

Cabinet – 12 July 2006

Targeted Capital Allocations

Portfolio:	Councillor Zahid Ali, Children's Services
Service:	Education Walsall
Wards:	All
Key decisions:	Yes
Forward plan:	Yes

Summary of report

This report outlines proposed allocations for schemes to be funded through the Targeted Capital Allocation recently made by the DfES.

Recommendations

That Cabinet approve the proposed allocations detailed in the report.

Resource and legal considerations

On 30 November 2005, Cabinet received a report on the outcome of the targeted capital bid for schools.

The report detailed that Walsall's allocation from the DfES is £12 million which is the maximum possible amount. One of the conditions of accepting this targeted capital funding is that Walsall match funds in line with the DfES's requirements. The funding provided by the DfES (£12 million) represents 80% of the total investment; in 100% terms the total investment is therefore £15 million.

The report also advised Cabinet that Walsall's targeted capital allocation was for the reorganisation of specialist SEN provision and the provision of a replacement school for Mary Elliot, possibly on a new site and perhaps co-located with a secondary school, was the highest priority. The proposal also included significant development of the accommodation for Daw End. An additional bid was also submitted, on the advice of the DfES, to enable the phased replacement of Joseph Leckie to be commenced; specific funding was not allocated to this by the DfES as the main bid was in line with the maximum allocation possible for an individual authority. However, the DfES recognised the very real needs at Joseph Leckie and unusually, following extensive discussions, confirmed that Walsall has special flexibility to use the funding across the three schools. This flexibility will enable the Council's highest priorities to be taken forward.

Mary Elliot

The Cabinet Report of 30th November 2005 gave background details and the outcome of the targeted capital bid for schools. Cabinet gave approval for the submission of these bids at an earlier meeting on 13 May 2005. The outcome of this was the allocation of £12 million (maximum possible amount) from the DFES which represented 80% of the total investment with a requirement for Walsall Council to make this up to £15million through match funding. This was agreed.

The first priority for funding was recognised by Cabinet as the need to provide a new school building for Mary Elliot as part of the implementation of the outcomes of the review of specialist SEN provision in Walsall.

An initial budget of £6 million was approved by Cabinet at this November 2005 meeting for this scheme and the associated statutory proposals were approved by Cabinet on 14 June 2006. The site identified for the new building is on land adjacent to Frank F Harrison School on Leamore Lane, Walsall. Site investigations have revealed that there are former mine workings in the area and that there is the likelihood of contaminated materials which will need to be removed from the site. In view of this, it is proposed to increase the financial provision to £6.4 million. It is also proposed to allocate a sum of £0.5 million from the Schools Access Initiative allocation phased as £250,000 in 2006/7 and £250,000 in 2007/08 to meet the cost of hydrotherapy facilities, as these will be available for use by pupils educated in mainstream settings and this will be a more efficient means of providing these facilities. The Schools Access Initiative Allocation is provided by DFES to ensure children and young people's access to facilities in order to help ensure their inclusion within mainstream settings.

The available funding will allow the agreed changes to the age ranges of pupils accessing SEN provision in Walsall to occur. The accommodation at Mary Elliott will provide for 70 11-16 pupils and an additional 40 post 16 students. This will be set out to ensure specialist teaching facilities that will be used by all pupils of the school, can be easily accessed.

It will also provide a vastly enhanced learning environment that will be fit for its intended use. Items such as wide corridors and a range of specialist teaching and therapy areas for visiting professionals will be provided.

The project will include items such as car parking, a drop off area, outdoor hard play that is secure for the use of pupils.

It is envisaged that areas of the building that may be used by visitors or the community such as the hall and hydrotherapy pool will be capable of being accessed without the need to open or indeed heat the whole of the school. The new school will therefore serve to be of benefit to the whole community both in the immediate area and wider.

