

Title of meeting:	Education Decision Meeting
Decision maker	Cabinet Member for Education
Subject:	School Modernisation and Sufficiency Programme
Date of meeting:	2 nd October 2019
Report from:	Alison Jeffery Director of Children, Families and Education
Report by:	Caroline Corcoran Head of Sufficiency, Participation and Resources - Education Service
Wards affected:	All Wards
Key decision (over £250k):	No
Full Council decision:	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
- Mainstream school sufficiency schemes aimed at increasing school place capacity within the city
- Special school sufficiency schemes aimed at ensuring that schools can take children with more complex SEND.

2. Recommendations

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

2.2 It is recommended that the schemes agreed with the Lead Member since the last report are formally approved.

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 Funding for urgent condition projects was approved by the Council at the start of the financial year, plus a contingency allowance for urgent emerging works.
- 3.3 Five significant projects were identified for urgent works and the condition projects have been commissioned.
- 3.4 Completed condition projects have been removed from the progress dashboard.
- 3.5 The progress of the individual projects is detailed in the Progress dashboard at [Appendix A](#).

4. Secondary sufficiency schemes

- 4.1 The Secondary School Place Strategy 2018-2024 outlines the immediate and medium-term pressures on secondary school places. The council has approved funding for creating additional secondary school places and feasibility studies.
- 4.2 The progress of current secondary individual schemes at Admiral Lord Nelson School, Charter Academy and The Portsmouth Academy are detailed in Appendix A, which has been updated.
- 4.3 The risk highlighted in the Appendix in previous reports in relation to the unfunded consequential works required for the Admiral Lord Nelson School secondary expansion can be addressed. The nursery at ALNS needs to move to a different location on the site to enable the secondary expansion build to be completed. An existing early year's scheme within the capital programme has been completed under budget and it is recommended that additional funds are re-allocated to resolve this issue.
- 4.4 The St Edmund's expansion programme has begun on site. The council has agreed funding for the cost of 80 additional school places for this site. Therefore, this funding will now be released.
- 4.5 Feasibility studies to address future sufficiency issues are being costed and will inform recommendations in due course.

5. Primary sufficiency schemes

- 5.1 The Primary School Place Strategy 2018-2024 outlined the potential medium-term pressures on primary school places, subject to housing developments in the city. The strategy recommended undertaking feasibility studies to create a plan to address future sufficiency issues. The council has approved funding for the feasibility studies.
- 5.2 Five feasibility studies were reported in the last quarter for mainstream primary places.
- 5.3 The planned feasibility study at Flying Bull Primary School will also focus on expanding primary inclusion provision to meet growing need and demand, instead of primary mainstream places.
- 5.4 Two additional feasibility studies are required at Portsdown Primary School and Milton Park Primary School, again in relation to expanding primary inclusion provision to meet growing need and demand.

6. Special school sufficiency schemes

- 6.1 The council has previously approved funding for special school provision sufficiency schemes.
- 6.2 The progress of individual projects, as detailed in Appendix A, has been updated. These projects were not targeted at increasing the number of places, but ensuring that the schools can take children with more complex SEND.
- 6.3 There is an increasing demand for SEND places. The SEND Strategic Accommodation Review, reviewing current capacity in the city has been completed. This includes recommendations on how to address pressure on SEND provision, and initial design work is being undertaken to inform detailed cost estimates. The findings from the SEND Strategic Accommodation Review, about future accommodation needs and solutions, will be considered further.
- 6.4 It should be noted that the urgent works to create SEND provision in a new facility in Fratton, called The Lantern, for complex plus pupils was completed on time, despite the exceptionally short timeframe. This is a credit to all those involved.

7. Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

- 7.1 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.
- 7.2 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.
- 7.3 Each individual capital project/scheme includes an equalities impact assessment.

8. Legal implications

- 8.1 The works within the projects/schemes identified are being undertaken in accordance with the council's statutory powers and duties and, in particular, 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
 - 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.
 - 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.

9. Finance comments

- 9.1 Financial monitoring of the capital programme is reported within the quarterly budget monitoring reports. The quarterly monitoring report will be brought to the September meeting.
- 9.2 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.
- 9.3 Any ongoing revenue implications will be met by individual schools through their individual budgets which are funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG).

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

Appendix A: School Modernisation Programme - Live Projects 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: