

Portfolio Holder Decision

Addition to the Education Capital Programme

Portfolio Holder	Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property
Date of decision	18 March 2024
	Signed

1. Decision taken

That the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property (Deputy Leader)

- 1.1 approves the addition to the Capital Programme of the scheme to create additional space in Year 2 and Year 4 at Weddington Primary School at an estimated cost of £0.026 million (£26,000) to be funded from S106 receipts; and
- 1.2 approves the addition to the Capital Programme of the scheme to improve ICT infrastructure at Aylesford School at an estimated cost of £0.320 million (£320,000) to be funded from S106 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 from revenue. Funding from developer contributions can only be used for a limited range of purposes specified in the relevant agreement. The Infrastructure Team has confirmed the availability and use of the funding.

3. Background information

Weddington Primary School

- 3.1 Current pupil numbers suggest a shortfall of places is expected by the end of 2024/25 academic year in the Nuneaton Northeast planning area. Whilst there is a shortfall across a number of year groups, there is capacity in neighbouring planning areas to meet this localised pressure in places. The sufficiency team have identified that Year 2 and Year 4 in September 2024 are tight in available places across the rest of Nuneaton and therefore, further places in these year groups are needed to ensure sufficiency of places across the area.

3.2 In order to be able to accommodate the additional forms in years 2 and 4 from September 2024, the school will require furniture, ICT equipment and some refurbishment to make the spaces suitable for teaching. The school will also require some additional dining furniture.

3.3 The total cost of refurbishment, ICT and Furniture is 0.026 million (£26,000) and it is proposed to fund this from developer contributions from development in the area.

Aylesford School

3.4 The funds requested will enable the school to add new facilities and make further significant improvements to their ICT across all phases of the school.

3.5 The scope of work includes the following:

- Improvements to the teaching wall layout and provision in all classrooms
- Provision of touch screen display technology in all rooms to replace all projectors
- Switch infrastructure to support 10GB fibre installation to both open and closed buildings
- New whole school Aruba WIFI system that supports high bandwidth transmission and extension to primary school.
- Simplification of existing CABs and infrastructure to support more efficient operation and maintenance in closed building
- Additional AV improvements to main hall
- New core servers with associated software.

3.6 The school would like this work to be carried out in tandem with existing remedial works between February – June 2024.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 The capital works outlined in section 3 are estimated to cost £0.346 million (£346,000) and will be funded solely from developer contributions.

4.2 The specific obligation associated with the developer contributions to be utilised at Aylesford School limit use to that school only and therefore cannot be utilised towards meeting place pressures in any other area of the county or for works at any other school.

4.3 The obligation associated with the developer contributions to be utilised at Weddington Primary School does not limit use to this school but the funds have been obtained from a development local to the school.

5. Environmental Implications

- 5.1 The changes to Building Regulations in June 2022 have significantly strengthened sustainable construction methods and whilst not solely changed for environmental purpose, they ensure that future construction recognises environmental challenges.
- 5.2 The associated capital works are anticipated to be minimal with the additional accommodation requirements involving small scale internal alterations and refurbishment.
- 5.3 It is anticipated that there will be a positive impact on air quality and carbon emissions with the introduction of additional places at Weddington Primary School as this will provide more local education provision reducing travel distance and journey times for the learner.

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Portfolio Holder	Cllr Peter Butlin - Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property peterbutlin@warwickshire.gov.uk

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 – Amy Bridgewater-Carnall

Councillors – Chair & Spokes of Resources OSC & Chair & Spokes of CYP OSC

Local Member(s): Councillor Robert Tromans (Weddington) & Councillor John Holland (Warwick West)