

Decision Maker: COUNCIL

Date: 14 April 2014

Decision Type: Urgent Executive Key

Title: CAPITAL PROGRAMME - GLEBE SCHOOL EXPANSION

Contact Officer: Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager
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Chief Officer: Mark Bowen, Director of Corporate Services

Ward: West Wickham

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 At its meeting on 2nd April 2014 the Executive agreed a number of education capital schemes within the Council's Basic Needs Capital Programme and an expansion scheme at Glebe School to provide 104 extra places for secondary age pupils with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). As the value of the project, at £4.8m, is above £1m, full Council approval is required to add the project to the Council's Capital Programme. Council is requested to consider this as a matter of urgency in order that that timetable to provide the additional accommodation by September 2015 can be met.
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2. **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council confirms that the Glebe School expansion project be added to the Council's Capital Programme with a total project value of £4.8m.

Corporate Policy

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

1. Cost of proposal: Estimated Cost: £4.8m
 2. Ongoing costs: Non-Recurring Cost:
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Education Capital Programme
 4. Total current budget for this head: £4.8m
 5. Source of funding: Dedicated Schools Grant
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): N/A
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: N/A
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Statutory Requirement: Section 14, Education Act 1996
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable:
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): The proposal creates capacity for 104 additional children.
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? N/A
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: N/A

3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 At its meeting on 2nd April 2014 the Executive considered a report on the Procurement Strategy for Basic Needs Projects and the Glebe School Expansion and Allocation of Section 106 Funding to Education Schemes. The report is attached for information to this report. The Executive originally agreed the expansion of the Glebe School to provide additional accommodation for pupils of secondary age with ASD on 25 July 2012. A statutory consultation was undertaken in 2013 to permanently expand the school by 104 pupils, and the proposal was widely welcomed by parents, carers, other schools and agencies. Building works are required to provide additional accommodation that will replace and expand a dilapidated block with new purpose built accommodation.
- 3.2 The Executive on 2nd April 2014 agreed that the expansion of the Glebe School should be added to the Council's Capital Programme, but as the scheme value exceeds £1m full Council approval is required for this. The school will begin to take additional pupils in September 2014, and the new accommodation is needed for September 2015, requiring that the project proceeds as soon as possible.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There is growing demand for provision for secondary age pupils with ASD and the proposal to expand Glebe School will enable more students to be placed in an appropriate setting within the borough, where they can maintain local contacts and it is easier for parents and carers to provide support. The School has developed substantial expertise in this area and this good practice can be expanded at the same time as reliance on costly out-of-borough placements is reduced.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Details of the capital costs and phasing of the Glebe School scheme are set out in Appendix 1 to the report to the Executive on 2nd April. The latest estimate is a total spend of £4.753m across 2014/15 and 2015/16.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The distribution and application of monies received from Central Government is subject to guidance and advice from the Department for Education. Under Section 14 Education Act 1996 the Council has a statutory duty to ensure that there are enough primary and secondary school places are available to meet the needs of pupils in its area.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Personnel
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	See attached report to the Executive on 2 nd April 2014