Daw End

The second priority was identified as Daw End School which has places for pupils with social, educational and behavioural needs (SEBD) at the Priory site (primary pupils) and at the Daw End site (secondary pupils). Originally it was hoped that a replacement school building could be provided on land adjacent to the existing Daw End building,

however, in the light of strategic opportunities associated with school organisation changes, this is no longer the preferred way forward.

Cabinet will recall that on 14 June 2006, it determined a statutory proposal to close Rushall Community College from 31 August 2006 and agreed that the current accommodation could continue to be used for pupils currently attending Rushall for the 2006/07 school year. (Rushall is in a hard federation with Sheffield Sports and Community College and Rushall pupils will transfer to Sheffield upon the closure of Rushall and to the Sheffield site in summer 2007).

In summer 2007, accommodation in the Manor Farm building will become available. This was refurbished for Rushall Community College some three years ago using additional funding provided by the DfES. The background to this is that the DfES provided a sum of money to enable the fresh start of Rushall in hard federation with Sheffield. The vast majority of capital expenditure at this time related to the expansion of Sheffield and to the extension of its vocational facilities. This enabled all of the pupils from years 10 and 11 from both Manor Farm and Rushall to be educated on the Sheffield site.

In addition, a small amount of this available funding was utilised to refurbish the Rushall site so that it could better meet the needs of pupils in years 7, 8 & 9 who would continue to be educated on that site. Over the three years since then, school numbers have dropped, hence the availability of accommodation from Summer 2007. This refurbishment included a new main entrance, provision of a new reception and Head's offices, a new IT suite, meeting rooms and a small hall facility. It is in relatively good condition and has a range of specialist accommodation and other features, e.g. wide corridors, enclosed play area which would make it suitable for use for pupils with SEBD. In view of this, and its location in close proximity to the existing Daw End School building, it is proposed to relocate secondary pupils into this accommodation. The accommodation and facilities currently utilised by Manor Farm CA and Walsall Council who currently occupy some of the accommodation at this site would not be affected by this proposal. The accommodation currently occupied by the CA is the sports hall, swimming pool and a suite of small rooms and offices etc. These areas are not required under the proposals detailed in this report. As the Community Association areas of the building are accessed separately to the main school through a controlled entrance, there will be no overlap of pupils with visitors to the CA. However, to ensure that the community are fully engaged in this progress, a progress team will be set up to allow all parties to work together through this period.

In order to better meet the needs of primary aged pupils, it is also proposed to improve the accommodation available for pupils educated at the Priory site. It is anticipated that the cost of undertaking necessary improvements and addressing outstanding condition works at both the Priory and the Manor Farm building would cost in the region of £2 million.

This proposal represents the most cost-effective way forward in view of the resources available and Cabinet's earlier decision to use the Targeted Capital allocation strategically across Mary Elliot, Daw End and Joseph Leckie. Other options for the provision of a fit-for-purpose learning environment for pupils at Daw End would require significant additional resources to be made available. The relocation of secondary-aged pupils into the Manor Farm building would release the existing Daw End site on Floyds Lane as this would no longer be required.

Joseph Leckie

Cabinet is aware of the accommodation issues at Joseph Leckie Technology College and will recall that the number of places at the school was increased some years ago when the Council hoped to secure a PFI allocation to enable a replacement school building to be provided. As a result of this, a large number of pupils are taught in temporary classrooms which are funded through the capital programme.

The temporary classrooms are sited on the play area to the rear of the school and, as such, take away recreational space for the pupils in the school. Some of the mobiles are two storey and whilst in good condition are still not suitable for anything other than general classroom use. It is proposed that the sum of £6 million is identified for capital expenditure at Joseph Leckie. The priority for this funding is to replace these existing temporary classrooms with a purpose built teaching block. This will form the first phase of the future rebuilding of Joseph Leckie which will be possible when the Authority enters the Building Schools for the Future programme.

