

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....12th November 2015

1. Title of Item/Report

Asset Review, School Capital and Site Disposal Update

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report that provided an update on the EIT Asset Review and the Schools Capital investment Strategy, building on earlier reports to Members.

The Report summarised progress in implementing recommendations in respect of the Review of Libraries, provided an update on progress around Asset Transfer arrangements and provided an update recommendations around Site Disposal Strategy.

With regard to the Former Campus School Sport Block – Marsh House Avenue significant investment had taken place on the former Campus School site to develop a hub with shared governance and usage to meet the needs of young people who were under-engaged, demotivated and/or likely to flourish in a traditional academic environment. To date this had included:-

- A new £1.6m specialist Skills Academy which opened in spring which is being managed and ran by Stockton Riverside College (Bede College).
- Adaptations to the former Technology block and the City Learning Centre to provide accommodation for Key Stage 1 -3 Pupil Referral Unit both modern buildings in excellent condition.

The above developments concluded the Council's aspirations to develop a hub around enhanced vocational provision on the site.

In addition to the above buildings, there was also a sports block which was being managed on the Council's behalf by Northfield School. This provided sports and recreational facilities and was regularly used by the community. The sport facilities did not include the swimming pool which, due to extensive condition issues, had to be closed to the public in summer of 2014. The remaining area of the site had Cabinet approval for

development and disposal.

Recently there had been a number of enquiries from the public and user groups around the future of the former Sports Block including two expressions of interest under the community asset transfer policy Let's Share. One approach included a request to include a proportion of the land identified for disposal to be made into junior football pitches and for the building to provide a hub a local junior team. This would also include working with other users to retain a valuable community facility. In line with the Strategy it was proposed the building be advertised for asset transfer in order to progress this proposal.

With regard to the expansion of schools studies had been carried out and were assessed primarily in terms of identifying the most suitable schools to expand and to provide sufficient additional capacity in the correct locations.

However deliverability and value for money were also major considerations.

7 key schools were identified for possible expansion:-

- Bowesfield Primary, Stockton – proposed increase from 1fe to 2fe school
- St Patricks RC Primary, Stockton – proposed increase from 1fe to 1.5fe school
- St John the Baptist CE Primary, Stockton – proposed increase from 1fe to 1.5fe school
- St Marks CE Primary, Stockton – proposed increase from 1.5fe to 2fe school
- Hardwick Green Academy, Stockton – proposed increase from 1fe to 2fe school
- Thornaby CE Primary, Thornaby – proposed increase from 1.5fe to 2fe school
- Christ the King RC Primary, Thornaby – proposed increase from 1.5fe to 2fe primary

Meetings had been held with the respective schools, Governing Bodies, Diocese and Academy Trusts where appropriate. Agreement in principle had been reached with all 7 schools.

The details of the disposals of the assets with the terms agreed were attached to the report and were exempt.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The former sports facility at Marsh house Avenue be advertised for asset transfer.

2. The schools outlined in paragraph 31 be expanded.
3. The disposals of the following assets be agreed, with the terms agreed at Appendix A:
  - Roseberry Library
  - Bedale Library
  - Former Education Centre
  - Tedder Avenue
  - Former Blakeston School site
  - Five Lamps Centre
  - Former Community Centre Long Newton
4. The agreement of the detailed terms of disposal be delegated to Director of Resources in conjunction with the Leader of the Council.

3. Reasons for the Decision

To implement proposals for Library Strategy and Community Assets and agree land disposal plans.

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 20th November 2015

Proper Officer  
16 November 2015