

Education Leeds

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Report of the Director of Children's Services and the Chief Executive of Education Leeds

Executive Board

Date: 19 December 2007

Subject: Leeds Building Schools for the Future – Modification to Scope of the Outline Business Case for Phases 2 and 3

<p>Electoral Wards Affected: All</p>	<p>Specific Implications For:</p> <p>Equality and Diversity <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Community Cohesion <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Narrowing the Gap <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Eligible for Call In <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Not Eligible for Call In <input type="checkbox"/></p>

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1 Members of Executive Board will recall from reports considered by them on 24 January and 16 November 2005, that Leeds had been selected as a Wave 1 Authority under the Government's Building Schools for the Future (BSF) Programme. The aim of Wave 1 of the BSF Programme in Leeds is to rebuild or substantially refurbish, over three phases, 14 secondary schools in Leeds. Members also gave their approval to the establishment of a Local Education Partnership (LEP) and to the final scoping and financial implications of Phase 1 of the City Council's BSF Programme.
- 2 Members of Executive Board, at their meeting on 22 August 2007, supported and confirmed the decision of the PPP/PFI Coordination Board, under powers delegated to it, to submit the Outline Business Case (OBC) for Phases 2 and 3 of the project.
- 3 In October 2007 Executive Board considered the report on Transforming Secondary and Post-16 Provision in Leeds and resolved that further consultation should be undertaken with regards to the academies in Leeds proposals contained in the report.

This report highlighted the shift in the Government's vision for academies and in particular, the incorporation of the academy building programme as an integral part of the BSF the Future programme. The Leeds proposals include a strategic approach to academies across the city with the potential for a cluster model based on one secondary school in each quadrant. Intake High school is proposed as the focus for the west cluster and is part of Phase 3 of the City Councils Wave 1 of the BSF programme.

- 4 As a consequence of discussions with Partnerships for Schools (PfS) on the status of Intake High school members of the Executive Board are requested to support and confirm the decision to remove Intake from Phase 3 of the Leeds BSF project to enable further consideration of the options available for this school including the possibility of it becoming an academy. The proposal put forward by PfS is that this school would then form a new phase 4 which would be subject to a separate business case once the scope of work at this school is approved.

5. Members of Executive Board are recommended to:
 - a) Note the contents of this report;
 - b) Confirm their agreement to the removal of Intake High school from the OBC for BSF Phases 2 and 3 and that this school should now form part of a new Phase 4 once the status of the school, whether as an academy or a High School in Leeds, has been confirmed.

1.0 Purpose Of This Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- a) note and agree the changes in scope to the City Councils Wave 1, Phase 3 of the BSF Programme and the addition of a Phase 4.

2.0 Background Information on the BSF Programme

2.1 On 9 March 2005, Members of Executive Board approved the submission of the Strategic Business Case (SBC) to the Department for Education and Skills (now the Department for Children, Schools and Families) for the Council's Wave 1 BSF Programme. The SBC underpins the delivery of the BSF Programme in Leeds. It sets out the vision for education in Leeds and acts as the tool to promote and inform the LEP. It is intended to reflect changing and developing national and local education priorities.

2.2 The aims, objectives and anticipated outcomes of the BSF Programme, set out in the SBC are:

Aims

- To provide a framework for the transformation of teaching and learning.
- To contribute to the realisation of the Vision for Leeds 2004 – 2020.
- To improve learning and achievement in schools.
- To build upon the developments already undertaken through the Secondary and Post 16 Review.
- To ensure that the balance between the supply of and demand for places is appropriate within the demographic profile of the City.
- To facilitate and develop the 14 – 19 Strategy.
- To provide up to date and modern facilities for a 21st century curriculum.
- To facilitate the development of Extended Schools.
- To develop ICT as a fundamental tool for achieving a step change in management, teaching and learning.
- To support Education Leeds Inclusion Strategy through the development of Partnership Bases.

Objectives

- To ensure that the buildings support 21st century expectations in styles of teaching and learning, technological developments with flexibility and adaptability to enable future changes as the education landscape evolves.
- To provide E-confident schools which will promote enhanced thinking, collaborative working and community cohesion.
- To provide flexible and adaptable accommodation to enable schools to develop extended schools practice.
- To develop partnerships between mainstream provision and the Specialist Inclusive Learning Centres (SILCs) by providing High Care and Generic Partnership Bases.
- To rationalise existing provision through the amalgamation of two schools in West Leeds and adjustments to the capacity of other schools within the Programme.

