Proposed Decision to be taken by the Portfolio Holder for Children and Schools on or after 26 July 2013

Clifton-upon-Dunsmore CE Primary School

Recommendation

The Portfolio Holder for Children and Schools approves a £190,000 increase in the allocation for the investment in Clifton upon Dunsmore CE Primary School in 2013/14, to be met from the funding set aside for the replacement of temporary classrooms.

1.0 Key Issues

- 1.1 At its meeting of 24 May 2012, Cabinet agreed a proposal to replace temporary classroom accommodation at Clifton-upon-Dunsmore CE primary School.
- 1.2 At that meeting, Cabinet also approved an allocation of £1,500,000 for a programme of temporary classroom replacements which would be the subject of future reports.
- 1.3 The school has 210 pupils and accommodates three year groups (90 pupils) and a pre-school group in temporary buildings. The school occupies a very small site with no on-site playing fields and limited playground space, a part of which is taken up by the existing temporary buildings. The report of May 2012 proposed to replace the three classrooms with permanent buildings at an estimated cost of £950,000.
- 1.4 A scheme was prepared by the Diocesan Authority's Architects to extend the main school building and remove the temporary classrooms. The school is located in a Conservation Area and the design of the new accommodation was required to complement the existing in style and construction.
- 1.5 A contractor was engaged through Warwickshire's preferred SCAPE / EMPA Framework arrangements and a tender submitted which, together with professional fees and disbursements, totalled £1,280,000.
- 1.6 The tender has been interrogated and savings of £140,000 identified; the revised proposal will cost £1,140,000.
- 1.7 The major increases in cost are due to:
 - i. Incorporating the pre-school into the main building.

The constraints of the existing site together with the locations of the existing temporary buildings reduced the number of options available for the site of the new extension. The retention of the existing preschool further reduced the options available as well as occupying a much needed area of playground.

A two storey option was considered which would remove all temporary accommodation (including the pre-school) and would minimise the footprint required to build on. This option was the least disruptive to pupils who would be able to remain in their existing accommodation for the duration of the works and would, on completion provide the maximum amount of playground. The pre-school has been accommodated by alterations to the existing building – all new accommodation will be occupied by the school.

Alternative locations for the extension were considered but did not produce a rational scheme and impacted adversely on the availability of hard play areas.

ii. Additional phasing arrangements have been put in place to: limit the disruption to teaching and learning and ensure, as far as possible, no loss of amenity to the school during the construction phase; safeguard the Health and Safety of pupils, staff and other users; and to ensure that the year-round pre-school provision can be maintained.

2.0 Proposal

2.1 It is proposed to increase the allocation for this project from £950,000 to £1,140,000. The increase of £190,000 to be met from previously approved resources of £1,500,000 for temporary classroom replacement approved by Cabinet at its meeting of 24 May 2012.

3.0 Finance

3.1 Cabinet 24 May 2012 refers

Proposed funding:

Clifton upon Dunsmore CE Primary School	£950,000	Cabinet 24 / 5 / 12 item 2.16
Temporary classroom replacement programme	£190,000	Cabinet 24 / 5/ 12 item 2.17
Total proposed revised allocation	£1,140,000	

3.2 The increase in costs can be met from previously approved allocations within the Learning and Achievement (Schools) Capital Programme.

4.0 Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

4.1 It is proposed that the works will start on 30 September and complete in July 2014.

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