
Performance and Finance Scrutiny Committee

8 March 2024

Additional budget allocation for delivery of the new Secondary School at Brookleigh, Burgess Hill

Report by Director of Law and Assurance

Summary

In July 2022, the then Cabinet Member for Learning & Skills approved funding for the delivery of a new Secondary School at Brookleigh (formerly known as Northern Arc) in Burgess Hill, to provide 900 pupil places to the Burgess Hill area and include a Special Support Centre ([LS04\(22/23\)](#) refers).

Since then, inflationary and other pressures have increased the total estimated cost of the project and additional funds are now required for it to be completed. Approval will therefore be sought for an additional budget allocation to enable the delivery of the Bedelands Academy Secondary School project.

The decision will be taken by the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, Learning and Skills in March 2024.

Focus for scrutiny

The Committee is asked to scrutinise the additional budget allocation prior to decision by the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, Learning and Skills (as set out in the report attached at Appendix 1). Key areas for scrutiny include:

- (1) That the project's total cost and budget uplift is realistic, represents good value and can be managed as planned in the decision report
- (2) That proposals for s106, Homes England and other sources to contribute to the funding of the project are appropriate.
- (3) That sufficient resources are available to monitor and manage the procurement and contract and support the development's implementation
- (4) To consider the risks and seek assurance of the effectiveness of actions planned to manage these, to include any for monitoring by the Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Committee
- (5) That the local members have been consulted and informed of proposals

The Chairman will summarise the output of the debate for consideration by the Committee.

Details

The background and context to this item for scrutiny are set out in the attached report (listed below), including resource and risk implications, Equality, Human Rights, Social Value, Sustainability and Crime and Disorder Reduction Assessments.

As this decision relates to future education provision, members of the Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Committee (CYPSSC) have been invited to comment on the proposal. The CYPSSC Chairman will be invited to report any feedback received at the Performance and Finance Scrutiny Committee meeting.

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Appendices

Appendix 1 - Draft Decision Report – Additional budget allocation for delivery of the new Secondary School at Brookleigh, Burgess Hill

Background papers

None