Much parental, governor, staff and community concerns have been expressed about the accommodation at Joseph Leckie and through the strength of the representations made to the Government by MPs, the Council and Education Walsall, the flexibility to be given the opportunity to use the funding in this way is a significant achievement. Under the normal terms of the Targeted Capital Funding, strict rules govern the use of the money to the projects identified in the bid, and as far as we are aware, Walsall is the only one to be given this flexibility. The money will be used to provide as much new accommodation as possible so that the maximum number of pupils can benefit from an improved learning environment. Discussions are already beginning with the school to progress the scheme as soon as possible.

Contingency

The above allocations would leave a contingency of £0.6 million to address unforeseeable expenditure in connection with the three schemes.

Citizen impact

The investment would result in the provision of significantly improved learning environments for pupils, some of whom are very vulnerable. Pupils at all of the schools are currently being taught in accommodation that is in very poor condition and is unsuitable for delivering education in the 21st century.

Community safety

There are no direct implications as a result of this report

Environmental impact

Schemes to provide a replacement accommodation would use sustainable resources wherever possible and designs would incorporate developments to reduce the impact on the environment.

Performance and risk management issues

The condition and suitability of the accommodation used by pupils at these schools is such that the proposed investment is essential in order to ensure continuity of education.

Schemes developed to address accommodation issues for these schools will be closely managed to ensure that expenditure is contained within the budgets identified.

Equality implications

The proposed allocations provide an opportunity to provide 21st century learning environment for pupils in the local community.

Consultation

There will be consultation with stakeholders regarding the development of the schemes to be funded through the Targeted Capital allocation.

Vision 2008

The proposed consultation would contribute to the delivery of Walsall's vision for 2008 – Section 4 Make Our Schools Great – by providing significantly improved learning environments for a large number of pupils at three schools in Walsall.

Background papers

Cabinet report: Outcome of Targeted Capital Bid for Schools, 30 November 2005

Cabinet report: Mary Elliot Special School, 21 December 2005

Cabinet report: Determination of Statutory Proposals: Mary Elliot, Oakwood and Old Hall Special Schools, 14 June 2006

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Executive Director: David Brown

Date: 4 July 2006

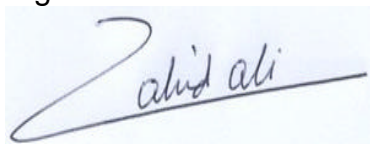
Signed:



Managing Director, Education Walsall

Date: 4 July 2006

Signed:



