

Agenda Item:

Originator: Jackie Green

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**REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF EDUCATION LEEDS****EXECUTIVE BOARD: 15 December 2010****SUBJECT: Primary place planning for 2012****EXECUTIVE SUMMARY****1 PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT**

- 1.1 This report seeks the permission of Executive Board to consult on the latest proposals to ensure the authority meets its statutory duty to provide enough primary school places in 2012/13.
- 1.2 The six proposals outlined in the report would create a total of 240 places for September 2012. They are dependent on additional land being secured for educational use, the required consultation and statutory processes being followed, and sufficient capital resources being secured from the DfE.
- 1.3 The Executive Board is requested to make available the sites listed in the report for expanding educational provision; and to support the consultation on the proposals identified.

**2 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 The birth rate has been rapidly increasing in Leeds over recent years. To meet rising demand for school places, we have created some 560 additional reception places since 2009. This trend is continuing and the latest birth data show approximately 10,200 children born in the year to September 2010. To ensure one place for every child born in the city, we need to create on average 300 to 400 new reception places every year. This scale of response cannot be met through the existing estate, and a key part of the medium term solution will be to identify new sites. In addition, consideration will need to be given to a range of organisational and structural responses and more intensive use of the existing estate.

**3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 An estimate of the projected capital construction costs for these proposals is £15.8m. This is based on using modular construction for all building projects; will be subject to significant development costs; and does not include fees, inflation, site acquisition costs or provision for any site specific conditions or risk.

3.2 In recommending that the Executive Board earmark and agree to the use of the sites, there is a net loss to the Council's capital programme of £2.675m.

#### 4 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Executive Board is asked to:

1. Give permission to consult on the proposals contained in Paragraphs 3.3 – 3.8 of the report.
2. Note that a report detailing the outcome of the consultation will be submitted for consideration at a future meeting of the Executive Board
3. Agree the earmarking and utilisation of the sites listed in the report for the proposals outlined.
4. Agree to an approach to the DfE for the necessary capital funding for these proposals.

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## REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF EDUCATION LEEDS

**EXECUTIVE BOARD: 15 December 2010**

**SUBJECT: Primary Place Planning for 2012**

**Electoral Wards Affected:**

Ward Members consulted (referred to in report)

**Specific Implications For:**

Equality & Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Eligible for Call-in

Not Eligible for Call-in (Details contained in the Report)

### 1 PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

- 1.1 This report seeks the permission of Executive Board to consult on the latest proposals to ensure the authority meets its statutory duty to provide for enough primary school places in 2012/13.
- 1.2 The six proposals outlined in this report would create a total of 240 places for September 2012. They are dependent on additional land being secured for educational use, the required consultation and statutory processes being followed, and sufficient capital resources being secured from the DfE.
- 1.3 The Executive Board is requested to make available the sites listed in the report for expanding educational provision; and to support the proposals identified.

### 2 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The birth rate has been rapidly increasing in Leeds over recent years. To meet rising demand for school places, we have created some 560 additional reception places since 2009. This trend is continuing and the latest birth data show approximately 10,200 children were born in the year to September 2010. To

ensure one place for every child born in the city, we need to create on average 300 to 400 new reception places every year. This scale of response cannot be met through the existing estate, and a key part of the medium term solution will be to identify new sites. In addition, consideration will need to be given to a range of organisational and structural responses and more intensive use of the existing estate.

### 3 THE MAIN ISSUES

#### **Approach.**

- 3.1 The planning process to provide school places has recently been reviewed and now includes very early informal planning discussions, alongside ward member briefings in the areas of greatest need. For the academic year 2012/2013 those meetings were held in the summer this year and looked at the local issues and have helped to identify possible solutions to the need for additional primary places.
- 3.2 Education Leeds has consulted with headteachers and governing bodies in developing these proposals, which aim to provide the best possible outcomes for children and young people, and secure sustainable and successful provision. As the extent of provision required increases, there is a need to become more creative and extend the range of potential solutions. Any future implications for governance arrangements will be brought back to Executive Board for consideration if required.

#### **Proposals**

#### 3.3 **Harehills Planning area**

**Proposal One:** To expand Wykebeck Primary School from a capacity of 315 to a capacity of 420, i.e. an admissions limit of 45 to 60. This proposal can be delivered within the existing school grounds.

#### 3.4 **Roundhay/Wigton planning area**

**Proposal Two:** -To change the age range of Roundhay High School to be 4-18, and to establish the primary provision on land off Elmete Lane, with effect from Sept 2012. The reception admissions limit would be 60.

- 3.5 **Proposal Three:** To change the age range of Allerton Grange High School to be 4-18, and to establish the primary provision on land to the west of the school, previously included in the old school site effective September 2012. The reception admission limit would be 60.

#### 3.6 **Meanwood Planning area**

**Proposal Four:** To change the age range of Carr Manor High School to be 4-18, and to establish the primary provision on land south of and adjacent to the school, with effect from Sept 2012. The reception admission limit would be 30.

#### 3.7 **Chapel Allerton Planning Area**

**Proposal Five:** To expand Bracken Edge Primary School from 315 places to 420 places, i.e. an admission limit of 45 to 60. This proposal can be delivered within the existing school grounds.

#### 3.8 **Woodhouse Planning area**

**Proposal Six:** To expand Little London Primary School from 210 places to 630 places, i.e. an admission limit of 30 to 90, and establish land off Cambridge Road as part of the school premises, effective September 2012.

