

DECISION-MAKER:	CABINET		
SUBJECT:	NEWLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL: APPROVAL TO SPEND		
DATE OF DECISION:	15 FEBRUARY 2010		
REPORT OF:	CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES		
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STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

Annex 1 of Appendix 1 is not for publication by virtue of categories 3 (financial and business affairs) of paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules as contained in the Council's Constitution.

It is not in the public interest to disclose this information as the annex contains confidential and commercially sensitive financial information which would prejudice the Council's ability to operate in a commercial environment and obtain best value in procurement processes

SUMMARY

This report seeks approval to spend the approved budget on the construction of a new two form entry school building (including Early Years provision) for Newland Primary School, the demolition of the existing school and the reinstatement of playing fields.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (i) To approve in accordance with Financial Procedure Rules capital expenditure in the sum of £7,500,000 including fees from the Children's Services and Learning Capital Programme for the construction of Newland Primary school.

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Primary Strategy for Change identified Newlands Primary School as top priority for rebuilding
2. The new school building will provide modern learning facilities for the school.
3. The new building will benefit from environmental enhancements and lower maintenance costs.
4. Outdoor sports pitches and sports facilities in the school hall will be available for community use.

CONSULTATION

5. Throughout this stage of the design process there has been ongoing consultation with the school head teacher, staff and governors on the design philosophy for the school.
6. Consultation has been by a series of meetings.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

7. Consideration was given to not rebuilding Newlands Primary School but this would be contrary to the Primary Capital Strategy and so was rejected.

DETAIL

8. At its meeting on 23rd May 2005 the Cabinet decided that: "Newlands Primary to be rebuilt on its existing site at 1½FE, with Early Years provision."
9. Project planning was instigated, a feasibility study commissioned and funding identified.
10. Various options for rebuilding were put forward for consideration and a preferred scheme selected.
11. On 5th December 2006 the Children's Services and Learning Capital Board decided to defer the project as insufficient funding was available at that time.
12. The Capital Board further agreed that the project would not be able to proceed until funding from the Primary Capital Programme became available.
13. On 16th March 2009 the Cabinet approved that the published admission number (PAN) for Newlands Primary School be 60 for 2010-11. Accordingly the new school building will have to accommodate a two form entry (2FE) primary school. This size is justified by forecast increases in numbers at the school, including the impact of the redevelopment of the current Ordnance Survey site for family housing which is located in the Newlands catchment area.
14. Capita Symonds has been commissioned to undertake various site surveys and undertake consultations with Development Control, Building Contract etc on the project.
15. An indicative programme has been compiled which shows completion of the new school in the financial year 2012-13.
16. This report requests approval to spend that budget.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Capital

17. On 29th June 2009 Cabinet approved the recommendation to add £7.5 million to the Children's Services and Learning Capital programme for the rebuild of Newlands Primary School. Funding for the project is shown below:

Source of Funding	£
Targeted Capital Fund	2,960,000
Primary Capital Programme	4,240,000
Devolved Formula Capital	75,000
Access Initiative	50,000
Modernisation	175,000
TOTAL:	7,500,000

The project is currently at RIBA work stage B (detailed feasibility study) and hence the budget reflects the best estimate of costs prior to the completion of the detailed feasibility work and prior to detailed design.

18. This budget to cover:
- All construction costs,
 - Demolition of the existing school and landscaping of the site,
 - Information and communication technology (ICT),
 - Furniture and equipment,
 - Fees and charges,
 - Contingency sums are included in the above.

Revenue

19. School funding is delivered through the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), with schools primarily funded through pupil numbers. However, the increase in pupil numbers will be contained within the DSG and the Individual Schools Budget (ISB).
20. The new school will have lower long term maintenance costs (which will mean a reduced call on the planned maintenance budget) and the new building will benefit from lower running costs than the present school premises. Any savings from lower running costs will accrue to the ISB.

Property

21. The property proposals in this report are consistent with the corporate AMP. The Primary Capital Programme is amongst the top 20 priorities for the Authority. The reduction in the repairs and maintenance backlog that will be achieved by this development forms part of the corporate property strategy.

Other

22. None.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

23. The provision of facilities for schools, including the provision of land and buildings, together with the maintenance and renewal of such facilities is made in accordance with the Education Act 1996 as amended. Capital expenditure within the Council is subject to the provisions of the Financial Procedure Rules as set out in the Council's Constitution.
24. In addition the proposal assists in improving the early childhood provision and the sufficiency of childcare available, which are new duties on the Council imposed by the Childcare Act 2006.

Other Legal Implications:

25. In designing and constructing the new school building, regard will be had to the Human Rights Act 1998, Equalities legislation and the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

26. The proposals outlined in this report are consistent with the proposals set within:

- The Children and Young People's Plan
- The Medium Term Plan

Insofar as they provide for enhanced facilities for young people and the wider community.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Non-confidential appendices are in the Members' Rooms and can be accessed on-line

Appendices

1.	Newlands Primary School Project Initiation Document Annex 1 – Summary of Costs - Confidential Annex 2 - PID
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Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	None
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Background Documents

Title of Background Paper(s) Cabinet Report 23.05.05 Minutes of CS&L Capital Board 05.12.06 Cabinet Report 16.03.09	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
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1.	Primary Strategy for Change	
2.	Cabinet Report Item No A03 (16 th March 2009) – Determination of School Admission Arrangements 2010-11	

Background documents available for inspection at: Floor 5, Frobisher House, Southampton

KEY DECISION? Yes

WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	Redbridge
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