

AGENDA ITEM 10

BOROUGH OF POOLE

COUNCIL

17 JUNE 2008

“SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE” – TRANSFORMING EDUCATION IN POOLE – PRIMARY CAPITAL PROGRAMME: JOINT REPORT OF THE PORTFOLIO HOLDERS, “SUPPORTING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE” AND DELIVERY OF MAJOR PROJECTS (INCLUDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE) AND TRANSPORTATION

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To consider the recommendations from Cabinet 3rd June 2008

2. DECISIONS REQUIRED

- 2.1 That Council approve the Primary Capital Programme Strategy for Change document for submission to the Department for Children, Schools and Families (Appendix B of the report to Cabinet enclosed).
- 2.2 That Council approve the initial investment priorities, school organisation proposals and the Primary Capital Programme Investment Plan (section 8 of the report to Cabinet enclosed) for the first phase of the Programme.

3. BACKGROUND / INFORMATION

- 3.1 Cabinet considered the enclosed Report at its meeting on 3rd June 2008. The Primary Capital Programme, a Government initiative, is a 14 year programme of capital investment in Primary phase schools. Subject to the successful submission of its Strategy for Change document the Council has been allocated £3.0m for 2009/10 and £5.3m in 2010/11. It is expected that funding will continue at similar levels over the life of the Programme, subject to future Government decisions on public spending.

3.2 The Primary Capital Programme is intended to support the achievement of goals, both nationally and locally, for Primary education by –

- Creating Primary schools equipped for 21st century learning, at the heart of the community, with a range of children's services in reach of every family
- Delivering a strategic approach to capital investment – supporting national policy aims, delivering world class standards, access to joined-up services for children and families, and addressing local needs and priorities
- Rebuilding, remodelling or refurbishing at least half of all Primary phase schools, including rebuilding or taking out of use at least 5% of school buildings in the worst physical condition
- Focusing resources on deprivation nationally and locally
- Reconfiguring Primary phase schools in response to demographic change

3.3 The Programme complements the work already being undertaken by the Council on changing the age of transfer for pupils from Primary phase to Secondary phase at age 11 in 2013, implementing the successful Targeted Capital Bid (for Poole High, Poole Grammar and Parkstone Grammar Schools), and progressing the Building Schools for the Future project for Secondary phase schools. These programmes and projects support the Council's corporate objective "Supporting our children and young people" and the priority of "Transforming schools for the future", as well as supporting the vision for Primary education in the Children and Young People's Plan – Improving Opportunities for Children and Young People in Poole.

3.4 Cabinet unanimously agreed the recommendations in the report for adoption by Council.

Councillor Tony Woodcock

Portfolio Holder for "Supporting Children and Young People"

Councillor Mike White

Portfolio Holder for Delivery of Major Projects (including Schools for the Future) and Transportation

COUNCIL FOR INFORMATION 17 JUNE 2008

BOROUGH OF POOLE

**CABINET
3 JUNE 2008**

**SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE - TRANSFORMING EDUCATION IN POOLE -
PRIMARY CAPITAL PROGRAMME: PORTFOLIO HOLDER, COUNCILLOR
WHITE "SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE"**

REPORT OF STRATEGIC DIRECTOR (CHILDREN'S SERVICES)

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- (a) To inform Members of the outcome of the Primary Capital Programme (PCP) phase 2 consultation;
- (b) To recommend the PCP Strategy for Change document to Cabinet and Council for approval for submission to the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF);
- (c) To agree the initial investment priorities and school organisation proposals and to recommend the first phase of the PCP Investment Plan to Cabinet and Council for approval.

