

**LONDON BOROUGH OF RICHMOND UPON THAMES**

**CABINET**

**DATE: 24 NOVEMBER 2011**

**REPORT OF: CABINET MEMBER FOR SCHOOLS**

**LEAD OFFICER: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION,  
CHILDREN'S AND CULTURAL  
SERVICES**

**SUBJECT: PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL PRIORITIES - CAPITAL  
PROJECTS**

**WARDS: ALL**

**KEY DECISION? YES  
IF YES, IN FORWARD PLAN? YES**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 This report should be read in conjunction with the following reports for 24 November 2011 Cabinet:

- Primary School Expansions
- Secondary School Priorities

and

to be read in conjunction with the following report for 14 November 2011 Finance and Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- Capital Programme Review

This report provides an update of work undertaken to develop the primary and secondary priorities as outlined above and seeks approval to proceed with the next phase of the Education Capital Programme.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides an update of work undertaken to develop the primary and secondary priorities as outlined above and seeks approval to proceed with the next phase of the Education Capital Programme.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

**That Cabinet approves the next phase of the Education Capital Programme and notes the content of this report.**

**That Cabinet gives delegated authority to the Director of Finance and Corporate Services together with the Director of Environment for procurement of capital projects.**

### 3. Details

3.1 On 24 February 2011, Cabinet approved revenue funding to support the development of the Education Strategy for school places.

3.2 This work is being undertaken to fulfil the vision set out in the Education White Paper published by the Administration previously in order to further develop the Primary and Secondary Schools so that adequate places are available.

#### Primary School Expansions

3.3 Following discussions with primary school headteachers and governing bodies, it was agreed that a number of high level options appraisals of capital schemes would be undertaken. The purpose was to ensure that a viable and affordable scheme could be put forward for each site where additional school places were required.

3.4 The following proposed expansions would provide a further three forms of entry:

#### New proposals

School(s)	Proposal	Date of implementation*	Number of school places
Hampton Wick Infant / St John The Baptist Church of England Junior	Expansion of each school from two- to three-form entry	Hampton Wick – Sep. 2012 St John the Baptists CE – Sep. 2014	210
Heathfield Infant / Heathfield Junior	Expansion of each school from three- to four-form entry	September 2013	210
Orleans Infant / St Stephen's Church of England Junior	Conversion from three-form entry infant and junior schools to two-form entry primary schools	September 2012	210

\* This refers to the date from which the school will admit an extra form of entry on a permanent basis, subject to full approvals of statutory proposals, rather than when all requisite building work will be completed.

3.5 The following consultants were appointed to consider the high level options appraisals as follows:

Hampton Wick Infant	Alex Fergusson Architects
Heathfield Infant / Heathfield Junior	AIR Architects
All sites	Bremner Partnership LLP (QS)
Client Project Management	Capita Symonds

The council is working with the Principal Building and Development Officer for the London Diocesan Board for Schools with regard to St John the Baptist CE Junior School and St Stephen's CE Junior School. Previous studies undertaken

for St Stephen's CE Junior and Orleans Infant School have provided the basis for proposals going forward, although further development work will be required. Due to the complexity of the Twickenham and St Margaret's primary school place provision, both in terms of delivery and transitional arrangements, a small amount of work will also need to be undertaken to provide interim, temporary teaching space.

The council is working with the Building Officer for the Archdiocese of Southwark Commission for Schools & Colleges, with regard to the completion of the Catholic shared form of entry on the Richmond side of the borough. This is in relation to the scheme to provide the final classroom and associated space, that is, the seventh of the seven classrooms needed, six having been funded and delivered previously, two each at St Osmund's, St Mary Magdalen's and St Elizabeth's schools.

The possible primary school provision at the Clifden Road site would provide 210 primary school places. Nelson School has already agreed to accommodate an additional class in both 2012/2013 and 2013/2014, so in this instance the feasibility and location of these classes will be considered alongside the possible full expansion referred to under paragraph 3.7 for medium to long-term proposals.

This report seeks approval to proceed with the development of the above projects with an initial overall budget identified of £15 - £17m.

- 3.6 It should also be noted that other high level feasibility / option appraisal work has been undertaken at The Vineyard School, through the appointment of consultants as follows:

The Vineyard	John Rich Architects
Quantity Surveyor	Bremner Partnership LLP (QS)
Client Project Management	Capita Symonds

- 3.7 Further high level options appraisals will be commissioned for the mid- to long-term proposals outlined below. This will ensure readiness to deliver should these capital schemes be required to meet demand for school place provision. Some schemes will be required to be delivered to full feasibility to ensure the council is fully prepared to respond to possible demand.

