
REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF EDUCATION LEEDS

EXECUTIVE BOARD: 11 June 2008

SUBJECT: PRIMARY CAPITAL PROGRAMME STRATEGY FOR CHANGE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to inform the Executive Board of the proposed strategic approach towards renewing primary schools, including prioritisation of need, within the first four years. The report seeks the Executive Board's endorsement of the Strategy for Change prior to final submission to DCSF for June 16 2008.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Primary Capital Programme is a 14 year capital investment programme to achieve educational transformation in primary school learning environments. The Capital investment will support the delivery of the Leeds Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) including raising standards and improving the life chances and well being of children. The aim of the programme is to create primary schools for 21st century learning, at the heart of the community, with a range of Children's Services in reach of every family.
- 2.2 Leeds is required by DCSF to produce a primary strategy for change which takes into account the needs of stakeholders. A successful strategy for change will be followed by notification in September 2008 of our capital allocation. The provisional allocation will bring £8.374m in 2009/10 and a further £10.752 in 2010/11. The expectation is that future years will be funded at a similar level and represents a significant benefit to the children, families and communities of our City. It will enable the rebuilding, remodelling or refurbishment of half of our primary schools. DCSF will allocate resources to Leeds via a funding formula which is based on the needs of primary pupils in Leeds and deprivation.
- 2.3 The DCSF requires two core outputs. The first is that 5% of the worst condition buildings are rebuilt or taken out of use. This means 11 new primary schools/establishments for Leeds. Secondly, that a further 45% of primary schools/establishments are remodelled or refurbished. This means improvements to a further 102 schools. **All** primary schools are eligible including primary age special, VA, VC, foundation and trust. The needs of remaining schools who are not receiving this

particular investment will be met through continuing to receive Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) annually.

3.RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Board is asked to:

- note and approve the Strategy for Change formal submission to the DCSF to ensure capital funding is received by Leeds
- note and agree that specific proposals for school projects for the first two years of the programme will be considered by the Executive Board in due course in accordance with usual procedures.

Agenda Item:

Originator: Jackie Green

Telephone: 247 7163

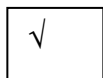
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Electoral Wards Affected:

Potentially all wards over the 14 years of the programme



Consultation documents sent to all Ward Members for information

Specific Implications For:

Equality & Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Eligible for Call-in

Not Eligible for Call-in
(Details contained in the Report)

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- 2.4 There are clear prescriptive national guidelines which we have followed to write the content and format of the Strategy for Change document.
- 2.5 The Primary Strategy for Change for Leeds has been developed through close working with Leeds City Council, Children's Services and Early Years. A steering group including Learning Environments, School Organisation, School Improvement, National Strategies, Integrated Children's Services, Resources, and Extended Schools in Education Leeds, and from LCC's Early Years and Children's Services have developed the vision. There has been consultation with a focus group of Headteachers during formulation of the strategy. They have agreed the priorities for the first four years. The working group continues to meet to discuss implementation.
- 2.6 Owing to the tight timeframe for submission and the scope of consultation required, the consultation and approvals processes have progressed in tandem. For this reason only, the report has been noted as not eligible for call-in, simply because of the shortness of time between the Executive Board meeting on 11 June and DCSF submission deadline of 16 June.
- 2.7 A comprehensive formal consultation has been undertaken with all schools between 28 March 2008 and 25 April 2008. As part of this process the draft document was shared with schools. The Strategy has the support of the majority of schools who responded to the consultation (96%). 85% of schools who responded said they agreed with the relative importance and weightings given overall to the key criteria for allocation. Primary Headteacher Forum, Governor Forum, and the four Diocesan Authorities and Jewish faith school in Leeds have all been consulted. All Members have also been informed and received the consultation documents issued to all schools.

3 MAIN POINTS

Criteria for Allocation

- 3.1 A methodology has been developed which prioritises schools' needs across three essential criteria: performance, deprivation and Asset Management Planning data. The methodology takes account of school performance below the floor targets; contextual value added data (average over 3 years), and the Education Leeds

school improvement partnership category. Each of the three essential criteria are considered to be equally important and given an individual weighting of 33% respectively. Deprivation is defined by using the tax credit measure as required and specified by the DCSF. Buildings related issues are prioritised using the DCSF Asset Management Planning criteria, which is based on sufficiency (bands of surplus and deficit places >10% overcrowding), condition (cost of priorities 1-3 works per m²) and suitability (suitability score per m²). These AMP indicators are weighted in terms of relative importance, 10:60:30 respectively.

- 3.2 Taken overall, issues related to buildings themselves are the highest priority of the three criteria with performance and deprivation being equal in next order of priority. These factors are weighted overall: 20% (performance):20% (deprivation): 60% (building related issues.)

Outcomes: (2009-2012)

3.3

- To commence the rebuild of three new primary schools in the first four years, including the ICT infrastructure to enable e-learning.
- To deliver improvements to further schools ('refurbishing and remodelling'), through packages of works in the following areas: mechanical and electrical; roofing; and external walls and windows.
- To deliver the inclusion agenda in relation to SEN (Leeds Inclusive Learning Strategy strand 2) by developing specialist SEN provision within primary schools and by improving the facilities for the existing Specialist Inclusive Learning Centre provision across the City.
- To deliver the inclusion agenda in relation to the behaviour continuum (Leeds Inclusive Learning Strategy strand 3) by developing inclusive learning centres in the inner and outer areas of each geographical wedge of the city, as we rebuild and refurbish schools. This means that in the first four years we aim to deliver at least one if not two inclusive learning centres in each wedge.
- To continue to rationalise school places through opportunities identified utilising the prioritisation methodology.
- To respond to the demand for places as effected by regeneration in the EASEL area as a priority.
- To deliver transformation by designing flexible spaces which support teaching and learning, personalisation and to offer increased space for parental/community use; supporting schools on the use of ICT to deliver personalisation; co-locating services for children where ever possible; promoting health through improved kitchen, dining and external play facilities; and continuing to remove poor condition, unsuitable or surplus temporary accommodation.

4 IMPLICATIONS FOR COUNCIL POLICY AND GOVERNANCE

- 4.1 The Primary Strategy of Change has been approved by Asset Management Team and the Education Leeds Board. The Education Leeds Capital Projects Board will constitute the Programme Board for Primary Capital Programme as it does for all

other traditional Education procurement.

- 4.2 Education Leeds' annual capital programme is approved annually by the Executive Board and as the intent is to join-up elements of the capital programme funding, this will ensure continued commitment to ensuring the Primary Capital Programme delivers the priorities.

5.0 **LEGAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 With 227 primary schools, Specialist Inclusive Learning Centres and the primary age pupil referral unit, the scope of the output targets for Leeds (replacement of 5% or 11 worst condition schools, and a further 45% or 102 to be refurbished, remodelled) means that this will not be financially achievable through Primary Capital Programme alone during the 14 year programme.
- 5.2 Education Leeds expects to continue to receive comparable levels of capital allocation from the DCSF in future years. It is also anticipated that schools will receive comparable levels of DFC which will maximize investment.
- 5.3 VA schools have been included in the prioritisation methodology. Capital allocations for voluntary aided schools will continue at comparable levels. Consultation has begun and continues to take place with the Diocesan representatives regarding how the 10% Governing Body contributions will be managed, the contribution of DFC and the implications for LCVAP.
- 5.4 As a wave 1 BSF authority, the DCSF expects Education Leeds to use its established Local Education Partnership. In preparation for any future work to be delivered outside wave 1 BSF, such as investment in the remaining secondary estate, Education Leeds already works with the LEP to streamline and improve new project procedures.

6.0 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Executive Board is asked to:

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