

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
Date:	11 March 2010
Title:	Children's Services Capital Programme issues
Reference:	1230
Report From:	The Director of Children's Services and the County Treasurer

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this paper is to set out proposed changes to the 2009/10 capital programme and proposals for seeking planning consent for a single temporary classroom at Samuel Cody Specialist Sports College.
- 1.2. This paper seeks approval for the allocation of 2010/11 budgets for a number of block votes.
- 1.3. The proposals contained in this report are derived from the departmental service plan(s), which have been developed to support the priorities of the Corporate Strategy.

2. Contextual information

- 2.1 The five outcomes specified in the Children Act are set out below, with a summary of how the proposals in this report contribute to their achievement:
 - **being healthy** (enjoying good physical and mental health and living a healthy lifestyle): through proposals which include the encouragement of walking and cycling to and from school, the provision of health advice through children's centres and co-location with the Health Service;
 - **staying safe** (being protected from harm and neglect): by creating safe environments in schools, children's centres, children's homes and carers' homes;
 - **enjoying and achieving** (getting the most out of life and developing the skills for adulthood): by providing a high standard of education and care for children in suitable buildings;

- **making a positive contribution** (being involved with the community and society and not engaging in anti-social or offending behaviour): by encouraging the flexible and creative use of accommodation;
- **Economic well-being** (not being prevented by economic disadvantage from achieving their full potential in life): by ensuring that proposals will not disadvantage children, will protect equality of opportunity and support children from no or low income families to secure skills and qualifications.

2.2 Cash Limit Budget 2009/10

Table 1 refers to adjustments to the 2009/10 cash limit reported in January 2010.

Table 1

2009/10 Cash Limit	£'m
Cash limit reported in January 2010	104.863
Disabled Children's Grant (Short Breaks for families) – transfer to Countryside, Communities and Rural Affairs (CCRA)	-0.200
Developers Contribution received (Appendix 2)	0.150
Developers contribution correction re Four Marks Primary	-0.082
Capital Grants from DCSF for Swanwick Lodge Secure Unit	0.089
Specialist School Status Grant	0.075
Total	104.895

- 2.3 Secondary Schools Specialist status – After three years schools can apply for re-designation status and qualify for additional Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) grant funding of £0.025m. During 2009/10 three more schools (Bohunt School, Brune Park Community College, and Costello Technology College) have been successful. Additional resources of £0.075m are recommended to be added to the 2009/10 cash limit.
- 2.4 Swanwick Lodge Secure Unit – three successful grant bids totalling £0.089m have been made to the DCSF to support capital works at the unit to meet current regulations relating to adequacy of accommodation.

3. Finance – allocation of block votes 2010/11

3.1. Extended Schools

There is provision of £1.049m in the 2010/11 programme to provide extended schools facilities. This funding has been made available through specific grant to encourage schools to open up their buildings to a range of other users to help develop family and community services. By 2010 the Government expects all school aged children and their families to be able

to access at or through their local school a minimum range of services and activities. Known as the core offer these include:

- high quality 8am-6pm childcare provided on the school site or through other local providers
- a varied menu of activities, including study support – such as homework clubs, sports, music tuition, arts and crafts,
- visits to museums, business and enterprise activities
- parenting support – including information sessions and family learning activities
- swift and easy referral to a wide range of specialist support services
- wider community access to school facilities – including ICT, sports and arts facilities and adult learning opportunities

Schools have been invited to submit investment proposals, which have been assessed against the above criteria. A list of projects are set out in Appendix 3 for which approval is sought.

3.2. **School Access Initiative (SAI)**

The Schools Access Initiative provides borrowing approval to local authorities to increase the accessibility of mainstream schools for pupils with physical and sensory disabilities. There is provision of £0.800m in the 2010/11 programme to support SAI projects in schools, together with a carry forward from 2009/10 of £0.158m as approved by ELMCS on 15 January 2010. Approval is sought for specific projects listed at Appendix 4.

3.3. **Youth Capital Fund (YCF)**

This specific grant is available to develop youth premises. There is provision of £0.514m in the 2010/11 programme for which approval is sought for specific projects listed at Appendix 5.

3.4. **Targeted Capital Fund (TCF)**

This funding is available to support SEN, 14-19 and Education and Inclusion projects and is available to those authorities which have not begun Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programmes. There is provision of £6m in the 2010/11 programme, plus an additional £0.3m which has already been allocated to surplus place removal projects. It is proposed to allocate the £6m funds on the basis of giving equal priority to each area of investment as follows.

