



Walsall Children's Services

Report to Governing Bodies – Spring Term 2009

Agenda Item No.

Subject Matter: Building Schools for the Future & Primary Capital Programme –
Walsall's Future Learning Campus

Contact: Karen Adderley
Children's Services – Universal Services

Telephone: 01922 655813

E-Mail: adderleyk@walsall.gov.uk Date: 18 November 2008

Recommendation(s)

The Governing Body is requested:-

- (a) To consider and note report.
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1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1. To advise Governing Bodies of the progress made on the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) project and the Primary Capital Programme (PCP).

2.0 Background

- 2.1 See attached Briefing Note 1. Regular briefing notes will be provided.

3.0 Next Steps (if applicable)

Consultation and engagement with headteachers, governors, parents, pupils and other lead professionals will be a key requirement of BSF. This report and the attached briefing note is part of this engagement with governors. Headteachers were invited to a briefing session on 5 December 2008 at the Education Development Centre. It is intended to run a series of locality events open to the wider community in the spring term. This consultation will assist in informing our Strategy for Change which sets out the education vision for our borough. The National College for School Leadership (NCSL) have been engaged to support the council in this process.

4.0 Financial Implications (if applicable)

- 4.1 BSF and PCP will attract to Walsall several hundred million pounds to address school accommodation issues which will lead to buildings able to deliver educational transformation. In authorities that have already delivered on BSF, schools have contributed revenue and capital funds towards BSF projects and their management.

5.0 Equal Opportunities Implications (if applicable)

5.1 No direct implications.

6.0 Environmental Implications (if applicable)

6.1 The capital investment in the building fabric will provide a significant opportunity to reduce emissions from new and refurbished buildings. The principle aim will be to minimise energy consumption by using high levels of insulation, heating technology and intelligent lighting schemes. The Council is increasing year on year the quantity of energy it purchases from sustainable sources. It is intended that buildings communicate the energy efficiency methods to enable the buildings themselves to be used as educational tools for students, for example energy consumption read outs utilising smart meters. This will raise the awareness of the impact of the building on the environment. Where appropriate alternative technology will be used to deliver cooling, heat and power, this will include heating for hot water and photo voltaic (use of sunlight to produce electricity) cells. At a school site level effective use will be made of planting schemes to provide shading to people and buildings, there will be site waste management plans, sustainable drainage schemes and the recycling of rainwater.

The programme will aim for BREEAM (BRE Environmental Assessment Method) excellent, this will not only set the standard for the buildings but will include community engagement in the development process and provide opportunities for raising community awareness of sustainable behaviour. The travel to school plan will aim to minimise carbon emissions in transportation by making schools readily accessible by non vehicle means.

7.0 Background Papers:

None.