### **Medium to Long-term proposals**

Further appointment of consultants will be necessary to ensure that the following possible additional provision in the medium to long-term can be considered. Feasibility will begin with possible medium term proposals for Nelson School, The Russell School and The Vineyard School.

Other schools highlighted here are possible longer-term proposals where high level option appraisals may be undertaken further down the line. This could potentially include: East Sheen, expansion from two-to three-form entry, the conversion of Carlisle Infant and Hampton Hill Junior Schools and/or Hampton Infant and Hampton Junior Schools, from three-form entry infant and junior schools to two-form entry primary schools.

All of these proposals will be dependent on pupil place demand data as it becomes available.

## **Secondary School Priorities**

- 3.8 A separate report to Cabinet around secondary school priorities will be presented in February 2012. In the meantime, revenue funding set aside for feasibility studies will be utilised to progress schemes from high level option appraisals to more detailed feasibility studies. This will ensure that the delivery of building projects can meet the priorities approved by Cabinet over the following period.

The following consultants were appointed to consider the high level options appraisals for secondary school priorities as follows:

AIR Architects  
Bremner Partnership LLP (QS)  
Capita Symonds (Client Project Management)

## **4. CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 Please refer to Cabinet reports relating to Primary School expansions and Secondary School Priorities.
- 4.2 With all capital schemes, there is a process of consultation with the school community including users of the school site and pre-planning consultation events are held to include the wider community in the development process.

## **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 **Primary School Expansions**  
As outlined in the Finance and Performance Overview and Scrutiny report considered on 14 November 2011, it is anticipated that the balance of the existing funding from the Primary School Expansion Capital Programme, that currently includes 2011/12 government grants, together with revenue funding agreed at the 24 February 2011 Cabinet, and predicted/estimated government grants for the next four years, estimated at £12m, should cover the costs of the schemes detailed in this report in paragraphs 3.4 and 3.5.
- 5.2 **Secondary School Priorities**  
Revenue funding already forms part of the current budget available for feasibility studies to continue for secondary school priorities.
- 5.3 Further reports for procurement of consultants and/or contractors will continue to be presented in line with Contract Standing Orders at the appropriate level according to value of appointments to be made.

## **6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS / CONSIDERATIONS**

- 6.1 This report addresses a key Council priority, as outlined in the Children and Young People's Plan, of increasing the number of high quality school places.

## **7. RISK ASSESSMENT**

- 7.1 Project specific risk assessments are undertaken.

## **8. EQUALITY IMPACT / CONSIDERATIONS**

- 8.1 The provision of additional school places will meet the Local Authority's statutory duty and the wishes of all residents who would like their children to be educated in Richmond upon Thames borough schools. The provision of high quality school places is a key focus in the Children and Young People's Plan.
- 8.2 An equalities impact needs assessment (EINA) was undertaken in December 2007 on the authority's school place planning policy and procedures, and updated in December 2009.

## **9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 The Council has a duty under section 14 of the Education Act 1996 to ensure that sufficient schools are available for their area for providing primary and secondary education.
- 9.2 Consultation on expansion proposals will be carried out in accordance with the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and the Prescribed Alteration Regulations.

## **10. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 10.1 As a design tool and a method of measurement, the Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) will be used to determine the exact level of environmental performance of the new building.
- 10.2 Providing additional school places enables children to access school places within a 'walkable' distance from their homes, rather than having to travel by car or bus to schools further afield.

## **11. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

[Primary Strategy for Change.](#)  
[Report to Cabinet, 10 October 2005.](#)  
[Report to Cabinet, 20 March 2006.](#)  
[Report to Cabinet, 3 December 2007.](#)  
[Report to Cabinet, 23 February 2009.](#)  
[Report to Cabinet 6 December 2010.](#)  
[Director's Report to Governors, 2005 to 2011.](#)  
[Education and Inspections Act 2006.](#)  
[DCSF guidance on 'Expanding a Maintained Mainstream School or Adding a Sixth Form'.](#)  
[The School Organisation \(Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools\) \(England\) Regulations 2007.](#)  
[Finance & Performance Overview & Scrutiny Committee 14 November 2011](#)

## **12. CONTACTS**

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