SEN

3.4.1. The proposed SEN projects for consideration against this budget have been prioritised based on the following criteria:

- Reduce high cost out of county places
- Co-location and flexibility of services
- Prioritise funding in line with BSF proposals

- Relocation of existing provision where a mainstream school is due to close
- Ensuring quality of provision

3.4.2. The proposed schemes listed in Appendix 7 meet the above criteria. On the 27 April 2009 Cabinet approved the closure of Oak Farm school with effect from August 2011 and relocation of the Specific Learning Difficulties (SPLD) resourced provision. Consultations are currently taking place with local schools to determine the most appropriate location for this resource at which time a detailed feasibility study will be undertaken. An allocation is also contained within the contingency for further 2010 priorities for which details will be brought to a future Decision Day. Approval is sought for the projects listed in Appendix 7.

Education and Inclusion

3.4.3. A strategy is being developed in conjunction with the local Gosport schools to reduce exclusions in the area and improve vocational provision in Gosport. There is provision in the 2010/11 capital programme to support this project for which £2m was approved by ELMCS on 15 January 2010 as a contribution towards the scheme. Detailed discussions are currently taking place with a view to a detailed proposal being brought to a future decision day.

14-19 Projects

3.4.4. It is proposed that £2m is made available through the TCF to support 14-19 projects. The 14-19 Strategic Board, consisting of headteachers, a college principal and Officers from the County Council and Learning and Skills Council (LSC) have recommended that £0.895m be used to support Diploma delivery projects through the Gateway 4 bidding process. In relation to the remaining funding, work is in hand to identify potential projects which would make a strategic impact on the wider 14-19 provision, particularly in support of alternative opportunities for 14-16 year olds. Specific proposals relating to this will be brought forward to a future Decision Day.

3.4.5. A further £0.8m was available for 14-19 projects in the 2009/10 budget of which £0.437m has been carried forward to the 2010/11 programme. Approval is sought for specific projects listed at Appendix 6.

4. Early Years and Childcare (Private, Voluntary and Independent Sector) Projects

4.1. As reported on 22 May 2008 a total of £15.135m capital grant has been made available over the three years from 2008/09 to 2010/11 as part of the Sure Start Early Years and Childcare Grant (SSEYCG) to support the delivery of the Government's strategy for childcare. Grants totalling £13,762,743 were approved by Executive Lead Member for Children's Services on 22 July 2009.

- 4.2. Two projects, in Privett, East Hants and Lyndhurst, New Forest awarded £70,000 and £120,000 respectively have withdrawn their bids due to a change of circumstances. Utilising this funding and other savings, three further projects, currently at the feasibility stage, are recommended for approval within the total grant. These have been selected from the original bids that were received for this funding in December 2008 and prioritised by the Early Years Education & Childcare Unit (EECU) with particular regard to Hampshire's childcare sufficiency assessment.
- 4.3. The new projects for approval are for new detached buildings to be constructed on County Council owned sites, at North Baddesley Infant School, New Milton Infant School and Burley Primary School. These will be added to the current programme managed by Property Services who are procuring the new structures using the grant funding. This approach avoids any issues related to third parties undertaking construction activities on operational school sites and ensures standards and quality of the completed facilities are acceptable and suitably robust.

5. Aldworth Science College, Basingstoke - Vocational Facility

- 5.1. Resources to develop an inclusion strategy for Basingstoke were reported in January 2009. Part of this funding was identified to provide vocational courses at Aldworth Science College with the aim of improved inclusion partnerships for young people across the Basingstoke area, particularly linked to the Ashwood Education Centre.
- 5.2. Approval is sought to progress the scheme for which funding of £0.9m (including fees) is available in the 2008/09 programme. In advance of the main scheme two projects on the Hair & Beauty and Society, Health and Development provision have already been completed under delegated powers. Furniture and Equipment is available within the Children's Services capital programme to support this project.
- 5.3. Therefore, it is recommended that, a scheme be progressed to provide a vocational facility at the Aldworth Science College at a cost of £0.9m.

