

Decision maker	Cabinet Member for Education
Subject:	Quarterly Update on the School Modernisation programme 2017/18 including urgent condition projects and secondary school sufficiency projects
Date of meeting:	14 September 2017
Report from:	Alison Jeffery Director of Children, Families and Education
Report by:	Mike Stoneman Deputy Director of Children, Families and Education - Education Service
Wards affected:	All Wards
Key decision (over £250k):	No

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the progress of:
- urgent school condition projects
 - secondary school sufficiency schemes aimed at increasing secondary school place capacity within the City.
- 1.2 The quarterly budget monitoring report, (also on this agenda) contains information in relation the financial position of the education capital programme.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Cabinet Member note the progress on the school modernisation "urgent condition" projects and the secondary school sufficiency projects (as set out in the report and in Appendix A).**

3. School modernisation (urgent condition) projects

- 3.1 The urgent condition projects have been identified through Asset Management Plan meetings, condition surveys and recommendations by Education officers concerning the needs of specific pupils.
- 3.2 There were 10 urgent condition projects in the 2017-18 programme at the start of the financial year, plus a contingency allowance for urgent emerging works.

- 3.3 As of August 2017, there are 11 urgent condition projects in the 2017-18 programme.
- 3.4 During the last quarter, the following 2 projects have been added to the programme, funded from the urgent condition contingency funding:
- The Willows Nursery: Access ramps for disabled pupils
 - St. Jude's CofE Primary School: Asbestos removal and external repairs
- 3.5 During the last quarter, 1 project has been removed. The condition project at Springfield school in relation to Legionella has been removed. The school has become an academy and is appropriately managing these works itself, supported by advice from PCC Property colleagues.
- 3.6 Risks to the progress of the individual projects, as detailed in [Appendix A](#), have been updated.
- A risk has been identified at Wimborne Junior School where the cost of works has increased by £32,000 due to the discovery of an unstable wall on the school site which will also delay the completion date, from 22 September to 14 October. Further investigation is being undertaken on other areas of brickwork causing concern.

4. Secondary sufficiency schemes (phase 2)

- 4.1 Feasibility studies have been undertaken to explore the potential for expansion at The Portsmouth Academy, Admiral Lord Nelson School and Charter Academy. Information of the progress of the feasibility works is included in [Appendix A](#). It is anticipated that the feasibility reports for the 3 sites will be completed by mid-September 2017 and an update will be provided at the portfolio meeting. The outcome of the feasibility studies will also be discussed at the Secondary Headteacher's Forum on 21 September 2017.
- 4.2 Discussions regarding a feasibility study for Springfield School have been scheduled for Spring 2018, at the school's request.
- 4.3 The Secondary School Place Strategy 2017-2023 is being developed and this will outline the immediate and medium-term pressures on secondary school places. The Strategy and the feasibility studies will inform recommendations to address future sufficiency issues.
- 4.4 An over-arching risk to the secondary sufficiency programme is the identification of sufficient funding over time to support the individual schemes, and thereby ensure that the council can meet its statutory responsibility to provide sufficient school places.

- 4.5 The government has announced a capital funding allocation for 2019-20, for secondary school places, of £2.96 million. This allocation is non-ring fenced and will form part of the Council's single capital pot. Decisions on how this funding will be to capital schemes will be made through the Council's annual capital budget process.
- 4.6 It is hoped that government allocations for future years will support the delivery of the secondary sufficiency schemes.
- 4.7 The progress of individual schemes, as detailed in [Appendix A](#), has been updated:
- There are no new risks which have emerged since the last report.

5. Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

- 5.1 An equality impact assessment is not required for the overall programme as it is not possible to assess the protected characteristics reasonably, as described in the Equality Act 2010, across such a diverse range of capital works.
- 5.2 The implementation of the school modernisation programme (urgent condition) and the secondary sufficiency programme (phase 2) will not have a negative impact on any of the equality groups. The programme will improve access to schools for all equality groups, particularly with regard to those pupils who have learning difficulties and / or a disability.
- 5.3 Each individual capital project/scheme includes an equalities impact assessment.

6. Legal implications

- 6.1 The works proposed are within the Council's powers to approve the recommendations as set out above on the basis of the following:
- the Council is required to provide school premises in respect of foundation or voluntary controlled schools under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, Schedule 3
 - the Council has an obligation to ensure that school premises are maintained to a prescribed standard in accordance with section 542 of the Education Act 1996 and the School Premises (England) Regulations 2012, made under that section.
- 6.2 The Local Authority has a statutory duty to provide sufficient schools for primary and secondary education in its area in accordance with section 14 of the Education Act 1996. The schools must be sufficient in number, character and equipment to provide for all pupils the opportunity of appropriate education. Local Authorities must also promote diversity and parental preference

- 6.3 The procurement process for the contracts for the works will need to be undertaken in accordance with the City Council’s Contract Procedure Rules, at Part 3A of the constitution.
- 6.4 Under Part 2, Section 3, of the City Council’s constitution the Cabinet Member for Education has the authority to approve the recommendations set out in this report.

7. Finance comments

- 7.1 Financial monitoring of the capital programme is reported within the quarterly budget monitoring reports. The Quarter 1 monitoring report can be found on separately on this agenda..
- 7.2 For condition projects, schools will be expected to use their Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) allocations to support these key priorities, in keeping with government expectations for the use of this funding. The expected contributions from schools’ will be based on the agreed contribution methodology.
- 7.3 Any ongoing revenue implications will be met by individual schools through their individual budgets which are funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG).

Signed by:
Alison Jeffery, Director of Children, Families and Education

Appendix A: School Modernisation Programme 2017/18 - Progress Dashboard

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location
Asset Management Plan files	Housing Property Services
Condition Survey Reports	Housing Property Services – Concerto database

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by on

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Signed by: