



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

Executive Board

Date: 1st April 2009

Subject: Children's Services Improvement Projects

Electoral Wards Affected:

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Eligible for Call In

Not Eligible for Call In

(Details contained in the report)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report provides Executive Board with an overview of 5 major children's services improvement projects to be delivered by Education Leeds and Leeds City Council and how these will impact on regeneration, the economy of the city, investment and employment, helping to deliver improved outcomes for children and young people in Leeds.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. Members of the Executive Board are recommended to:
 - a) Note the contents of the overview report
 - b) Give approval to proceed with the projects listed in the overview report and detailed in the five distinct reports that follow.

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 This report provides Executive Board with an overview of 5 major children's services improvement projects to be delivered by Education Leeds and Leeds City Council and how these will impact on regeneration, the economy of the city, investment and employment, helping to deliver improved outcomes for children and young people in Leeds.

1.2 The improvement projects are:

- a) Swallow Hill Community College annex Design & Cost report
- b) Morley High School new music block
- c) Bruntcliffe High School new science block
- d) Bankside Primary School construction of new school accommodation
- e) South Leeds Integrated Youth Centre

2.0 Background Information

2.1 A summary of each project description is listed below, itemising total projected capital spend of £17,512,876.

It is estimated that approximately 1,000 new construction jobs will be generated as a result of these projects.

- a) Swallow Hill Community College: the report seeks the approval of the Executive Board to proceed with refurbishment and ICT works in respect of the Swallow Hill Community College annex and to incur the necessary capital expenditure. These works will include the purchase of new ICT equipment up to a projected cost of £612,600, plus £302,000 refurbishment (combined total £914,600) from the approved capital programme as well as providing network connectivity to the new Swallow Hill Community College.
- b) Morley High School: the report seeks the approval of the Executive Board to proceed with the building of a new music block at Morley High School at an estimated cost of £1,000,000.
- c) Bruntcliffe High School: the report seeks approval to proceed with the proposed scheme to provide a new science block at Bruntcliffe High School at an estimated total cost of £1,600,000.
- d) Bankside Primary School: the report seeks the approval of the Executive Board to proceed with the proposed scheme to demolish the existing Bankside Primary School building, and rebuild a 3 form entry school, and seeks the associated authority to spend of £9,018,900.
- e) South Leeds Integrated Youth Centre: The report seeks approval to use external income of £4,979,376 to build an integrated high quality youth hub centre on the site of the former Merlyn Rees High School.

3.0 Main Issues

3.1 Each of the projects deliver significant improvements to the learning environment and promote improved outcomes for children and young people, through major

refurbishment in the secondary estate, transformation in the rebuilt primary schools and creation of the first youth hub centre in the city.

3.2 The proposed primary rebuild is in the EASEL area, and reflects the Council's community strategy and vision for Leeds to 'Go up a League', 'Develop as a Regional Capital' and 'Narrow the Gap' between the most disadvantaged communities and the rest of the city. Education is central to this and to Leeds becoming a leading centre for learning, knowledge and research and for ensuring harmonious and thriving communities. It will promote delivery of the EASEL education strategy in areas of achievement and attainment, attendance and progression, creating world class learning environments that inspire and promote learning, delivering the children's and extended services agenda, and offering happy, healthy and safe opportunities for all children, young people and families. The project will be key to promoting community cohesion.

3.4 The three secondary projects will deliver investment and significant improvement targeted at priorities identified by the three schools. Investment in the two high schools in the South will bridge the gap between needs in the secondary estate yet to receive investment and the delivery of transformation through the next wave of Building Schools For the Future (BSF).

3.5 The Council and Education Leeds continue to work in partnership with the long term delivery partner the Leeds Local Education Partnership (LEP) to deliver value for money solutions and continuous improvement in cost efficiency in delivery of the capital programme.

3.6 The youth hub centre will improve the ability of the council and its key partners to have a positive impact on priorities such as NEET, teenage conception rates, attendance, youth offending, and educational attainment.

4.0 Implications For Council Policy And Governance

4.1 There are no specific implications in this report.

5.0 Legal And Resource Implications

5.1 Implications relating to each of the specific projects are contained in the more detailed reports for each of the projects.

6.0 Recommendations

6.1 Members of the Executive Board are recommended to:

- a) Note the contents of the overview report
- b) Give approval to proceed with the projects listed in the overview report and detailed in the five distinct reports that follow.

7.0 Background Papers

There are no specific background papers to this report.