

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting5th February 2009

1. Title of Item/Report

Progress Report on Strategy for Change, Primary Capital Programme

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report on the Strategy for Change, Primary Capital Programme.

In June 2008, the Strategy for change relating to the Primary Capital Programme was submitted to the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF). Subject to approval the Council would receive capital allocations for 14 years to support the delivery of the Children's Plan by creating primary schools fit for the 21st century. The overriding objective of the programme was to transform primary education by rebuilding, remodeling or refurbishing at least half the schools.

The response of the DCSF was received in November 2008 and approval had been given to the first year of the programme and the Council had been asked to revise the Strategy in light of several comments from the assessment process. The purpose of the report was to outline progress in developing the specific schemes for 2009/10 and seek approval to the revised draft Strategy for consultation.

The DCSF had already indicated the availability of funding to support the Programme over the next 14 years and for Stockton on Tees, the allocations would be £3,066,466 in 2009/10 £5,444,406 in 2010/11 and possibly £2.5 million for each year thereafter until 2023.

In November 2008 DCSF approved the Strategy for Change but asked that the Strategy be developed further in specific areas. The DCSF approved expenditure for 2009/10 but asked for the revised Strategy to be submitted by the end of March 2009 before further funding would be approved.

The report detailed a number of smaller schemes for the Programme 2009/10 that would be undertaken in the summer months of 2009.

Though reliant on DCSF approval, work would also continue on the briefs

for schemes proposed for 2010 and beyond.

A revised draft Strategy for Change was attached to the report. It was proposed that this draft be distributed for consultation with schools, dioceses and other interested parties during February with a closing date for comment in early March. Any changes resulting could be incorporated in the Strategy for onward submission to the DCSF.

The principle changes to the Strategy were summarised within the report.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The progress on those schemes identified for implementation in 2009/10 be noted.

2. The revised draft Strategy which takes into account the comments of the DCSF assessors be approved for consultation with schools, dioceses and other partners.

3. The approval to the final Strategy following the period of consultation be delegated to the Corporate Director of Children, Education and Social Care in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children and & Young People.

3. Reasons for the Decision

The Strategy for Change was an essential component in securing funding for the Primary Capital Programme.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

Councillor Coleman declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of this item as he was a governor at Mill Lane Primary School and Tilery Primary School.

Councillor Cunningham declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of this item as he was a governor at Westlands School and Abbey Hill School.

Councillor Mrs Beaumont declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of this item as she had a relative that was a pupil at Levendale Primary School.

6. Details of any Dispensations

None

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Midnight on Friday 13th February 2009

Proper Officer
09 October 2009