2. DECISIONS REQUIRED

- (a) That Members note the outcome of the PCP phase 2 consultation (Appendix A);
- (b) That Cabinet and Council be recommended to approve the PCP Strategy for Change document (Appendix B) for submission to the DCSF; and
- (c) That Members agree the initial investment priorities and school organisation proposals and recommend the PCP Investment Plan (Section 8) for the first phase of the Programme to Cabinet and Council for approval.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1** Since the Autumn of 2007 Members and school representatives have considered a number of reports on Schools for the Future – Transforming Education in Poole. The two Government initiatives – the Primary Capital Programme for Primary phase schools and Building Schools for the Future for Secondary phase schools – complement the work already being

undertaken by the Council on changing the age of transfer for pupils at age 11 and implementing the successful Targeted Capital Bid (for Poole High, Poole Grammar and Parkstone Grammar Schools). The Building Schools for the Future project is reported separately on the agenda.

3.2 The PCP is intended to support the achievement of goals, both nationally and locally, for Primary education by

- Creating Primary schools equipped for 21st century learning, at the heart of the community, with a range of children's services in reach of every family
- Delivering a strategic approach to capital investment – supporting national policy aims, delivering world class standards, access to joined-up services for children and families; and addressing local needs and priorities
- Rebuilding, remodelling or refurbishing at least half of all Primary phase schools, including rebuilding or taking out of use at least 5% of school buildings in the worst physical condition
- Focusing resources on deprivation nationally and in every local authority
- Reconfiguring the Primary phase schools in response to demographic change.

3.3 The PCP was announced by Government in 2005 as a long-term programme of capital investment. The Council, subject to the successful submission of its PCP Strategy for Change document, has been allocated £3.0m for 2009/10 and a further £5.3m in 2010/11. It is expected that funding will continue at similar levels over the life of this 14 year programme, subject to future Government decisions on public spending. It is also expected that additional funding streams such as Devolved Formula Capital and Extended Schools Capital will be used together with PCP allocations to maximise the impact of spending on improved outcomes for children, young people and families.

3.4 When the Council consulted in 2006 on its proposals to change the age of transfer, a significant number of respondents asked for all through primary schools to be created wherever possible. The Council noted these responses and decided that it would defer any decisions with respect to Infant, Junior schools and primary schools until the PCP provided the funding to implement any such changes. In order to agree the priorities and develop the investment plan for the 14 year programme, consideration has now been given to those organisational changes.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1** Consultation about Primary education has been taking place for several years, particularly in the context of changing the age of transfer. The PCP consultation focuses on ensuring that any changes also result in transforming educational provision.
- 4.2** Since the Autumn of 2007 extensive consultation has been undertaken about Poole's educational aims and the prioritisation of projects within the PCP and consequently the formulation of the PCP Strategy for Change document. The consultation has included
- Two meetings with Headteachers and Chairs of Governors
 - Meetings of the Schools for the Future Steering Group, which comprises Headteacher and Chair of Governor representatives
 - Meetings with Members through the relevant Children's Services committees
 - Two consultation phases in February / March and April / May with schools, pupil representatives, parents, the Diocesan authorities, the local Learning and Skills Council and other partners, involving the distribution of 21,000 consultation documents and four public meetings
- 4.3** Phase 1 consultation focused on details of the PCP – resources available, the factors that will influence investment decisions and the options for changes to some schools. Phase 2 was about the aims, changes in school organisation and the priority order of capital investment in schools over the first four years of the programme. The responses to phase 1 consultation have already been considered by Members. The responses to the phase 2 consultation which closed on 23 May 2008 are attached as Appendix A. The consultation documents and the responses received during both phases can be found on www.boroughofpoole.com.
- 4.4** We believe the Council's consultation arrangements to produce the PCP Strategy for Change document have exceeded that required by the DCSF.

5. POOLE'S PCP STRATEGY FOR CHANGE DOCUMENT

- 5.1** In December 2007 the DCSF produced detailed guidance for local authorities on developing, agreeing and implementing a strategic approach to capital investment for Primary phase schools. The guidance was quite specific about the length of the Strategy for Change document and what each section should contain. Poole's submission, attached as Appendix B, complies with that guidance.

