

Report to Children and Young People's Committee

10 September 2012

Agenda Item: 8

JOINT REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, TRANSPORT, PROPERTY AND ENVIRONMENT, AND THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND CULTURAL SERVICES

SCHOOLS CAPITAL REFURBISHMENT PROGRAMME

Purpose of the Report

1. To report on progress against the School Capital Refurbishment Programme.

Information and Advice

- 2. Members are aware that County Council on 19 May 2011 approved a School Capital Strategy 2011/12 to 2013/14. This Strategy includes a School Capital Refurbishment Programme (SCRP) which is aimed at improving the quality of school buildings across the County by undertaking a programme of essential repairs.
- 3. The Secretary of State for Education announced the cancellation of the Building Schools for the Future Programme in July 2010. This was followed by the James Review, commissioned by the Secretary of State for Education in order to transform the system of capital funding for education.
- 4. Subsequent to the approval of the SCRP, the County Council made a successful bid through the Priority Schools Building Programme (PSBP) in October 2011. The results of this bid were announced in May 2012. Many of the schools included in this bid also feature in the SCRP.
- 5. Since the SCRP was approved, a number of schools have converted to Academies, and 15 Nottinghamshire schools have been successful in securing funding through the PSBP bid. The implications of these changes on this programme are to be reported as a part of the overall education capital programme to Policy Committee in autumn 2012.
- 6. Nottinghamshire County Council has a historical backlog of essential and urgent repairs in its building estate. This is estimated to be in the order of £200 million and about 90% of it relates to school buildings. Therefore the SCRP, with a total investment amounting to £66 million, is mainly focussed on addressing the most immediate issues relating to the fabric and condition of school buildings.
- 7. The scope of the works included in the Programme is based on condition survey information, and it includes major re-roofing, re-elevations, electrical/mechanical works, as well as heating and lighting systems.

Schools Capital Refurbishment Programme: Progress

- 8. Following the approval of the programme in May 2011, it was necessary to undertake surveys to identify asbestos risks and agree project briefs with individual schools. In addition, given the complicated nature of the Programme, it was necessary to prepare pre-construction Construction Design & Management (CDM) Regulations and asbestos information. In addition a review of the condition survey was necessitated before works could commence on site. This, coupled with the need to defer some of the projects included in the PSBP bid, meant there was a limited opportunity to commence works on site during the summer recess in 2011.
- 9. It should be noted that there are 21 projects in Phase 1, 11 of which have already been completed. The remainder are scheduled for completion later in the year. The total spend on this phase is approximately £12 million. The list of the schools covered in this phase is attached as **Appendix 1**.
- 10. During the course of 2012/13, there are 78 projects are planned for completion in Phase 2 of the Programme. This phase is split into 3 tranches and the programme delivery plan is attached as **Appendix 2**.
- 11. The expected outturn in respect of the above Programme is in the order of £33 million. It should, however, be noted that some of the projects (for example Tuxford and St. Swithun's C of E) require planning permission and therefore the delivery is dependent on the necessary approvals being obtained within the statutory period, but this is ultimately outside the control of the project delivery teams.
- 12. Phase 3 of the programme will address the remaining stock of County Council maintained schools. It is estimated that there are currently approximately 200 schools in this category with an average value of £100,000 per project compared to nearly over £400,000 in phases 1 and 2. This is due to the less complicated nature of the refurbishment works involved in this phase.
- 13. It should be noted that when the Programme was approved it was based on condition survey reports available at the time. Bearing in mind that the surveys are periodic and the actual cost of the works involved can only be accurately determined once preconstruction surveys have been undertaken and projects designed, the outturn costs of the Programme are coming higher than original estimates. The implications of the cost increases in the Programme are currently being assessed and will be included in the monitoring reports to the Committee in due course.

Priority Schools Building Programme

- 14. The successful schools were selected from a bid Nottinghamshire County Council submitted to the Government last autumn which included 37 primary and 11 secondary schools where the outstanding repair costs amount to more than 30 per cent of what would be needed to actually rebuild the schools.
- 15. Members are already aware that 15 schools in Nottinghamshire will be rebuilt or refurbished under the Government's £2 billion scheme as a part of the PSBP to replace those schools across the country in the worst state of repair.

- 16. It is appropriate to point out that Nottinghamshire was more successful in this bid than any other local authority in the country. Nationally, a total of 261 schools will benefit under this programme.
- 17. Of those 15 successful schools in Nottinghamshire, 12 are included in the SCRP, namely:

Annie Holgate Infant
Annie Holgate Junior
Carsic Primary
Ethel Wainwright Primary
Fountaindale
Leamington Primary & Nursery
Rosebrook Primary
The Grove School
Abbey Primary
John Davies Primary
Lynncroft Primary
Sunnyside Primary

18. In recognition of the fact that these schools have been successful in their PSBP bid, the scope of projects has been limited to works necessary to maintain the health and safety of occupants and ensure the delivery of service for the intervening period until the replacement schools are built. It should be noted that these revised scope of works have been agreed with the schools affected, and will be undertaken during 2012/13.

Statutory and Policy Implications

19. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service 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

1) That the report be noted.

Jas Hundal Service Director Transport, Property and Environment John True Service Director Children, Families and Cultural Services

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments

20. As this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required.

Financial Comments (PM 09/08/12)

21. This report is for noting only, there are no direct financial implications arising.

Background Papers

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C0061

Schools Capital Refurbishment Programme – Phase 1

Schools Completed in 2011/12

Brinsley Primary & Nursery

Ashlea

Croft Primary
Forest View Junior
Hawthorne Primary & Nursery
Hawtonville Junior
Holy Cross Catholic Primary
Kneesall C of E Primary
Normanton-on-Soar Primary
Newlands Junior
St. Peter's (East Bridgford) C of E Primary
To be completed during 2012/13
Alderman White
Ethel Wainwright
Grove
Holly Hill
Leamington
Magnus
Meden
Orchard
Rosebrook
Sutton cum Lound