

## **Schools Forum**

**October 17th 2014**

### **Schools Capital Update**

This report relates to both maintained and academy schools

Information only report

#### **Recommendation**

The Schools Forum is recommended to:

1.0 Note key schools related capital projects for 2014/15 as detailed in the report.

#### **1.0 Introduction**

1.1 This report provides an update on the position last reported to the Schools Forum in March. This is provided for information purposes only.

#### **2.0 Priority Schools Building Programme (PSBP)**

2.1 The project at Queen Elizabeth School, Atherstone, is being managed by the EFA as part of a group of 8 school builds in the Midlands. Three bidders have been shortlisted to tender for the overall project; final bids are to be submitted by 10<sup>th</sup> October.

#### **3.0 Targeted Basic Need Programme**

3.1 Projects at the mainstream schools are mainly still at the planning / detailed design stage. Lapworth Primary School received planning permission last week so building works should commence in January and a contract for building works has now been entered into for Brooke Special School.

3.2 Officers are still in conversation with the EFA to decide how to utilise the funding originally allocated to projects at Milverton & St Michaels.

3.3 The project to build a new AEN school has now submitted a planning application for a new school on the playing field site opposite the Manor Park site. The target completion date is September 2015.

#### **4.0 Other school expansions**

4.1 During the summer, classroom extension works at Kingsway Primary and Quinton Primary were completed

#### **5.0 Universal Infant Free School Meals**

5.1 The Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme went live in all schools from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014. Officers worked with schools to identify the equipment and building works required to enable the schools to deliver the scheme.

5.2 94% of all building works were completed during the summer break, the remaining 6% will be completed during the half term break in October. Most equipment has been delivered and where items remain outstanding contingency plans are in place to ensure all pupils have access to a meal.

5.3 Officers are making sure schools are reimbursed with the agreed contributions where the school purchased the items directly.

#### **6.0 Future capital allocations**

6.2 Included in the DfE announcement of 2014/15 allocations was Basic Need allocations for 2015/16 and 2016/17. Warwickshire was one of only nine authorities in the country to receive no allocation for these future years. Local Authority officers contacted the DfE to express concern over this lack of funding but there has been no response as yet from the DfE.

#### **7.0 General Capital Position**

7.1 The overall capital position for schools is reported within the Organisational Health report. The latest report (2014/15 Quarter 1) went to Cabinet on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2014, item 5 background papers (Learning & Achievement is appendix F):

<https://democratic.warwickshire.gov.uk/cm5/CalendarofMeetings/tabid/128/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/645/Meeting/2967/Committee/468/Default.aspx>

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