6. PROPOSALS FOR CHANGES TO SCHOOL ORGANISATION

- 6.1** In developing its Primary Strategy for Change, the Council is encouraged to take the opportunity to think long-term and strategically about how Primary education should be organised and to be bold, innovative and consider radical options with the opportunity of careful implementation over the next 14 years. Much of that radical thinking led to the proposal to change the age of transfer. Since that time we have continued to see changes in pupil numbers, demand for popular schools and the needs of communities.
- 6.2** The latest school pupil forecasts show that from 2008 the fall in the number of Primary pupils will stop. The rising and erratic trends in the birth rate since 2002, coupled with the new build developments in Poole, will lead to an increase and fluctuations in the number of Reception age children, and subsequent pupil numbers at Primary level, over the next five years and beyond.
- 6.3** The rise in the number of 4 year olds for Poole as a whole is estimated to be between 180 and 200 children between 2008 and 2012. However, this increase is unlikely to be distributed evenly across the Borough. Some schools will be able to absorb much of this increase due to current spare capacity as a result of recent falling rolls but where rising births combine with popular schools with no spare capacity, along with the added pressure from new build developments, there is likely to be significant pressure for school places.
- 6.4** As reported in paragraph 3.4 the Council decided that it would defer any decisions with respect to the creation of Infant, Junior and Primary schools until the PCP provided the funding to implement such changes. In order to agree the priorities and develop the Investment Plan for the 14 year programme, consideration now needs to be given to those organisational changes.
- 6.5** It is recognised that these proposals do not include all First and Middle schools which means that some schools would remain as Infant and Junior schools after the change to a Primary / Secondary structure takes effect in September 2013.

The proposals for changes to school organization put forward and consulted upon were -

6.6 Ashdown School pyramid

Federate Canford Heath First and Middle Schools. Both schools to remain at 4 FE (Form of Entry) (PAN (Pupil Admission Number) 120). The two governing bodies have agreed to form a Steering Group to further the federation and will consult with their stakeholders. Federation could take

place before the new school year in September 2008.

6.7 Rossmore Community College pyramid

Extend the age range of Heatherlands Infant School to become 2 FE (PAN 60) primary school from 2013 and therefore:

Increase the PAN of Sylvan Infant School from 90 (3 FE) to 120 (4 FE) from 2013 and

Reduce the PAN of Branksome Heath Junior School from 150 (5 FE) to 120 (4 FE) from 2013.

6.8 Carter Community College pyramid

Amalgamate Hamworthy Infant and Junior Schools to create a 3 FE (PAN 90) primary school.

No specific timescale is proposed at this time for the amalgamation of Hamworthy Infant and Junior schools which will be dependent upon the investment priorities for future years.

6.9 Poole High School pyramid

Key areas of growth in 0-4 year olds are Poole Town, Hamworthy East, Canford Cliffs, Parkstone and Penn Hill.

Key areas of growth in 4-12 year olds are Poole Town, Hamworthy East, Canford Cliffs, Parkstone and Newtown.

Consequently, the following proposals are put forward to add an additional form of entry in the Primary school phase of the Poole High School pyramid -

Increase the PAN of Lilliput CE VC First School from 60 (2 FE) to 90 (3 FE) from September 2009. The school will increase in size incrementally from 2009 and in 2013 will become an Infant school and therefore -

Increase the PAN of Baden-Powell & St Peter's CE VC Middle School from 150 (5 FE) to 180 (6 FE) from September 2012. In 2013 the school will become a Junior school.

Increase the PAN of Oakdale South Road Middle School from 140 (4 FE) to 150 (5 FE) from September 2012. In 2013 the school will become a Junior school.

6.10 Corfe Hills pyramid

The Corfe Hills pyramid of schools spans areas covered by Dorset County Council as well as the Borough of Poole.

The Borough of Poole is committed to a single age of transfer throughout the Borough including the Corfe Hills pyramid. Changing the age of transfer in the Broadstone area is dependent on sufficient capital funds being available and further consultation with stakeholders. We are currently requesting that all of our Secondary schools are rebuilt or refurbished in the next available round of the Building Schools for the Future Secondary phase school project. If the DCSF agree to bring forward the development of the Secondary school estate then the PCP will be adjusted to match the new timetable.

