

CABINET MEETING – 20 JUNE 2012

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I

Title of Report:
SCHOOLS CAPITAL WORKS PROCUREMENT

Author(s):
Executive Director of Children's Services

Purpose of Report:
This report seeks approval to procure and appoint a contractor(s) to undertake major capital works at Monkwearmouth School and Highfield Primary School

Description of Decision:
Cabinet is asked to approve permission to:

- procure capital works in excess of £250,000.00 and to appoint a contractor for the window replacement scheme at Monkwearmouth School
- procure capital works in excess of £250,000.00 and to appoint a contractor to construct an extension at Highfield Primary School

Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework? *Yes/No

If not, Council approval is required to change the Budget/Policy Framework

Suggested reason(s) for Decision:

- To enable priority building improvement works to take place at Monkwearmouth School
- To increase the teaching accommodation at Highfield Primary School to provide new pupil places

Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected:

The alternative option would be not to agree to the procurement process which would result in these priority projects being delayed and the possible loss of associated funding.

Impacts analysed:

Equality

N/A

Privacy

N/A

Sustainability

Crime and Disorder

N/A

<p>Is this a “Key Decision” as defined in the Constitution?</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Is it included in the Forward Plan?</p> <p>Yes</p>	<p>Scrutiny Committee:</p> <p>Scrutiny Lead Member for Children’s Services</p>
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REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

SCHOOLS CAPITAL WORKS PROCUREMENT

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This report seeks approval to procure and appoint a contractor(s) to undertake major capital works at Monkwearmouth School and Highfield Primary School.

2. DESCRIPTION OF DECISION

- 2.1 Cabinet is asked to approve permission to:
- procure capital works with a value in excess of £250,000.00 and to appoint a contractor to undertake the window replacement scheme at Monkwearmouth School
 - procure capital works with a value in excess of £250,000.00 and to appoint a contractor to construct an extension at Highfield Primary School.

3. BACKGROUND

Monkwearmouth School Project

- 3.1 Monkwearmouth School is a secondary school which provides education to over 1100 pupils. Its existing buildings date from 1960 and despite capital investment to some areas of the school some blocks retain many of the original features.
- 3.2 Recent building surveys have identified that a programme of window replacements is a priority as a result of their condition. Of highest priority are those to the main four storey teaching block and are estimated to cost £370,000.00 to renew.

Highfield Primary School Project

- 3.3 A report to Cabinet in April 2012 highlighted pressure on school places in the Washington and South areas of the City. Members agreed that the Published Admission Numbers (PANs) at Highfield Primary School, Biddick Primary School and George Washington Primary School be increased from 45 to 60, 30 to 50 and 60 to 70 respectively, to meet the pressure on places in those areas. The increase in PAN at Highfield was to deal with a trend of oversubscription and successful appeals as well as planning for a proposed housing development in the immediate vicinity of the school, which will result in additional demand for places. The places at Biddick and George Washington are to meet an increased demand for places in Washington, due to the increase in the

birth rate. The estimated cost of the works at Biddick and George Washington Primary Schools is below £250,000 for each project and so is reported as part of the general Capital Reporting arrangements.

- 3.4 To facilitate the increase in pupil numbers at Highfield Primary School it is proposed that the existing school building be extended to provide two additional class bases, which will increase the capacity of the school from 315 pupils to 420 pupils. The estimated cost of the proposed works is £300,000. Funding for all three projects will be from the Local Authority's Basic Need allocation of funding, which is to available to ensure sufficiency of school places.

4. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- 4.1 At Monkwearmouth School the works will comprise the removal of the dilapidated, painted and single glazed steel frames. These will be replaced with double glazed, powder coated aluminium window frames with decorative insulation panels. Resulting benefits will be a low maintenance solution giving significantly improved sound and thermal insulation qualities.
- 4.2 At Highfield Primary School the proposed new extension will comprise two new class bases for pupils in key stage 1. The class base to accommodate the reception age pupils will also have a direct link to the existing early year's area so as to maintain a seamless learning environment. Each base will be equipped with modern IT and internet provision, with separate practical areas and toilet facilities.

5. PROJECT DETAILS

- 5.1 Both projects are programmed to begin in July 2012, subject to Cabinet approval.

6. REASONS FOR DECISION

- 6.1 To enable priority building improvement works to take pace at Monkwearmouth School.
- 6.2 To increase the teaching accommodation at Highfield Primary School to provide new pupil places.

7. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- 7.1 The alternative option would be not to agree to the procurement process which would result in these priority projects being delayed and the possible loss of associated funding.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The capital costs associated with the replacement of windows at Monkwearmouth School are to be funded from Children's Services 2012/13 Capital Maintenance Funding.

- 8.2 The capital costs for all works at Highfield Primary School are to be funded from Children's Services 2012/13 Basic Need allocation.

9 RELEVANT CONSULTATIONS

- 9.1 All partners have been consulted including Monkwearmouth School, Highfield Primary School, Children's Services, City Services, and local ward members.

10. IMPACT ANALYSIS

- 10.1 **Sustainability:** All works at Monkwearmouth School and Highfield Primary have been designed and specified using modern sustainable materials. The introduction of new double glazed units, passive lighting control and high levels of insulation will reduce energy use in those buildings effected. Life cycle maintenance costs will be reduced by the introduction of powder coated aluminium window frames removing requirement for redecoration.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 Cabinet report 14th March 2012

