

Portfolio Holder Decision

Addition of scheme at Bawnmore Cygnets Pre-School to the Education Capital Programme 2023/24

Portfolio Holder	Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property
Date of decision	4 September 2023
	Signed

1. Decision taken

1.1 The Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property approves the addition of the scheme for improvements at Cygnets Pre-School to the Education Capital Programme at an estimated cost of £36,000 to be funded from section 106 receipts.

2. Reasons for decisions

- 2.1 The Portfolio Holder has delegated authority to add schemes to the Capital Programme where the value is less than £2,000,000 and the scheme is fully funded from external grants, developer contributions or revenue. Funding from developer contributions can only be used for a limited range of purposes specified in the relevant agreement. The Infrastructure Planning Lead has confirmed that the use of the funding for these purposes is in accordance with the terms of the relevant section 106 obligations.
- 2.2 Rugby continues to experience a large amount of housing development increasing the demand for early years places in the local area. As a result, WCC Education and Early Years Sufficiency continue to support early years providers, where they can, to increase the number of places available to meet local demand.

3. Background information

- 3.1 Cygnets Pre-School is located on the site of Bawnmore Infant School and run by the Governing Body of the school.
- 3.2 The pre-school wants to extend the current pre-school provision by an additional 16 places by refurbishing an adjoining space and remodelling an existing toilet area to

provide two child toilet cubicles. The capital project also involves additional access and security works to the provision.

3.3 The estimated cost of the works including fees and contingency is £36,000. It is proposed to fund the capital project using developer funding from an agreement which makes specific reference to expansion of early years provision.

4. Financial implications

4.1 £36,000 will be used from available section 106 funds for the purposes of expanding early years. The Council is satisfied that the funding identified can be compliantly used for this purpose.

5. Environmental implications

5.1 Environmental implications are anticipated to be minimal with the project reconfiguring and improving existing space rather than increasing the footprint of the building.

5.2 Any works will need to meet Building Regulations which were substantially amended in June 22. The changes to regulations have significantly strengthened sustainable construction methods and whilst not solely changed for environmental purpose, they ensure that future construction recognises environmental challenges.

5.3 The creation of the additional places in the local area aims to reduce travel distance and time for families.

5.4 Improving existing facilities preserves the facilities for future growth of usage and expansion of school numbers.

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Director	Johnny Kyriacou, Director of Education
Executive Director	Nigel Minns, Executive Director for People
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Peter Butlin, Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property

Urgent matter?	No
Confidential or exempt?	No
Is the decision contrary to the budget and policy framework?	No

List of background papers

None

Members and officers consulted and informed

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Peter Butlin

Corporate Board – Nigel Minns

Legal – Guy Darvill

Finance – Brian Smith

Equality – Delroy Madden

Democratic Services – Isabelle Moorhouse

Councillors – Warwick, Birdi, Boad, Philipps and W. Roberts

Local Member(s): Kam Kaur