Dorset County Council has decided that it will not carry out its own consultation until the Borough of Poole identifies a timetable for when change will take effect in the Corfe Hills pyramid.

7. INITIAL INVESTMENT PRIORITIES

- 7.1** We have used a scoring matrix agreed with schools to give priority to schools based on whether the buildings are suitable for the education we want to provide, whether the children from the communities the schools serve do well in education, deprivation and whether we have sufficient places in the schools parents prefer. The allocation of investment is based on a combination of priorities identified through the scoring matrix and local school organisation issues.

The proposals for initial investment priorities put forward and consulted upon were -

- 7.2 Branksome Heath Middle School** is ranked 1 in our scoring matrix largely due to significant condition, sufficiency and standards issues. The school is proposed to become a Junior school catering for Years 3-6 following the change in age of transfer from September 2013. Further work is required to confirm whether better value for money would be gained through replacement or refurbishment and remodeling. Knowledge of the building indicates that refurbishment and remodeling is more likely particularly due to the likely requirement for phasing of the work. It is considered a high priority and urgent although the work can be phased between 2009 and 2014.

- 7.3 Canford Heath First and Canford Heath Middle Schools** are proposed to

federate and become Infant and Junior schools following the change in age of transfer from September 2013. Canford Heath First School is ranked 16 and is therefore a medium priority and low urgency. Canford Heath Middle School is ranked 4 largely due to condition and standards issues. Further work is required to confirm whether better value for money would be gained through replacement or refurbishment and remodeling is more likely particularly due to the likely requirement for phasing of the work. Canford Heath Middle School is considered high priority and medium term urgency.

7.4 Hillbourne School and Nursery will become a Primary school following the change in age of transfer from September 2013. The school has sufficient capacity but is ranked third highest priority in the scoring matrix largely due to condition, sufficiency and suitability issues. Taking these factors together a replacement school is likely to provide better value for money than refurbishment and remodeling. It is considered a high priority and urgent.

7.5 Longspee School is a Community Special School for pupils who are experiencing emotional and behavioural difficulties (BESD). The school was originally a Primary school but in 2005 because there was no Secondary provision available locally for pupils with BESD, the age range of the school was extended to the end of Key Stage 3. Key Stage 1 is currently located in a satellite unit at Sylvan First School and Key Stages 2 and 3 are accommodated on the Longspee School site. It is now proposed to extend the age range of the school to the end of Key Stage 4 and to locate the Secondary provision (Key Stages 3 and 4) on a separate site. The Primary provision (Key Stages 1 and 2) will be brought together on the Longspee School site. PCP investment will enable the facilities for Primary aged pupils to be improved and updated, particularly to address the issue of under-sized classrooms.

7.6 Talbot Combined School will become a Primary school and is ranked 4 in the scoring matrix largely due to significant condition, sufficiency, suitability issues and deprivation. Further work is required to confirm whether better value for money would be gained through replacement or refurbishment and remodeling. Knowledge of the building indicates that refurbishment and remodeling is more likely particularly due to the likely requirement for phasing of the work. It is considered a high priority and urgent although the work can be phased between 2009 and 2013.

7.7 Turlin Moor Community School will become a Primary school in 2013 and has sufficient capacity but is ranked 5 in the scoring matrix largely due to condition, suitability, standards and deprivation. Further work is required to confirm whether better value for money would be gained through replacement or refurbishment and remodeling. Knowledge of the

building indicates that refurbishment and remodeling is more likely particularly due to the likely requirement for phasing of the work. There is also a significant need to improve youth provision in the area. It is considered a high priority and urgent.

Note: Although there will be insufficient funding to rebuild or remodel every school, all other schools will benefit directly or indirectly through later stages of the PCP or other capital investment. It is also possible that smaller projects may be brought forward as all schools consider ways to achieve the vision for education.