Portfolio Holder: Councillor Zahid Ali

Date: 4 July 2006

Schools Capital Programme 2005-7 £5.8m											
SCHOOL	SCHEME	BUDGET ESTIMATE £	SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION	TENDER COST£	FEES £	TOTAL ACTUAL COST £	CONTRACTOR	PROJECT UPDATE	TARGET START ON SITE	PERCENTAGE COMPLETE	PO
Abbey JMI	Roofing Works	68,200	16,000	62000	6200	68200	H Evans	Complete	Mar-06	100%	KC
Abbey JMI	Boiler	70,000	10,000	56,189	5,620	61,809	L & P	On site beginning July. Awaiting Asbestos removal	Jul-06	10	MD
Abbey JMI	Asbestos Removal			5,500	550	6,050	Central/Bradleys	Complete	Jun-06	100	
Beacon	Rewire/Lighting/alarm	140,000	38,000	35,396	3,539	38,935	Summit Electrical	Phase 1 alarm/boards during summer 06	Jul-06	25	SK
Bentley West Primary	Rewire / Lighting	172,260	5,000	156600	15660	172260	Andrews	On hold til 2007 due to legionella work	Jul-07	0	SK
Birchills Primary	Boiler/DHW	119,236	48,000	108,421	10,842	119,263	D&K	Evaluate, Structural problems, on hold	May-07	0	MD
Bloxwich C of E	Gym/Hall structural repairs	48,000	24,000	16,623	1,663	18,286	Tomlinsons	Tenders 7/7 - Phase one re pointing on site	Aug-06	10	CG
Bloxwich C/E	Hall Window & Door Replacement	32,510		29555	2955	32510	Leamore	Complete	Mar-06	100	CG
Bloxwich CE Primary	Lighting Improvements	46247		42043	4204	46247	Evans	On site	Apr-06	50	SK
Bloxwich CE Primary	Replacement Boiler	165,000		150,000	15,000	165,000	SPI	On site	Apr-06	80	MD
Brownhills West Primary	Lighting / fuse boards	60,000		28068	2806	30874	Domestic & Industrial	On site - Asbestos ceiling tbr £10k additional cost	Apr-06	50	SK
Busill Jones Primary	Window Replacement	68,200		62,000	6,200	68,200	Harpers	Works complete	Jan-06	100	CG/GW
Butts Primary	Roofing Works	5,500		5000	500	5500	H Evans	Complete	Feb-06	100	KC
Caldmore	Rewire	70,000	20,000	49988	4988	54976	Hills	Contract to be awarded - asbestos ceiling tbr £15k	Jul-06	25	SK
Castlefot Primary	Replacement Boiler	52,438		47,671	4,767	52,438	Pioneer	Complete	Mar-06	100	MD
Christchurch	Window Replacement	28,900	20,000	25,950	2,950	28,900	Harpers	Contractor Engaged.	Sep-06	0	DM
Chuckery Primary	Boiler and distribution	317,342	44,900	288,493	28,849	317,342	SPI	Contractor Engaged - on site Whitsun	Jun-06	50	MD
Edgar Stammers	Window replacement	55,000	10,000					Specification being completed	Sep-06	0	DM
Edgar Stammers Infants	Roof Alterations	40,700		36630	4070	40700	H.Evans/Kobus	Works complete	Jan-06	100	IC/RC
Elmore Green	Demolish Learner Pool	20,900		19000	1900	20900	Humphries Demolition	Works complete	Feb-06	100	GW
Elmore Green Primary	Power supply and lighting	48,636		44215	4421	48636	Evans	On site July	Jul-06	25	SK
Elmore Green Primary	Roofing work	91,250		82,955	8,295	91,250	Woodhull	Complete	Jan-06	100	DM