### **Site requirements**

- 3.9 Many of the primary school places added so far have been created through expansion of existing schools. Given the scale of what has been achieved already for 2010, and the continued level of increase for 2011, the options to expand the existing education estate to meet further primary basic need have effectively been exhausted.
- 3.10 Joint work between the Strategic Asset Management and Planning services in City Development and Education Leeds therefore has identified a number of sites which could be secured for 2012 and 2013. Asset Management Board and Strategic Investment Board (SIB) have considered these at meetings in May, June, September and November.
- 3.11 SIB supports and recommends that land at or adjacent to the following sites is made available for the expansion of provision proposed within this report:
- Torre Drive (reference 14371/6)
  - Allerton Grange High School (reference 14371/26)
  - Former Braimwood School (reference 14371/25)
  - Carr Manor High School (reference 14371/17A)
  - Blenheim Centre (reference 14371/24)
  - Moortown Primary School (reference 14371/14)
  - Gledhow Primary School (reference 14371/13)
  - Oakwood PRU (reference 14371/9)
- The proposals do not necessarily require the whole parcel of land in each case; and there are financial implications for three sites in the capital programme.
- 3.12 These sites are essential to meet the need for 2012 and 2013. This report contains proposals to meet the statutory duty for places in 2012 and a further report will be brought with proposals for 2013 early next year. Executive Board is asked to note that there will be an ongoing need to acquire sites each year to meet the local authority's statutory duty to provide sufficient primary school places.
- 3.13 Consultation on the proposals will take place during January and February 2011 to ensure there is sufficient time to deliver the solutions for September 2012. It will be necessary to ensure that other local schools that may be affected by the proposals are invited to comment during the consultation period. A report will be brought back to Executive Board in March with the outcome of the consultations and a request to publish statutory notices in April for any proposals that are proceeding.
- 3.14 **Future Opportunities**
- Officers are also looking more widely at how capacity can be increased other than through site acquisition and the provision of new built environments. Other council assets are being considered (such as community centres, libraries and office spaces) as potential locations for learning; along with the option of renting accommodation. The local authority have a statutory duty to secure sufficient school places and it is possible that there will not be sufficient resources for this need to be met, other than through capital for new build.
- 3.15 There are a number of schools which could be expanded, but these are located further from the areas of demographic need. In the absence of any alternatives, these schools may provide an 'overflow' option, although this would have an

implication for transport costs. Some may offer interim accommodation until a longer term solution can be implemented but could distort preference patterns in later years (and would offer some flexibility in areas where the birth rate fluctuates more).

#### **4.0 LEGAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 These proposals are necessary to meet the authority's statutory duty to ensure sufficiency of school places. If approved they would deliver 240 reception places, making a total of 9545 reception places in the City in 2012.
- 4.2 A very high level estimate of the projected capital construction costs of the proposals is £15.8m. This is based on using modular construction for all building projects, will be subject to significant development and does not include fees, inflation, site acquisition costs or provision for any site specific conditions or risk.
- 4.3 The sites have all been valued by City Development and the sites not included in the capital programme total £635k. There are three sites included in the Council's capital programme: the former Braimwood site (£1.5m); land adjacent to the Carr Manor site (£2m); and the Blenheim centre (£275k). The respective values total £3.775m.
- 4.4 In recommending that the Executive Board earmark and agree that these sites may be utilised, SIB has identified the following requirements:
- In respect of the Braimwood site, whilst the proposal is to build on existing hard standing/brown field, SIB proposes that the Council retain the Elmete Centre site when vacated by Education Leeds as additional green space
  - In respect of the Carr Manor site, the projected capital receipt of £2m has already been realised as part of the Council's contribution to a previous PFI programme. Education Leeds has identified and proposes returning from the Education capital programme the following capital receipts to the Council's capital programme to compensate for the £2m:
    - Former Wortley High School site at £800k
    - Former Pudsey Grangefield site at £300k
- There are a number of ring-fenced but unhypothecated receipts with historic valuations, which could be reviewed.

#### **5.0 CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 To continue to ensure the Council meets its statutory duty to provide a school place for every child in the city, we need to create on average 300 to 400 new reception places every year. This report identifies and requests permission to consult on proposals that would secure 240 additional reception places for September 2012, and in doing so to earmark the sites listed in the report. A further paper will be brought to Executive Board to advise on any interim arrangements that need to be made to address any shortfall. It is anticipated this will be brought in the summer term.

#### **6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 Executive Board is asked to:
1. Give permission to consult on the proposals contained in Paragraphs 3.3 – 3.8 of the report.
  2. Note that a report detailing the outcome of the consultation will be submitted for consideration at a future meeting of the Executive Board

3. Agree the earmarking and utilisation of the sites listed in the report for the proposals outlined.
4. Agree to an approach to the DfE for the necessary capital funding for these proposals.

## **7.0 BACKGROUND REPORTS**

17 June 2009 Expanding Primary Place Provision

22 July 2009 Proposed increases in Admissions Limits for September 2010

19 May 2010 Outcome of statutory notices for changes to primary provision for September 2010, 2011 and 2012

21 July 2010 - Outcome of statutory notices for proposals for expansion of primary provision for September 2011 and Outcome of statutory notices for changes to primary age provision in Horsforth for September 2011

7 May 2010 and 17 September 2010 AMB reports

21 May 2010 and 5 November 2010 SIB reports

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