

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
Date of Decision:	12 June 2013
Decision Title:	Children's Services Capital Programme update
Decision Reference:	4865
Report From:	Director of Children's Services and Director of Corporate Services

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out proposed changes to projects in the 2013/14 capital programme.
- 1.2 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. 2013/14 capital programme

Nightingale Primary School, Eastleigh

- 2.1 As a result of pressure on school places in the Eastleigh area the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services (ELMCS) approved £0.7m of funding for a scheme at Nightingale Primary School on 25 March 2013. The project will increase the size of Nightingale Primary School by 0.5 forms of entry (fe) to provide the school with permanent accommodation for 2fe.
- 2.2 The project provides for two Reception Classrooms, additional toilets, a new hygiene room and some internal adaptations to release a further classroom. The school entrance will also be rerouted and remodelled. Following refinement through the detailed design process a further £0.3m is required to achieve the full scheme. It is anticipated that the project will start on site in July 2013 and complete for July 2014
- 2.3 Therefore, it is recommended that an additional £0.3m be identified from the 2013/14 programme to deliver the basic need project at Nightingale Primary School.

Primary Behaviour Service

- 2.4 On the 23 October 2012 Schools Forum agreed to de-delegate revenue funding to support the new Primary Behaviour Service (PBS). The PBS recognises that front line services make a difference to pupils and must be improved. Schools want a high quality service that is based around provision and have agreed de-delegation on this basis. The service model has been developed from the strong practice already in place across the County, including the Clifford and Lennox Centres.

This service will offer:

- Consultation and advice to leadership teams
 - Assessment and identification of need, deepening knowledge and shaping early intervention
 - Hands-on support and guidance for schools
 - Rapid and flexible response to individual child referrals
 - Bespoke behaviour management training for a range of staff
 - Access to in-reach provision in partnership with schools
 - Working preventatively to reduce exclusions.
- 2.5 Working in conjunction with the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services, officers from Children's Services have developed a modular building solution that can be located on a school site and run independently from the school. It is recommended that the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services further engages with the industry to refine the building design and costings. Two school sites have been identified for the new modular building, Mill Hill Primary School, Waterlooville and Wellington Primary, Aldershot. Negotiations are continuing with schools in the Eastleigh and Winchester area to find a suitable site to offer support for that part of the County. The former Family Centre building at Bolton Crescent, Basingstoke has been identified as a suitable existing building for adaptation for which, subject to approval, works are due to take place over the summer.
- 2.6 Therefore, it is recommended that a budget of £2m is set aside to deliver this strategy and that pre-planning consultations are undertaken with the local communities. Subject to the necessary approval of funding and statutory processes, it is anticipated that the service will be up and running for early 2014.

Children's Homes Strategy

- 2.7 The strategy for the relocation and replacement of Hampshire's Children's Homes was reported to ELMCS on 23 January 2013. The aim of the strategy is to ensure that the homes offer a suitable location and home environment for the small group of children Looked After for whom foster care or other provision is not suitable. The group is small in number but their needs are great and the unit cost of service is very high. The retention of a viable internal service is critical to avoid dependency on a much more expensive and volatile external market. Some of the homes are poorly located for the communities from which these children come.

- 2.8 The buildings and site strategy has now concluded and proposes that the projects and future land disposals are split into two phases for delivery. The Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services has produced a detailed asset report that considers those sites not ideally located and therefore potentially surplus. A recommendation will be made to the Executive Member Policy and Resources to retain 100% of the net sale proceeds from disposal for reinvestment into the overall strategy.
- 2.9 It is proposed to construct six new 'Family Unit' sized Children's Homes to replace the existing larger homes. This will be done in two phases with the former Crossways Children's Home, Basingstoke being used for decant purposes whilst the projects are undertaken. The Crossways building will then be sold as part of the wider strategy once the new homes have been completed.
- 2.10 The sites in phase one (Winchester, Chandler's Ford, and Havant) are all located within residential areas. The Winchester and Chandler's Ford sites are for replacement homes and will involve the demolition of the existing buildings. The Havant site will allow for the disposal of Godbey House, Hayling Island. Phase two will see the delivery of three further children's homes on County Council owned sites in the Andover, Fareham and Waterside areas.
- 2.11 The new build homes will be a traditional two storey 6 bedroom dwelling with accommodation that includes the following:
- 6 Bedrooms with en-suite shower rooms
 - Living area
 - Dining area
 - Kitchen/Utility areas
 - Quiet Room (second Lounge)
 - Education Room
 - Staff offices
- 2.12 The compact plan and form of each house will aim to maximise and integrate energy efficient measures and reduce maintenance costs. The homes will be of traditional facing brickwork, slate pitch roof and aluminium powder coated windows.
- 2.13 It is proposed that the first phase of the proposed works be procured through the IESE South East and London (SEAL) Construction Framework for Major Projects tender process. It is anticipated that works will commence on site during early 2014 and complete during Autumn 2014. It is anticipated that the second phase of the proposed works will be conducted at a later date.
- 2.14 Therefore, it is recommended that this strategy be approved at a total cost of £5.5m with a recommendation to the Executive Member Policy and Resources to retain 100% of the net sale proceeds from disposal to support the strategy.

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

- 3.1 Under delegated powers, and following consultation with the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services, the action set out in Appendix 1 has been taken and it is recommended that these approvals are noted.

4. Temporary Classrooms

New Temporary Classroom Requirements

- 4.1 Approval was given at the ELMCS meeting on 23 January 2013 to authorise the Director of Children's Services to seek planning permission for additional temporary classrooms should the need arise.
- 4.2 As a result of the pressure on pupil numbers, additional temporary classrooms are required at three schools for September 2013: Wellstead Primary, Hedge End, St Swithun Wells Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary, Chandler's Ford and Riders Infant, Havant.
- 4.3 The costs of providing these additional classrooms can be met from within the 2013/14 capital programme.

5. Recommendations

- 5.1 That an additional £0.300m be identified from the 2013/14 programme to deliver the basic need extension project at Nightingale Primary School.
- 5.2 The strategy for investment to support new accommodation for the Primary Behaviour Service be approved.
- 5.3 The strategy for investment to support new accommodation for the Children's Homes be approved, and the Executive Member Policy and Resources is requested to allow Children's Services to retain 100% of the net sale proceeds from disposal for reinvestment.
- 5.4 The projects approved under delegated powers by the Director of Children's Services in Appendix 1 are noted.

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 2013/14 to 2015/16	4606	25 March 2013
Children's Services Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2015/16	4367	23 January 2013
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.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
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.