Outcomes

- All Leeds BSF schools will be high achieving schools providing a curriculum which will help young people to feel more empowered and optimistic about their future, allowing all young people to follow their individual learning pathways and thereby gaining high self esteem through achieving success.
- All BSF schools will be fully inclusive ensuring all children and young people achieve success and have access to the highest quality education.
- All BSF schools will be E-confident schools with ICT embedded in all aspects of teaching and learning.
- All BSF schools will focus on developing community links which will support the extended schools agenda.

4. Progress to Date

- 4.1 Executive Board received a report in October 2004, updating Members on the progress with the Council's Wave 1 BSF Programme. On 9 March 2005, Members agreed to the submission of both the SBC and the OBC for Phase 1 of the Programme and to the principle of establishing a LEP. Formal approval of these business cases was received from the Department for Education and Skills on 26 May 2005.
- 4.2 The formal procurement of the LEP partner and Phase 1 of the Programme commenced in August 2005 with the Preferred Bidder, the Environments for Learning Consortium, being selected in November 2006. The procurement which lead to the selection of RM as the BSF ICT Strategic Partner ran in parallel to this process.
- 4.3 On 24 January 2007, Members of Executive Board supported and confirmed the decision of the PPP/PFI Coordination Board to submit the Final Business Case (FBC) for Phase 1 of the Council's BSF Programme to the DfES and PfS. Their approval of the FBC and the issue of the Promissory Note empowering the Council to enter into the Contract with the Preferred Bidder, Environments for Learning and Financial Close for this Phase of the Programme, was achieved on 3 April 2007 and reported to Members of Executive Board on 16 May 2007.
- 4.4 On 22 August 2007, Members of Executive Board supported and confirmed the decision of the PPP/PFI Coordination Board to submit the OBC for Phases 2 and 3 of the project to the Department for Children Schools and Families (DCSF). PfS acting on behalf of the DCSF considered the business case but have been unable to proceed with the approval process until a decision was able to made in terms of the preferred proposal for the Intake High School project. This has the potential to delay the other Phase 2 and 3 schools if not resolved in the very near future.
- 4.5 Phase 2 of the BSF Programme is currently in procurement with two of the four schools being submitted for detailed planning in November 2007. The Phase 2 schools are currently programmed to be complete no later than December 2009 with West Leeds service commencement in September 2009.
- 4.6 Alongside the implementation of the BSF programme both nationally and locally has been the development of the Government's new approach to academies, with a commitment to establishing 400 academies, with 200 in place by 2010. Local

authorities are being encouraged to explore the potential of academies as part of their BSF programmes, with a particular focus on tackling school improvement issues. The report to the Executive Board at its October 2007 meeting set out a way forward in Leeds, as part of a strategic approach to transforming secondary and post-16 provision in the city. It was resolved to undertake further consultation on the cluster model being put forward for Leeds, including the possibility of a West Leeds cluster centering on Intake High School.

- 4.7 Discussions have been held with the DCSF and potential sponsors identified for the Leeds model. Initial consultation has taken place with the staff, governors and ward councillors at Intake High School around the academy option. Based on the progress made in the autumn term, the next stage will be to work up an 'expression of interest' between the sponsor, local authority and DCSF for consideration later in 2008. This has implications for the continuing position of Intake High School in the current Phase 3 of the BSF programme; should the academy option be agreed by all parties in 2008 it would enable the school to be fully rebuilt rather than just refurbished under the current programme

5. Original Scope of Phases 2 and 3 of the BSF Programme

- 5.1 Set out below is the original scope of BSF Phases 2 and 3

Phase 2 School	Summary of Proposed Project Scope
<p>Crawshaw High School</p> <p>Design and Build</p> <p>Service commencement December 2009</p>	<p>Current school capacity – 1,173</p> <p>Proposed school capacity 1,145 comprising: 975 pupils aged 11 to 16 170 pupils aged 16 to 18</p> <p>The proposed scope of work will comprise of 2% new build and 39% of major refurbishment. The remaining 59% will be unaffected as this was recently rebuilt due to fire damage.</p> <p>The school will have a reduced capacity to reflect the demographic profile of the local area.</p>
<p>Farnley Park High School</p> <p>Design and Build</p> <p>Service commencement December 2009</p>	<p>Current school capacity 789</p> <p>Proposed school capacity comprising: 1,050 pupils aged 11 to 16; 150 pupils aged 16 to 18 30 High Care Partnership pupils</p> <p>The proposed scope of the work comprises 70% of new build with the remaining 30% subject to minor alterations.</p> <p>The school will increase in size from its present capacity to ensure that there is sufficient capacity in the local area as a result of the amalgamation of West Leeds and Wortley High Schools. A high care partnership base will be provided.</p>

