

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting18th July 2019

1. Title of Item/Report

An Investment Strategy for Schools, SEN and Early Years

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report on the Investment Strategy for Schools, SEN and Early Years.

A report was presented to Cabinet in September 2017 which proposed a strategy for investing in Schools, Early Years and Special Education Needs & Disabilities (SEND). This addressed capacity issues and improvements using funding allocated to the Council. In total £37.2m was allocated from Basic Need. The Council had subsequently been notified of a further funding allocation of £7.5m for 2020/2021 bringing total Basic Need funding to £44.7m. The report provided an update on works delivered to date, and recommends further proposals for a range of schools and establishments including academies and diocesan schools.

The Council had been allocated and would have received a total of £37m as part of Government allocations for School Basic Needs funding by the end of 2019/20 with a further allocation of £7.5m to come in 2020/21. Although this was intended for shortages in school places it was not ring fenced and it had previously been approved to support an ambitious programme of improvements across the Borough to address suitability and condition where needed.

In addition there were a number of Developer contributions specifically for education expected linked to housing growth, whilst timescales were difficult to plan, this strategy takes account of developments and Section 106 contributions agreed.

Due to Primary School capacity being addressed in recent years, this investment plan focused mainly on Secondary schools, pre-school and SEND provision.

The investment plan was a significant opportunity to ensure a number of proposals associated with Academies and Diocesan schools were supported with some additional contributions from the schools also. This

demonstrated the Council's commitment to support Education improvement, development and achievement irrespective of the Governance of the school.

RESOLVED that the revised programme be approved outlined in paragraph 27 of the report detailing allocation of £52.2m of which £44.7m is Basic Need funding with other contributions of £7.5m.

3. Reasons for the Decision

To continue to ensure that all children and young people in Stockton Borough continue to benefit from education in high quality environments.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None.

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

Councillor Mike Smith declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 9 - An Investment Strategy for Schools, SEN and Early Years as he had a grandchild who attended one of the schools detailed within the report.

Councillor Steve Nelson declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 9 - An Investment Strategy for Schools, SEN and Early Years as he had a grandchild who attended one of the schools detailed within the report and he was a governor at a school within the Borough.

Councillor Bob Cook declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 9 - An Investment Strategy for Schools, SEN and Early Years as he had a grandchild who attended one of the schools detailed within the report.

6. Details of any Dispensations

N/A

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

Midnight, 26 July 2019.

Proper Officer
22 July 2019