6. Swimming Pools Investment Strategy

- 6.1. A strategy was developed in 2008 to support the maintenance of 14 swimming pools across the county. A joint funded approach with match funding from the Policy and Resources and Children's Services capital programmes are the main funding sources, along with school contributions. The funding contribution from Children's Services was agreed at £0.375m per annum (including fees) for five years from 2008/09.
- 6.2. The funding strategy for the first group of schools in 2009/10 was agreed at the Executive Lead Member Children's Services Decision Day on 22 July 2009. Since that time work on three pools (Fordingbridge Junior, Four Marks Primary and Overton Primary) have been completed. Approval is sought for the tendering of the next phase of swimming pool projects as listed at Appendix 8.

7. Action taken by the Director of Children's Services

- 7.1. Under delegated powers, and following consultation with the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services (Education), and Executive Member for Children and Families as appropriate, the action set out in Appendix 1 be noted.

8. Temporary Classrooms

- 8.1 The Samuel Cody Specialist Sports College is a 11-16 Special School with 112 students on roll. It is currently located on the same site as Wavell Secondary School in Farnborough. Samuel Cody was recognised as outstanding by Ofsted in November 2009. An increased number of students placed at the school has caused additional pressure on space and the ability to deliver specialist aspects of the curriculum.
- 8.2 It is recommended that approval be sought from the Executive Member to submit a planning application for the siting of a single temporary classroom at Samuel Cody Specialist Sports College until August 2015.

9. Recommendation(s)

- 9.1 That the following variations to the 2009/10 – 2011/12 capital programme be approved:
- (a) It is recommended that the 2009/10 capital programme has:
- the addition of resources of £0.150m in respect of developers' contributions;
 - the addition of £0.089m of capital grants received in respect of works funded by Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) at Swanwick Lodge;
 - the addition of resources totalling £0.075m in respect of specialist status funding received for three secondary schools (Bohunt, Brune Park and Costello);
 - the reduction of £0.200m in respect of a transfer to Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs department of Disabled Children's Grant (short breaks for families)
 - the reduction of £0.082 in respect of developers contribution correction
- (b) The Executive Lead Member for Children's Services approves:

- Extended Schools projects for 2010/11, as set out in Appendix 3;
 - Schools Access Initiative (SAI) projects for 2010/11, as set out in Appendix 4;
 - Youth Capital Fund (YCF) projects for 2010/11 as set out in Appendix 5;
 - 14-19 projects for 2009/10 and 2010/11, as set out in Appendix 6;
 - Targeted Capital Fund Special Educational Needs projects for 2010/11, as set out in Appendix 7;
 - A scheme at Aldworth Science College, Basingstoke at a cost of £0.9m, to improve inclusion partnerships across Basingstoke by establishing a vocational facility;
 - The removal of projects in Privett and Lyndhurst from the Early Years and Childcare investment programme and approval for three additional projects on County Council owned sites, at North Baddesley Infant School, New Milton Infant School and Burley Primary School;
- (c) In addition, that the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services approves:
- The tendering of the next phase of swimming pool projects as listed at Appendix 8.
 - The submission of a planning application for the siting of a single temporary classroom at Samuel Cody Specialist Sports College, Farnborough, until August 2015.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	Yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
OR	
This proposal does not link to the Corporate Strategy but, nevertheless, requires a decision because:	
<i>NB: Only complete this section if you have not completed any of the Corporate Strategy tick boxes above. If it is not applicable, please delete.</i>	

NB: If the 'Other significant links' section below is not applicable, please delete it.

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
Children's Services Capital Programme 2009/10 to 2011/12	468	21 January 2009
Children's Services capital programme issues	742	22 July 2009
Children's Services capital programme issues	870	15 October 2009
Children's Services Capital Programme 2010/11 to 2012/13	1002	15 January 2010
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives		
<u>Title</u>		<u>Date</u>

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

DocumentLocation

None

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

Equality and diversity objectives are not considered to be adversely affected by the proposals of this report.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

Crime and disorder objectives are not considered to be adversely affected by the proposals of this report.

3. Climate Change:

- a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

When the Children's Services Capital Programme invests in new build, replacement or refurbishment works, Property Services colleagues include an assessment of reductions in energy consumption (carbon use) in the design. In all new buildings and in the majority of refurbishment type investments, the latest technologies and materials are specified in order to maximise the impact on reducing carbon consumption. Many projects are also able to employ passive design approaches including natural ventilation and improved insulation to actively reduce consumption in summer and winter conditions.

- b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

The proposals seek to provide compact and energy-efficient building envelopes. Any new build or extensions will meet current building regulations standards for thermal performance. Where possible, appropriate sustainable materials will be employed to reduce the environmental impact of the proposals.