

2. CONSIDERATION OF CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAMME

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The purpose of this report is to provide information to enable the Board to consider projects for inclusion in the Council's 2004/05 capital works planning.

In July, Board Members and Council Staff were invited to put forward projects for consideration by the Board for capital works planning. A schedule incorporating both staff and Board suggestions is attached.

The Council has imposed a moratorium on new capital programmes and projects. This means that funding for new projects is unlikely to be available for the next year unless a project can be identified as urgent and can be substituted for a project with less priority. Few staff suggestions for projects have been received this year due to this moratorium. Last year the moratorium resulted in few new projects, including staff projects, being incorporated into the Council's capital works plan.

The Council's resolutions of 23 March 2001 imposing the moratorium are as follows:

1. That in the coming three years all capital and operating budgets be contained within the projections in the Financial Plan, adjusted for inflation.
2. That the provision for unspecified capital projects be deleted and the funding be held in a capital contingency fund to meet unforeseen costs.
3. That the unspecified operating sums in years 2, 3 and 4 be deleted.

Advice has been received that Boards need to identify which programmed projects within their own area they wish to see substituted for new projects.

The Board could consider prioritising the projects:

1. Urgent priority
2. High priority
3. Important priority

Staff

Recommendation: That the Board considers and prioritises the projects outlined in the attached schedule.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: For discussion.