

16 July 2018**Agenda Item: 7****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, PLACE AND COMMUNITIES****REPLACEMENT OF THE ORCHARD SPECIAL SCHOOL AND NEWARK
DAY CENTRE UPDATE REPORT****Purpose of the Report**

1. To update committee on progress of the programme for the replacement of the existing Orchard Special School and Newark Day Centre on the existing site, and the temporary relocation of the Day Centre to Woods Court.

Information

2. In line with the Council Plan for 2017-21, "Your Nottinghamshire, Your Future", and the associated Place Plan for Nottinghamshire, the Council has a clear commitment to replacing the existing Orchard Special School in Newark with new school premises.
3. The existing Orchard site is adjacent to the former Grove Leisure Centre which has recently been demolished, the Newark Day Centre, the former Newark Pupil Referral Unit (PRU), and a small landscape depot, all of which are owned and controlled by the County Council.
4. The report to Policy Committee in March 18 outlined the proposal for the site and enabling works required. This report seeks to update on the various aspects of the programme.

Replacement Special School

5. The design process is well under way. Six Client Engagement Meetings (CEM) have been scheduled and are progressing well, The Schedule of Accommodation and adjacencies has been agreed at client officer level. The general arrangement plans are progressing well. The contractor, Wilmott Dixon, is now actively engaged in the meetings to ensure buildability.

Replacement Day Centre

6. Six CEM Meetings have also been scheduled for the design of the day centre, an initial general arrangement plan has been tabled and through the course of the remaining CEM meetings the design will be refined and the details agreed.

Temporary Day Centre at Wood Court

7. The relocation of the Day Service into Woods Court is critical to the delivery of the replacement school and necessary to ensure service continuity for the centre users. Woods Court became vacant in May 2018.
8. The project is in detailed design stage and the design team are working pro-actively with the Council's service departments and the framework contractor to explore and design contractor solutions which can both reduce cost and programme without impacting on service delivery. So far this exercise has driven the cost down by £200K to circa £780K with further savings expected to be found.

Masterplan Potential Residential Development

9. Aiming to maximise the Capital receipts for any asset disposal, master planning is underway to explore potential residential development options for the former Grove PRU site and the Orchard School town site. This will also consider options regarding planning applications for the overall site.

Anticipated Programme timeline

10. Key Milestones, Programme delivery
 - Day service to relocate to Woods Court - April 2019
 - Start on site replacement School – April 2019
 - Start on site day service – July 2019
 - New school opens – April 2020
 - New day service opens – July 2020

Funding Update

11. The ESFA has allocated £125k grant for Project Delivery for the replacement school in addition to its £1.03m funding contribution to the project.
12. A further report will be brought to Finance and Major Contracts Committee in September 2018 setting out the Latest Estimated Cost (LEC) for approval ahead of moving to the construction phase of the programme.

Other Options Considered

13. Consideration has been given to a range of options for the site. However the solution agreed offers the best long term option for service users in the Newark area, and will see both existing facilities replaced with outstanding replacement premises.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

14. Replacement of the Orchard school is a key aspiration of the County Council, and the best option for delivering that aspiration includes the associated replacement of the Newark Day Centre. The resultant new premises will deliver outstanding service provision for vulnerable children and adults for many years to come.

Statutory and Policy Implications

15. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

It is recommended that:

- 1) That members consider whether there are any actions they require in relation to the issues contained in the report and agrees for a LEC report to be brought to Finance and Major Contracts Committee in September 2018 for consideration ahead of moving to the construction phase of the programme.

Derek Higton

Service Director, Place and Communities

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Phil Berrill, Team Manager, Departmental Services, Tel: 0115 9774641

Constitutional Comments [CEH 26/06/2018]

16. The recommendation falls within the remit of the Finance and Major Contracts Management Committee under its terms of reference.

Financial Comments [GB 27/06/2018]

17. The financial implications are set out in the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

- Replacement of the Orchard Special School and Newark Day Centre – Report to Policy Committee 28-03-2018 - Published

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

Ward(s): Newark East
County Councillor Stuart Wallace