Phase 2 School	Summary of Proposed Project Scope
<p>Priesthorpe High School</p> <p>Design and Build</p> <p>Service commencement December 2009</p>	<p>Current school capacity – 1,193</p> <p>Proposed school capacity 1,205 comprising: 975 pupils aged 11 to 16; 200 pupils aged 16 to 18; 30 generic special needs pupils</p> <p>Proposed scope of the work comprises approximately 1% new build; 68% refurbishment and remodeling and the remaining 31% subject to minor alterations.</p>
<p>West Leeds and Wortley High Schools to amalgamate as a new West Leeds High School</p> <p>Procured through PFI</p> <p>Service commencement August 2009</p>	<p>Combined current school capacities of existing West Leeds and Wortley – 1,966</p> <p>Proposed new school capacity 1,380 comprising: 1,200 pupils aged 11 to 16; 150 pupils aged 16 to 18; 30 generic special needs pupils</p> <p>Proposed 100% new build</p>

Phase 3 School	Summary of Proposed Project Scope
<p>Corpus Christi RC High School</p> <p>Design and Build</p> <p>Service commencement December 2010</p>	<p>Current school capacity - 930</p> <p>Proposed school capacity 930 comprising: 900 pupils aged 11 to 16 No sixth form unit 30 generic special needs pupils</p> <p>The scope of the work is approximately 10% new build and the remaining 90% refurbishment.</p>
<p>Intake High Arts School</p> <p>Design and Build</p> <p>Service commencement December 2010</p>	<p>Current school capacity 1,231</p> <p>Proposed school capacity 1,350 comprising: 1,200 pupils aged 11 to 16; 150 pupils aged 16 to 18</p> <p>The proposed scope of the work comprises 46% of new build with the remaining 54% subject to minor alterations.</p>
<p>Mount St Mary's RC High</p> <p>Design and Build</p> <p>Service commencement December 2010</p>	<p>Current school capacity – 1,234</p> <p>Proposed school capacity – 900 comprising: 900 pupils aged 11 to 16; No sixth form unit</p> <p>Proposed scope of the work comprises 6% new build and 84% refurbishment and remodeling with the remaining 10% unaffected.</p>
<p>Parklands High School</p> <p>Design and Build</p> <p>Service commencement December 2010</p>	<p>Current school capacity – 821</p> <p>Proposed school capacity 880 comprising: 750 pupils aged 11 to 16; 130 pupils aged 16 to 18;</p> <p>Scope of the work comprises 17% new build; 37% refurbishment and remodeling; 24% subject to minor alterations and the remaining 22% unaffected.</p>

6.0 Options for Intake High School

- 6.1 It is important that progress continues to be made with the options for bringing transformation to Intake High School. There are two possible courses of action. Officers could continue working with the school to develop the original scope as set out in the table above whilst exploring the academy option further. This could have timetable benefits but it will mean that the Council would need to spend money resourcing both strands of work, only one of which would come to fruition. The Council would require the LEP to work at risk on both strands. PfS and the DCFS have also expressed a strong view that this approach would not be considered acceptable and is likely to lead to further delays in the approval of the Phase 2 and

3 OBC. Any further delay to the Phase 2 and 3 OBC approval will have implications for the opening date of the new school at West Leeds which has completed the statutory notice period and is required for completion by September 2009.

- 6.2 The second and preferred course of action is to remove Intake from the Phase 2 and 3 OBC and develop a new Phase 4, which will be subject to a separate business case once the scope of the scheme is settled. This would allow the academy option to be explored in full in line with the resolution of the Executive Board in October. The Phase 2 and 3 business case of the other 7 schools in that part of the programme would progress according to timetable. The school has confirmed their agreement to proceeding with this option on the understanding that should an academy not be the agreed outcome the completion date for the refurbished and remodeled school will slip to December 2011. PfS have also confirmed that the Intake High School scheme will not be disadvantaged in terms of the required BSF funding for the refurbishment programme to be completed in 2011, should the academy option not be progressed.

7.0 Financial Issues

- 7.1 The current BSF allocation for the Phase 3 Intake High School refurbishment project is £13.76m with £1.957m allocated for ICT. If the school were to be rebuilt as part of the establishment of it as an academy there would be a higher allocation of funding through PfS reflecting the costs of that scheme. In accordance with the Government's prospectus, academy sponsors can be required to contribute funding to the new school in support of its ambitious improvement and partnership strategies.

8.0 Recommendations

- 8.1 Members of Executive Board are recommended to:
- a) Note the contents of this report;
 - b) Confirm their agreement to the removal of Intake High school from the OBC for BSF Phases 2 and 3 and that this school should now form part of a new Phase 4 once the status of the school, whether as an academy or a High School in Leeds, has been confirmed.