Green Rock Primary	Rewire/Fire Alarm	98697	5,000	89725	8972	98697	Andrews	Contractor Engaged.	Jul-06	25	SK
Greenfield Primary	Lighting improvements	34,063	1,680	30967	3096	34063	Evans	On site	Apr-06	60	SK
Harden	Junior roof	60,000		59,315	5,931	65,246	Howard Evans	Evaluate - Reduce scheme by 10k	Aug-06	0	CG
Harden	Rewire/Alarm Junior	86,884		78,986	7,898	86,884	Hills	Contractor engaged	Jul-06	25	SK
Harden	Toilet Refurb Junior	72,000						Specification being completed	Oct-06	0	CG
Hatherton Primary	Rewire	166,100	5,600	151000	15100	166100	Andrews	Phase 1 fuse boards /upgrade supply - COSTS?	Jul-06	25	SK
Holy Trinity	Roofing work	49,633	20,000	45,121	4,512	49,633	Howard Evans	Contractor engaged	Aug-06	0	DM
King Charles Primary	Drainage improvements	20,000						Drain survey ordered to assist specification.	Jul-06	0	RC
King Charles Primary	Roofing Works	32,942		29948	2994	32942	H Evans	complete	Mar-06	100	DS
King Charles Primary	Fire Alarm	27,359	5,000	24,872	2,487	27,359	D Paradine	Contractor engaged plus 4k asbestos	Jul-06	25	SK
King's Hill Primary	Drainage improvements	20,000						Drain survey ordered to assist specification.	Jul-06	0	RC
Leighswood primary	Rewire / Lighting	133,790	5,000	121628	12162	133790	M.E.S Ltd	Contractor engaged	Jul-06	25	SK
Leighswood primary	KS2 Boiler	115,000	40,000	98,272	9,827	108,099	SPI	Contractor engaged	Jul-06	25	MD
Leighswood primary	Asbestos Removal			5,990	599	6,589	Central	Complete	Jul-06	100	MD
Little Bloxwich	Window Replacement	27,111	15,000	24,647	2,464	27,111	Global Glass	Contractor engaged	Sep-06	0	GW
Little Bloxwich	Playground Resurfacing	26,635		24214	2421	26635	Stave	Complete	Aug-06	100	RC
Little Bloxwich CE Primary	Fire Alarm	11,323		10294	1029	11323	Summit Electrical	Complete	Apr-06	100	SK
Lodge Farm Primary	Lighting/ fuse board / Fire alarm	87,310		79373	7937	87310	Kestrel	Programme summer - check capacity	Jul-06	25	SK
Lower Farm	Elec. Mains Upgrade	17,500					Central Networks	Could take 12 months to upgrade	Mar-07	0	SK
Meadow View Primary	Window Replacement	68,200		62000	6200	68200	Harpers	Complete	Mar-06	100	KT
Meadow View Primary	Lighting Improvements	66,730		60664	6066	66730	Evans	On site	Apr-06	75	SK
Meadow View Primary	Distribution pipework	60,000	7,900	55,000	5,500	60,500	SPI	Emergency works - on going	Feb-06	100	MD
Millfield Primary	Fire alarm / Security Lighting	12,571		11429	1142	12571	Summit Electrical	Complete	Apr-06	100	SK
Millfield Primary	Emergency heating repairs	26,500		24000	2400	26400	Brelmayne	Complete	Jul-06	100	RL
Mossley Primary	Elec. Mains Upgrade/rewire etc	70,000	15,000	26000	2600	28600	Central Networks	Order raised Central N/W £26k- phase one	Sep-06	0	SK
Moorcroft Wood	Boiler/rewire/lighting	120,000		110,000	10,000	120,000		BDU Scheme	Mar-07	0	BDU

