

Decision Maker: EXECUTIVE

**For Pre Decision Scrutiny by Education Policy Development
And Scrutiny Committee on Tuesday 18th March 2014**

Date: 2nd April 2014

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Executive Key

Title: ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANNING: SCHOOLS PLANNED
MAINTENANCE AND SUITABILITY PROGRAMME 2014-15

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Chief Officer: Terry Parkin, Executive Director of Education, Care & Health Services

Ward: (All Wards);

1. Reason for report

This report sets out the proposed 2014-2015 Education Planned Maintenance programme and Suitability Programme.

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

2.1 That the Education PDS Committee notes and comments on the:

- i. 2014-15 School Planned Maintenance and Suitability Programme;
- ii. list of schemes to be included in the 2014-2015 Planned Maintenance Programme, attached at Appendix 1.

2.3 That officers develop a Seed Challenge Programme for 2014-15 for future consideration by the Education Portfolio Holder and that, where appropriate, the Director of Education, Care and Health Services be authorised to submit planning applications at the appropriate time in respect of the schemes set out in this report.

2.4 That the Portfolio Holder for Education recommend the Executive to approve:

- i. 2014-15 School Planned Maintenance and Suitability Programme;
- ii. list of schemes to be included in the 2014-2015 Planned Maintenance Programme, attached at Appendix 1.

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy
 2. BBB Priority: Children and Young People
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: £1,808,711
 2. Ongoing costs: Recurring Cost
 3. Budget head/performance centre: £1,808,711
 4. Total current budget for this head: £1,808,711
 5. Source of funding: DfE Capital Maintenance Grant
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): Not applicable
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Not applicable
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Non-Statutory - Government Guidance
 2. Call-in: Applicable
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): Borough wide
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Not applicable

3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 The Council has a five-year maintenance programme on Education properties that is reviewed each year based on funding available, condition of facilities and urgent items that arise in-year. The Council also provides assistance to improve the security and suitability of schools as well as operating the Seed Challenge programme that part funds school promoting improvements that meet set criteria.
- 3.2 The Education buildings planned maintenance, security and suitability programmes and Seed Challenge Programme are funded by 100% Department for Education Capital Maintenance Grant.
- 3.3 Bromley's Capital Maintenance Grant Allocation for 2014/2015 is £1,808,711, which is funded by the DfE Capital Maintenance Grant and is allocated as follows:

Planned Maintenance Programme	£1,208,711
Seed Challenge Fund	£300,000
Security Fund	£150,000
Suitability Fund	£150,000
Total	£1,808,711

- 3.4 The Capital Maintenance Grant is allocated specifically for use at Local Authority Maintained Schools. In line with national and local policy the Council will honour allocations made to schools in-year from the Capital Maintenance Grant who subsequently convert to academy status.
- 3.5 For 2014-15 the total Devolved Formula Capital allocation for Bromley Local Authority Maintained schools is £301,717 with a further £44,921 for Voluntary Aided Schools.
- 3.6 Voluntary Aided Schools in Bromley have been awarded £129,790 for 2014-15 for in-year capital maintenance via the LEA (Local Education Authority) Co-ordinated Voluntary Aided Programme (LCVAP). Meetings are taking place with both Church of England Diocese and Roman Catholic Diocese to agree the allocation of this grant.
- 3.7 Strategic Property Services is responsible for coordinating the education asset management plan. Operational Property Services is responsible for delivering the planned maintenance programme. The education planned maintenance programme is based on available funding, condition, priority and urgent items that arise during the year. A copy of the planned programme is provided at Appendix A.
- 3.8 Education, Care and Health Services is responsible for managing the Seed Challenge Fund, the Security Fund and the Suitability Fund.
- 3.9 The Local Authority continues to manage a successful annual Seed Challenge initiative, providing match funding for school led improvement works. This has been a highly popular programme that has delivered a range of improvements to enhance the curriculum, school security and health and safety across the Authority's schools. Based on demand during 2013-14 it is proposed to maintain funding for this programme at £300,000. However, the 2014-15 programme will be monitored with regards the impact that academy conversions have on future bidding rounds.

- 3.10 As in 2013-14 it is proposed that the Suitability Programme in 2014-15 is allocated to support the agreed re- organisation of Bromley Road Infants School and Worsley Bridge Primary Schools into 1FE and 2FE primary schools respectively. Feasibilities were carried out at both schools during summer/autumn 2013 and more details of these schemes is include in Basic Need Update Report 7.
- 3.11 The Security Fund is allocated by officers and will continue to support urgent schemes at borough schools. The fund was well subscribed during 2013-14 and funded improvements to security arrangement at 14 Bromley schools.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Building Maintenance is an important part of managing the Council's Property Assets. LBB's Asset Management Plan sets out the important role that asset management plays in delivering the Council's priorities and achieving value for money in the delivery of services and management of the Council's property portfolio.
- 4.2 The Council acknowledges its social, economic and environmental aims and targets set within its existing policy framework: Building a Better Bromley 2020 Vision, Local Area Agreement and Portfolio Plans and its duty to promote social, economic and environmental well being.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Due to the lateness of the announcement by the Department for Education of the 2014-15 Capital Maintenance Grant allocations, the Education Planned Maintenance Budget has yet to be agreed by the Executive. A report will be considered by the Executive on 2 April 2014 recommending an allocation of £1,808,711 funding the education planned maintenance, suitability, security and Seed Challenge programmes. This is based on the £1,808,711 Capital Maintenance Grant received from Government.
- 5.2 Planned maintenance at Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools is funded and managed by Operational Property Services. The funding for planned maintenance at Foundation Schools is devolved to individual schools, which are then responsible for ensuring that the identified projects are managed in accordance with the relevant Construction and Financial Regulations. Schools that have converted to academy status are not eligible for funding from this budget. However, the local authority will honour allocations made to schools contained within this programme that subsequently convert to academy status in-year.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 A significant number of schemes listed need to be undertaken to ensure that the Council's responsibilities under health and safety legislation are being met.

Non-Applicable Sections:	[List non-applicable sections here]
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	[Title of document and date]