8. INVESTMENT PLAN

- 8.1** As part of the Primary Strategy for Change, local authorities are required to complete and submit a spreadsheet setting out their overall investment plans and the priorities for investment during the first 4 years of the programme highlighting how these contribute to the long-term aims. Detailed information on the specific school projects to be delivered during the first 2 years of the programme is required.
- 8.2** As stated earlier funding allocations for the first 2 years of the Programme will be £3.0m in 2009/10 and £5.3m in 2010/11. DCSF have advised local authorities for planning purposes to assume that funding for future years of the Programme will be at the 2009-10 level, although they warn that actual allocations may be higher or lower and will be subject to future decisions on Government spending.
- 8.3** It is anticipated that 15 of the 28 Primary phase schools will benefit from PCP funding with the remaining 13 investing Devolved Formula Capital Funding to improve their facilities.
- 8.4** Desktop evaluations of all schools have been undertaken and masterplans have been developed for the 15 highest priority schools with a further 13 to be undertaken over the next year. The masterplans take into consideration the future plans for the school in terms of size, whether it will be an Infant, Junior or Primary school and proposals for extended schools and children's services provision. Existing buildings have been compared with the relevant DCSF design guidance to identify the extent of modernisation required.
- 8.5** One of the aims of the PCP is the rebuilding or taking out of use at least 5% of school buildings in the worst physical condition. For Poole this represents one school and Hillbourne School and Nursery has been identified as having the worst condition building. An options appraisal has concluded that the costs of extending/adapting the Middle School building would be close to the cost of building a new 2 form of entry Primary school.

The timing of the new build project would be co-ordinated with the change in the age of transfer as the specialist accommodation for Year 7 pupils would be required until 2013. It is proposed that a new building for Hillbourne School and Nursery should be a priority in the first two years (2009-2011) of the Programme.

- 8.6** As explained in paragraph 6.9 above, additional school places are needed in the Poole High School pyramid and it is proposed to add a form of entry to Lilliput CE VC First School from September 2009. It is proposed that the costs of extending and remodelling Lilliput CE VC First School should be a priority in the first two years (2009-2011) of the Programme.
- 8.7** Increase in capacity at Lilliput, however, will mean that increased capacity will be needed at Baden-Powell and St Peter's CE VC Middle School from September 2012. This will be brought forward for approval in due course for investment in the following 4 years (2013-2017) of the Programme.
- 8.8** It is proposed that the costs of the school organisation changes in the Rossmore Community College pyramid (Branksome Heath, Sylvan and Heatherlands schools), as described in paragraph 6.7 above, should be a priority in the second two years (2011-2013) of the Programme.
- 8.9** It is proposed that the costs of improving the facilities for Primary pupils at Longspee School should be a priority in the second two years (2011-2013) of the Programme.
- 8.10** As funding allocations for the second 2 years (2011-2013) of the Programme will not be confirmed until Autumn 2010, the projects set out in paragraphs 8.7 and 8.8 above will only commence when satisfactory funding has been confirmed.
- 8.11** Therefore, Members are asked only to approve the investment proposals for the first two years (2009-2011) of the Programme as set out in the table below.
- 8.12** However, at this stage Members are asked to note the projects proposed for the second two years (2011-2013) subject to satisfactory funding being available in Years 3, 4 and 5 (2012, 2013 and 2014) of the Programme.

First two years – 2009-2011	£m
<u>Confirmed income</u>	
Primary Capital Programme allocation 2009/10	3.0
Primary Capital Programme allocation 2010/11	5.3
LA formulaic 2009/10 and 2010/11	0.6
School Devolved Capital funding	0.2

Total	9.1
<u>Estimated project costs</u>	
Hillbourne School and Nursery	7.8
Lilliput CE VC First School	1.3
Total	9.1
Second two years – 2011-2013	
<u>Estimated income</u>	
Primary Capital Programme allocation 2011/12	3.0
Primary Capital Programme allocation 2012/13	3.0
LA formulaic 2011/12 and 2012/13	0.6
School Devolved Capital funding	0.4
Total	7.0
<u>Estimated project costs</u>	
Branksome Heath Middle School	2.7
Sylvan First School	1.2
Heatherlands First School	2.3
Longspee School	1.8
Total	8.1

Note: 25% contingency has been included in the estimated costs

8.13 There is a shortfall between the estimated income for the second two years (2011-2013) and the estimated project costs for the four projects. As there is not certainty of funding for the second two years at this stage, as this is dependent upon future funding allocations, it is possible that one or all of these projects will not be progressed if sufficient funding is not made available.