North Walsall Primary	Drainage works/ resurfacing	39,960						Drains complete, s/w currently being specified	Mar-07	0	RC/IS
Park Hall Infants	Playground Resurfacing	30,000	5,000	27307	2730	30037	Stave	Complete	Aug-06	100	RC
Park Hall Junior	Replacement windows	57200		52000	5200	57200	Global Glass	Complete	Jun-06	100	CG
Pelsall Village	Structural Work	20,845		18950	1895	20845	BAT	Complete	Mar-06	100	GW
Pelsall Village	Window Replacement	50,557		45961	4596	50557	Harpers	Complete	Apr-06	100	CG
Pelsall Village	Boiler/Distribution	321,389	34,080	292172	29217	321389	TDR	Contractor engaged	Jul-06	20	MD
Pelsall Village	Asbestos Removal			5750	575	6325	ICS	Complete	Jul-06	100	MD
Pelsall Village Primary	Rewire	193,738		175216.86	17521	192737.86	HJS	On hold due to boiler replacement	Jun-07	0	SK
Pheasey Park	Roofing/parapets	120,000	35,000					Specification being completed	Oct-06	0	KC
Pool Hayes Primary	Fuseboards and relight	46,191	20,000	41,992	4,199	46,191	Eyre	Contractor engaged	Jul-06	20	SK
Sandbank	Rewire/Lighting	43,301	15,000	39,365	3,936	43,301	Atack	Contractor engaged	Jul-06	20	SK
St Giles C/E	Roofing Works	6,050		5500	550	6050	H Evans	Complete	Mar-06	100	KC
St Giles CE Primary	Lighting Rewire	83,890		76264	7626	83890	Midlands Electrical	Contractor Engaged	Jul-06	20	SK
St Michael's	Playground Resurfacing	29,018		26380	2638	29018	Stave	Complete	Aug-06	100	RC
St Michael's	Boiler	120,000	20,000	99,234	9,924	109,158	D & K	Contractor engaged	Jul-06	20	MD
St Michael's	Asbestos Removal			6,250	625	6,875	ICS	Complete	Jul-06	100	MD
Sunshine Street	Replacement Heating	34,712		31557	3155	34712	Measham	On site	Jun-06	20	MD
Walsall Wood	Roofing	50,000	10,000					Specification being completed	Sep-06	0	DM
Watling Street	Kitchen Roof Collapse	39,600		36000	3600	39600	H.Evans/Weatherite	Works complete	Jan-06	100	KC/MD
Watling Street Primary	Fire Alarm	10,546	1,024	9588	958	10546	Summit Electrical	Complete	May-06	100	SK
Watling Street Primary	Rewire	105,527	5,000	95934	9593	105527	Kestrel	Contractor engaged	Jul-06	20	SK
Whetstone Field Primary	Rewire	116,915		106287	10628	116915	Kestrel	allow £20k asbestos removal	Jul-06	20	SK
Whetstone Fields	Roofing Works	69,933	4,500	63576	6357	69933	H Evans	Complete	Apr-06	100	DS
Whitehall Infants	Fencing (security)	22,400				0		Planning issues	Oct-06	0	DS
Whitehall Infants	Masonry repairs	13,440				0		Planning issues	Oct-06	0	DS
Whitehall Infants	Boiler/distribution	160,000	40,000					Specification being completed. To be tendered	May-07	0	MD
TOTAL		5,015,879	545,684	3,831,026	382,839	4,213,865					
Education Capital Programme Roofing & Boiler Schemes Commitments											
SCHOOL	SCHEME	BUDGET ESTIMATE £	SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION	TENDER COST£	FEES £	TOTAL ACTUAL COST £	CONTRACTOR	PROJECT UPDATE	TARGET START ON SITE	PERCENTAGE COMPLETE	PO
Castlefort Primary	Flat roofing	52,417	20,000	47,652	4,765	52,417	General Asphalte	On site September	Sep-06	0	DM
Delves & Junior	Roofing work	140,895	10,000	128087.44	12808	140895.44	General Asphalte	Complete	Feb-06	100	DM
Oakwood Special School	Roofing work	16,659		15,145	1,514	16,659	Howard Evans	Complete	Jan-06	100	KC
Old Church CE Primary	Roofing work	90,200		82,000	8,200	90,200	Woodhull	Complete	Jan-06	100	DM
Valley Nursery	Roofing work	74,800		68,000	6,800	74,800	Howard Evans	Complete	Jan-06	100	DM
Millfield Primary	Roofing	105,000	25,000	95,500	9,500	105,000	General Asphalte	Complete	Mar-06	100	DM
Lane Head Nursery	Roofing & Brickwork	110,000	45,000					Tendered	Oct-06	0	DM
TOTAL		589,971	100,000	436,384	43,587	479,971					
SCHOOL	SCHEME	BUDGET ESTIMATE £	SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION	TENDER COST£	FEES £	TOTAL ACTUAL COST £	CONTRACTOR	PROJECT UPDATE	TARGET START ON SITE	PERCENTAGE COMPLETE	PO
Greenfield Primary	Replacement Boiler	10,230		9,300	930	10,230	Perrins	Complete	Sep-05	100%	MD
New Invention Infants	Replacement Boiler	56,077		50979	5098	56077	Weatherite	Complete	Feb-06	100	MD
St Giles C/E	Boiler Replacement	87,450		79500	7950	87450	D & K	On site whitsun	May-06	50	MD
Sunshine	Replacement Heating	69,066		62,788	6,278	69,066	L & P	Emergency works, boiler failure, decentralisation	Dec-05	100%	MD
Walsall Wood	Decentralise boiler	107,795	20,000	97,996	9,799	107,795	D&K	On site	Jul-06	25	MD
Salisbury	Decentralise boiler	148,205	20,000	134,732	13,473	148,205	Weatherite	On site	Jul-06	25	MD
TOTAL		478,823	40,000	435,295	43,528	478,823					