

Cabinet Member for Education and Skills (and Deputy Leader)	Ref No: ES11 (18/19)
October 2018	Key Decision: Yes
Expansion of Crawley Down Village C of E School	Part I
Report by Executive Director Economy, Infrastructure and Environment and Executive Director Children, Adults, Families, Health and Education	Electoral Division: Imberdown
<p>Summary</p> <p>The County Council has a statutory duty to provide sufficient school places for all children who need a place. This report seeks approval for the allocation of capital funding from the Basic Need Capital Programme to undertake an expansion project at Crawley Down Village C of E School that will provide 105 additional school places for primary aged pupils from September 2019, to meet the demand of growing pupil numbers in the Crawley Down and East Grinstead locality.</p>	
<p>West Sussex Plan: Policy Impact and Context</p> <p>This proposal is in accordance with the Best Start In Life priority within the West Sussex Plan. It will ensure access to education meeting the needs of the community.</p>	
<p>Financial Impact</p> <p>This proposal will reduce the amount of unallocated Basic Need funding as shown in the table in paragraph 4.2. Extra pupils and building space will create higher revenue costs; however these will be funded by additional per pupil funding from the Government as the places created fill up.</p>	
<p>Recommendations</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Education and Skills is asked to:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Approve the allocation of £3.05m from the Basic Need Capital Programme to complete the design services and to fund the expansion works and the completion of a procurement process for the delivery of works as detailed in paragraphs 2.2 and 4.3. (2) Delegate authority to award the contract for carrying out the works detailed in the report to the Executive Director Economy, Infrastructure and Environment. 	

PROPOSAL

1. Background and Context

- 1.1 The County Council has a statutory duty to provide sufficient primary and secondary school places for all children who need a place. In its strategic role

as commissioner of school places, the County Council must respond to changes in demand over time by increasing or removing capacity. It discharges this duty in partnership with Diocesan authorities and other providers. In deciding the need for places it considers the capacities of existing schools and the forecast number on roll within a locality (family group of schools).

- 1.2 School places need to be available to pupils for the start of each school year, with projects planned and delivered, wherever practicable, by the summer in the relevant year. The Basic Need requirements are reviewed annually to identify the next tranches of projects and to ensure planned projects are still required following reviews of the projection data of pupil numbers.
- 1.3 In March 2016, following a positive public consultation, the Governing Body approved an expansion of Crawley Down Village C of E School to increase its admission number from 45 pupils in each year group to 60 pupils in each year group with effect from September 2019.
- 1.4 This report sets out the identified need for additional places at Crawley Down Village C of E School to accommodate the rise in pupil numbers in the East Grinstead and surrounding area and to ensure effective organisation of the school.
- 1.5 The project to provide additional places at Crawley Down Village C of E School has been procured utilising a two stage design and build approach with Stage One comprising the design fees and Stage Two being the works, furniture and equipment, fees and information and communications technology (ICT) installation.

2. Proposal Details

- 2.1 The proposal is to expand Crawley Down Village C of E School. The expansion will enable the school to increase its admission number in September 2019 from 45 to 60 pupil places and provide the appropriate teaching accommodation.
- 2.2 To meet the needs of the increased number of pupils, the school requires:
 - 3 classrooms
 - New hall
 - Changing rooms
 - Stores and WCs
 - Larger kitchen
 - Special Educational Needs office
- 2.3 The proposed expansion will ensure that the County Council meets its statutory duty to provide sufficient primary school places in the locality and meets its statutory responsibility with regard to the provision of school places in safe and properly maintained buildings.

FACTORS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT

3. Consultation

- 3.1 The project has been designed and agreed in full consultation and agreement with the school.
- 3.2 The project has received planning approval.
- 3.3 The details of the proposal have been shared with the local Member representing Crawley Down.
- 3.4 The Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources has been consulted on this proposal.

4. Financial (revenue and capital) and Resource Implications

- 4.1 The Capital Programme, approved by the County Council at its meeting on 15 December 2017, included a gross sum of £27.863m for new Basic Need projects in 2018/19.
- 4.2 The table below shows the Basic Need funding available going forward. Please note there are assumed Basic Need settlements totalling £33m included in the table below covering the years 2020/21 to 2022/23.

	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21-2022/23	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Basic Need Grant per Capital Programme	27.863	25.701	51.825	105.389
Previously committed (as of August 2018)	-8.200	-13.090		-21.290
Crawley Down	-1.361	-1.689		-3.05
Nyewood		-0.183		-0.183
St Mary's, Bognor	-1.141	-1.233		-2.374
Uncommitted	17.161	9.506	51.825	78.492

- 4.3 A contractor for Stage One, production of the costed design, was procured via a competitive tender. The anticipated cost of Stage One was £50,000 and has already been funded from the monies the Cabinet Member approved for allocation to School Basic Need design fees (Decision reference ES06 (17/18)). The balance required to fund the completed design is £151,960. Competitive prices have now been sought from the main contractor for all of the packages of work required for this project. The County Council's Employer's Agent and Cost Manager have advised that a budget in the sum of £2.5m will be sufficient for the building works. Professional advice is to be sought on the design before works commence on site and a Clerk of Works appointed so as to protect the Authority's interests. A gross budget for ICT

and loose furniture and equipment and fees is required in the sum of £398,040.

- 4.4 The gross budget requirement to complete the remainder of the project for Stage Two is therefore £3.05m.

5. Risk Assessment Implications and Mitigations

- 5.1 The County Council is under a statutory duty to secure safe and sufficient education provision within the area. This project will ensure that the County Council meets its statutory duty to provide sufficient primary school places in the locality and meets its statutory responsibility with regard to the provision of school places in safe and properly maintained buildings.

6. Other Options Considered

- 6.1 One alternative is not to undertake the project. This would mean that the County Council cannot meet its statutory requirement to provide sufficient primary school places in the area.

7. Equality and Human Rights Assessment

- 7.1 The proposal has been assessed against the criteria in respect of the Equality Act 2010 and, as it would not impact on any specific pupils or identifiable groups, this section is not applicable for this decision.
- 7.2 Everyone has the right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence under Article 8 of the Human Rights Act. The impact of any proposed changes on the right to family life will be taken into consideration. Article 2 of the First Protocol is the right to education. No person shall be denied the right to education. The proposals therefore support this right as school places will be available in the Crawley Down area for all children of primary school age.

8. Social Value and Sustainability Assessment

- 8.1 Not applicable.

9. Crime and Disorder Reduction Assessment

- 9.1 None.

Contact: Leigh Hunnikin, Project Manager – 0330 2223051

Background papers

None