

Report of Director of Learning And Leisure

To Executive Board

Date: 9th February 2007

Subject: Design & Cost Report

Scheme Title *General Sure Start Grant - Sustainability 2006/08*
Capital Scheme Number *13179/COM/000*

Electoral Wards Affected:

Various

Specific Implications For:

Equality & Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing The Gap

Eligible for Call In

Not Eligible for Call In
(Details contained in the report)

Executive Summary

The purpose of the report is to request Executive Board to:-

give authority to incur expenditure of £537.3k on other payments from the General Sure Start Grant – Sustainability 06/08 parent scheme 13179.

1.0 Purpose of this Report

The purpose of the report is to request Executive Board to give authority to incur expenditure of £537.3k on other payments from the General Sure Start Grant – Sustainability 06/08 parent scheme 13179.

2.0 Background Information

The Childcare Act 2006 requires local authorities to shape and support the development of childcare provision in order to make it flexible, sustainable and responsive to the needs of the community. The overall aim is to enable parents to find childcare that meets their needs locally and allow them to make real choices about work.

The purpose of the General Sure Start Grant Extended Schools capital funding is to provide financial support to facilitate refurbishment, building works and the purchase of large equipment, to enable the creation or expansion of services to meet the extended schools core offer which has to be in place by 2010.

The injection of a fully funded £537.3k into the Learning and Leisure Capital Programme was approved as part of the Capital Programme 2006/07 mid-year update. This report seeks approval to spend this £537.3k.

3.0 Main Issues

Design Proposals / Scheme Description

The funding is available to private, voluntary, independent, maintained and school governor led provisions. It is to be used to create new childcare places, before and after school places, and holiday childcare places to meet the changing requirements of local communities. It can also be used to enable providers to extend the traditional nursery education session to offer flexible integrated childcare and education and to allow them to work towards the requirement to offer 15 hours of flexible free nursery education by 2010.

Providers have been invited to bid for the available funding. Bids will be considered at monthly Sure Start Out Of School (SSOOS) Panel meetings, part of the Leeds SureStart Partnership. It is intended to submit an individual Chief Officer Approval request form for every bid that the Panel approves.

Consultations

All childcare providers from the maintained, voluntary and private sector including schools, Head Teachers and Governing bodies are invited to attend the Area Childcare Planning Forum and Consultation Network meetings for their locality. The Forum also includes Sure Start Local Programmes, Area Management Teams, colleagues from the Early Years Service and Ward members.

Programme

The £537.3k General Sure Start Grant Sustainability capital funding must be spent by the end of March 2008.

4.0 Implications for Council Policy and Governance

Compliance with Council Policies

The proposed expenditure on extended schools is in line with Corporate Plan service priorities to counter social exclusion by removing barriers to employment and opportunity.

5.0 Legal and Resource Implications

Capital Funding and Cash Flow

Previous total Authority to Spend on this scheme	TOTAL £000's	TO MARCH 2006 £000's	FORECAST				
			2006/07 £000's	2007/08 £000's	2008/09 £000's	2009/10 £000's	2010 on £000's
LAND (1)	0.0						
CONSTRUCTION (3)	0.0						
FURN & EQPT (5)	0.0						
DESIGN FEES (6)	0.0						
OTHER COSTS (7)	0.0						
TOTALS	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Authority to Spend required for this Approval	TOTAL £000's	TO MARCH 2006 £000's	FORECAST				
			2006/07 £000's	2007/08 £000's	2008/09 £000's	2009/10 £000's	2010 on £000's
LAND (1)	0.0						
CONSTRUCTION (3)	0.0						
FURN & EQPT (5)	0.0						
DESIGN FEES (6)	0.0						
OTHER COSTS (7)	537.3		237.3	300.0			
TOTALS	537.3	0.0	237.3	300.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Total overall Funding (As per latest Capital Programme)	TOTAL £000's	TO MARCH 2006 £000's	FORECAST				
			2006/07 £000's	2007/08 £000's	2008/09 £000's	2009/10 £000's	2010 on £000's
Sure Start Grant	537.3		237.3	300.0			
Total Funding	537.3	0.0	237.3	300.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Balance / Shortfall =	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Parent Scheme Number : 13179
Title : General Sure Start Grant - Sustainability 2006-08

Revenue Effects

There are no ongoing revenue costs for the Early Years Service resulting from this scheme.

Risk Assessments

All the General Sure Start Grant Sustainability capital funding must be spent by 31st March 2008 or the funding may be lost. The current programme shows that this is achievable.

6.0 Recommendations

Executive Board are requested to:-

give authority to incur expenditure of £537.3k on other payments from the General Sure Start Grant – Sustainability 06/08 parent scheme 13179.