, (bridges), street lighting, and traffic Control.	Mike O'Dowd-Jones	27,500	31,625	0	0	0	59,125	0	59,125	59,125
C24-015	Climate and Place	Bridges & Structures - Basic Need	This bid is for the basic needs funding for the annual capital funded maintenance programme to maintain the various Bridges and Structures for which Somerset Council is the Highways Authority (HA).	Mike O'Dowd-Jones	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	20,000	0	20,000	20,000
C24-018	Climate and Place	Highway Lighting - Basic Need	Somerset Council currently maintain and pay energy for a total of 59,444 illuminated assets in Somerset. The assets are made up of 52,450 street lights, 1717 illuminated bollards, 4,876 illuminated signs and 401 Belisha Beacons/Beacon post lights. The Council has replaced 37,959 (63.85%) of illuminated assets with LED. The remaining ageing assets have now exceeded their recommended life expectancy. The equipment is not energy efficient, and maintenance is becoming more difficult as Sox lamps (sodium) ceased being manufactured in 2020. The Council currently still have 3,036 Sox lamps in Somerset which will need replacing.	Mike O'Dowd-Jones	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	5,000	0	5,000	5,000
C24-024	Climate and Place	Rights of Way - New Staff	Due to the following demands: - Increased issue reporting on the path network - Doubling of planning application consultations in the last 10 years, where rights of way are impacted - Assuming the development-related diversion function from the ex-District Councils following LGR, there is a need for a service restructure to cope with the demand to ensure that we can better fulfil our statutory duty to protect and assert the rights of the public to the (safe) use and enjoyment of the path network.  4 x AFRs have been prepared where it is proposed that their salary is part-capitalised as follows: - 1 x Senior Rights of Way Officer - Development (G9?) 20% c.£11k - 1 x Rights of Way Projects Warden (G11?) 20% c.£7.2k - 1 x Bridge Technician (G13) 90% c.£27.6k - 1 x Diversions Officer (G12) 20% c.£6k  If successful, this bid would be added to the Rights of Way Basic Need allocation in future	Mike O'Dowd-Jones	52	52	52	52	52	260	0	260	260

C24-023	Climate and Place	Rights of Way - Basic Need	There are over 6000km of public rights of way across Somerset comprising 4700+ bridges and 36,000+ other structures and assets (stiles, gates, signposts, drainage assets, etc). The extensive network requires a significant rolling capital investment programme to ensure that the network remains available, safe and easy to use for the public. The project also includes supporting a number of volunteer schemes with assets, eg: strimmers, to help keep the network open and safe to use.	Mike O'Dowd-Jones	1,069	1,185	1,185	1,185	1,185	5,809	0	5,809	5,809
					36,921	41,162	8,437	8,437	8,437	103,394	0	103,394	103,394

