

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting7th March 2013

1. Title of Item/Report

Academies Construction and ICT Procurement Update

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report that provided an update on the academies construction and ICT Procurement.

Stockton Borough Council was approached in 2010, by Partnerships for Schools (PfS) as part of the Government's National Academies programme to provide developments for and on behalf of Academies sponsors, NHS Stockton (now Northern Education Trust) and University of Teesside. The proposed three project programme comprised of North Shore Health Academy (now North Shore Academy), Thornaby Academy and Freebrough Academy, (the latter being in Redcar and Cleveland BC).

The programme also required the procurement of an ICT Provider (or providers) that would have the opportunity to provide ICT hardware for each of the Academies. In September 2011 Members approved a Cabinet Report giving delegated powers to the Head of Technical Services in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People to procure a Design & Build Framework Contractor for the construction of a batched Academy programme. Similar powers were approved for the procurement of an ICT Hardware provider for each Academy.

The report updated Members regarding the significant progress that had been made with the procurement of each of these facilities.

Several months after the stoppage of BSF, which occurred on 5th July 2010, Department for Education (DfE) advised the main sponsors of North Shore Academy NSA, (at the time NHS Stockton now Northern Education Trust) and Thornaby Academy (TA), (Teesside University), that funding had been allocated to enable their buildings to be developed. At this time the Sponsor of Thornaby Academy (Teesside University) were also advised that one of their other joint ventures, Freebrough Academy Enterprise Facility, which they were developing in partnership with Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council, had also been allocated

funding.

Funding for these projects were allocated through PfS (now renamed EFA; Education Funding Agency) to NSA £13.4m, to Thornaby £5.5m and to Freebrough £2.8m.

After a successful appeal made to the DfE an additional strand of funding was made available through the 'myplace' project to be developed on the same site as that proposed for the NSA. This project was initially planned to be located in a stand alone building on the south west corner of the Tilery site. Big Lottery and the DfE agreed for the funding streams to be conjoined and for the buildings to be integrated. The joined up approach has enabled the NSA and myplace to occupy spaces in one multi use building. The financial advantage of these economies of scale enhances the overall project by drawing in a further £4.4m for myplace bringing the total for NSA myplace to £17.8m.

Stockton Borough Council was advised by PfS that procurement of a Design and Build contractor must be through the National PfS contractor's framework for Academies.

The funding at NSA will provide a new build Academy facility on the former Tilery Sports Centre site. The development of Thornaby Academy will be through a re-modelling of the existing buildings currently occupied by that Academy.

PfS suggested that the two projects that were sponsored by Teesside University (Thornaby Academy and Freebrough Academy) should be delivered as a batched project and they and the sponsor expressed their preference for that batched project to be delivered through one Authority. Stockton-on-Tees was the Authority preferred by both PfS and Teesside University to carry out that procurement. Discussions took place with senior officers at Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council who endorsed the intended lead role by Stockton Borough Council. Their Members were in turn briefed by those officers.

Included within each Academy funding envelope was an allocation for ICT hardware and software which was also being procured through Stockton Borough Council.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The delegated powers indicted within the report have been exercised and that a Design & Build Contractor for the construction of the batched Academy programme has been procured be noted.

2. The delegated power to procure ICT Hardware Services framework providers has also been exercised and that ICT providers have been procured to supply those Academies be noted.

3. The construction and ICT progress made at each Academy, detailed in the report be noted.

3. Reasons for the Decision

It was requested by Members that updates should be provided at significant milestones of the programme. At this point in time, Freebrough Enterprise Centre has recently been completed and handed over to the Academy. ICT providers have also been procured for each of the three Academies within this batched programme. Full details and timetable are indicated within this document.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

N/A

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

Midnight on Friday, 15th March 2013

Proper Officer
11 March 2013