JOHN NASH
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR (CHILDREN'S SERVICES)

Contacts:

Stuart Twiss, Head of Children and Young People's Services – Strategy, Quality and Improvement.

Nicola Keynes, Senior Education Officer (Planning and Development).

Background reports:

Schools for the Future (January 2006)

Schools for the Future – Transforming Education in Poole (October/November 2007)

Schools for the Future – Transforming Education in Poole (Second Report) (December 2007)

Schools for the Future – Transforming Education in Poole (Third Report) (January 2008)

Schools for the Future – Transforming Education in Poole – Primary Capital Programme – Outcome of Phase 1 Consultation (March/April 2008)

APPENDIX A

PRIMARY CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PHASE 2 CONSULTATION MAY 2008 – SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

Response Data

Leaflets distributed – 21,000

Total responses – 66

Response rate – 0.3%

1) About You

My child or children currently attends a Poole school	53
I am a parent of (a) pre-school child(ren)	19
I am a governor of a Poole school	3
I am a staff member of a Poole school	16
I am a resident of Poole	47
Other	2

2) The Vision

	Yes	No
Do you agree with our aims for the future of education in Poole?	51	4

3) The School Organisation proposals

Proposal	Agree	Disagree	Summary of comments
Federate Canford Heath First and Middle Schools. Both schools to remain at 4 forms of entry (PAN 120)	24	2	None of the comments was related to the proposal.
Extend the age range of Heatherlands Infant School to become a 2 form of entry (PAN 60) Primary school from 2013.	30	2	<p>The majority of comments were in support of the proposals.</p> <p>There was some concern about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the reduction from 3 forms of entry to 2 forms of entry how the catchment area would be changed to effect this.
Increase the PAN of Sylvan Infant School from 90 (3 FE) to 120 (4 FE) from 2013.	21	6	<p>There was some concern about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the proposed increase in PAN, given that the school currently has surplus places how the catchment area would be changed to effect this.
Reduce the PAN of Branksome Heath Junior School from 150 (5 FE) to	28	1	There was support for this proposal as the school has been asked to reduce its

120 (4 FE) from 2013.			Admission Number for some time.
Amalgamate Hamworthy Infant and Junior Schools to create a 3 FE (PAN 90) Primary school.	19	2	There was support for this proposal.
Increase the PAN of Lilliput CE VC First School from 60 (2 FE) to 90 (3 FE) from September 2009.	27	3	Approximately half the comments were in support of the proposal and half were against it. There was some concern that the school might be too big.
Increase the PAN of Baden-Powell and St Peter's CE VC Middle School from 150 (5 FE) to 180 (6 FE) from September 2012.	24	7	There was support for the proposal but many of the comments raised concerns over the size of the school and that it was very large for Primary aged children.
Increase the PAN of Oakdale South Road Middle School from 140 (4 FE) to 150 (5 FE) from September 2012.	20	3	There was a query whether this change was really needed.

4) Initial Investment Priorities

School	Summary of comments

Branksome Heath Middle School	<p>The comments supported this school as a priority for investment.</p> <p>There was concern about sufficiency of external play spaces.</p>
Canford Heath Middle School	The comments supported this school as an investment priority.
Hillbourne School and Nursery	All the comments strongly supported the need for a replacement building.
Longspee School	The comments supported this school as an investment priority.
Talbot Combined School	The comments supported this school as an investment priority.
Turlin Moor Community School	No comments were received.
Further comments	<p>There was concern that no Primary phase schools in the Corfe Hills pyramid will benefit from the Primary Capital Programme.</p> <p>There was concern that Courthill First School was not one of the initial priorities for investment.</p>

The consultation documents and the responses received during both phases of consultation can be found on www.boroughofpoole.com.