**Criteria - Health and Safety**

Ref	Directorate	Scheme	Description	Budget Holder	Profile of Spend					Total Request	2024.25 Requests by Funding Type		
					2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29		SC Resources	Grants	Total Approval
C24-002	Children and Families	Dulverton Primary School (Single Site)	Dulverton has an infant and a junior school which are located next to each other. There are less than 90 children across the two schools and numbers are projected to fall. A 2-school model for Dulverton does not appear sustainable so the Governing Body, which oversees both schools, wishes to explore an amalgamation model and create a primary school. The primary school would operate from just one of the school sites (the infant school site) while the junior school site would be passed back to the Council's Estates Team. To accommodate older, bigger children, the infant school building needs to some remedial works, including adaptations to toilets and the provision of a hygiene / therapy area. Works may also be needed to the school's perimeter to prevent older / larger children being able to exit the site.	Amelia Walker	100	0	0	0	0	100	100	0	100
C24-025	Climate and Place	Waste Services - Waste Containers	To provide waste containers for residents of Somerset to enable them to present their waste for collection in ergonomic and kite marked containers designed specifically for this purpose.	Kirsty Larkin	950	0	0	0	0	950	950	0	950
C24-026	Climate and Place	Silk Mills Park & Ride Security Measures	To introduce physical measures to prevent Traveller incursions onto Silk Mills Park & Ride site in Taunton. We wish to introduce similar measures to those in place at Taunton Gateway Park & Ride such as bollards, height barriers and boulders and redesign the access for our Minibuses based on the site to prevent traveller incursions into the main parking area.	Mike O'Dowd-Jones	125	0	0	0	0	125	125	0	125
C24-028	Community Services	Ports and Harbours	Project - Replacement of Safety Ladders, Fenders, tidal boards and steps at Minehead and Watchet Harbours. This infrastructure work is required to comply with health and safety requirements including health and safety at work act, Ladders compliance with safety in docks approved code of practice and also the Port Marine Safety Code.	Sarah Dowden	70	0	0	0	0	70	70	0	70
C24-029	Community Services	Navigation Aids and Brue Beacons	Port Navigation Aids Replacement Ground Tackle and Brue Beacon Replacement  Safe Navigation in the Port of Bridgwater requires the approach channels to be well marked using buoys and lights as required. Navigation Buoys and lights are installed in the Port of Bridgwater that are used to mark the safe approaches in and out of the port. We have a legal duty to ensure navigation markers are fit for purpose and provide safe navigation to vessels using the port area. In order to keep the buoys on station and to reduce the risk of them coming loose and being lost routine maintenance needs to be undertaken to inspect and replace the ground tackle and weights that secure the buoys on location on the seabed. There is also a navigation light located at the entrance to the river Brue which needs to be upgraded to ensure continued operation. Due to the nature of this work it can only be done using a contractor with suitable floating plant and lifting equipment. As such services have to be brought in to complete the works.  Therefore the capital bid funding is required to fund the inspection and replacement of ground tackle on Navigation Buoys and to replace the Brue Beacon navigation marker	Sarah Dowden	30	0	0	0	0	30	30	0	30
C24-030	Community Services	Dredging Port of Bridgwater and Brue River	Dredging River Brue Entrance  This capital bid is for funding to employ a contractor to undertake dredging at the mouth of the River Brue.  The Port of Bridgwater area includes the River Parrett and parts of the River Brue including the entrance to the Brue River from the Parrett. The Port has a statutory conservancy duty under port legislation and an open port duty meaning it has to maintain the port area in manner that is safe for navigation at all times. In addition safe navigation is a requirement of the Port Marine Safety Code.	Sarah Dowden	30	0	0	0	0	30	30	0	30
C24-032	Resources & Corporate Services	Dulverton Weir	Repair work to Dulverton Weir, to ensure leaf flows and mitigate risk to residential property damage.	Oliver Woodhams	30	0	0	0	0	30	30	0	30
C24-033	Resources & Corporate Services	Capital Compliance Fund	Somerset Council now has a portfolio of approx. 2500 building assets, of which approx. 130 are operational properties for which it is responsible for ensuring are maintained to a safe and suitable standard.  These premises range from public buildings (e.g. leisure facilities, family hubs and libraries), to sites occupied by Council employees such as office bases and depots. This is in addition to those premises occupied by third parties and tenants.  Fire Precaution Works High Hazard Asbestos Accessibility Improvements Radon	Oliver Woodhams	150	0	0	0	0	150	150	0	150

C24-034	Resources & Corporate Services	Corporate Capital Condition Programme	This funding is to address poor condition building issues across the Council's estate (excluding Schools), to ensure buildings are safe and functional and remain operational. This funding only includes those issues identified in poor or bad condition and which are urgent or essential. A number of condition surveys have been undertaken across the portfolio of the new unitary authority assets, and the results have provided costings for this proposed programme of condition works. This has been supplemented with costings for other high priority issues across various assets, which fell outside of the condition survey programme. These issues were raised by property officers across the whole council and have been individually assessed for inclusion on this programme. Existing levels of capital approval are insufficient to address a growing backlog of condition issues, which will grow to unsustainable levels year on year without further funding being allocated.	Oliver Woodhams	1,700	0	0	0	0	1,700	1,700	0	1,700
C24-035	Resources & Corporate Services	Closed Churchyards	Provision for proactive and reactive Health and Safety works in Closed Churchyards. Somerset Council has a statutory obligation to maintain and repair closed churchyards where the diocese has transferred that liability via the ministry of justice. Work is being undertaken to review the condition of all the closed churchyards in the county in order to identify potential risks. There is currently one site which has an identified current risk of a collapsing retaining wall and work is underway to fully specify the works. These are currently estimated to be in the region of £150k.	Oliver Woodhams	150	0	0	0	0	150	150	0	150
C24-037	Resources & Corporate Services	Schools Capital Condition Programme	The Council has a statutory duty to ensure sufficient provision of new places. In addition, schools must be maintained in an appropriate condition. This funding is to ensure school building are safe and functional and that their condition does not detract from teaching and learning or lead to unplanned school closures. The Department for Education (DfE) provides an annual capital grant to support this activity. However, there is a major and growing shortfall in funding between the level of need and the grant funding received. In 23/24 the highest priority condition issues identified totalled £9.08m against a DfE grant allocation of £2.4m; a backlog maintenance requirement which will grow to unsustainable levels year on year. In order to ensure an effective condition programme can be delivered to address the growing backlog of unaddressed high priority items, this request is based on the need identified in the most recent condition surveys.	Oliver Woodhams	2,050	2,000	1,950	0	0	6,000	0	6,000	6,000
					<b>5,385</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>1,950</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,335</b>	<b>3,335</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>9,335</b>
					<b>42,306</b>	<b>43,162</b>	<b>10,387</b>	<b>8,437</b>	<b>8,437</b>	<b>112,729</b>	<b>3,335</b>	<b>109,394</b>	<b>112,729</b>