

## Cabinet – 13 April 2011

### Education Capital Programme – 2011/12

**Portfolio:** Councillor Rachel Andrew, Children's Services  
Councillor Adrian Andrew, Regeneration

**Service:** Walsall Children's Services, Serco

**Wards:** All

**Key decision:** Yes

**Forward plan:** Yes

#### 1. Summary of report

- 1.1 The report sets out schemes from the Education Asset Management Plan for approval. In order to support the raising of educational attainment and achievement, these projects will provide improved learning environments for Walsall pupils and are part of the continued and significant investment in the buildings of Walsall schools.
- 1.2 Details of schemes previously approved by Cabinet will be made available to member in the group rooms and hard copies will be placed in the Members' rooms. In order to reflect the actual tender costs, final account figures or changes to allocations due to cuts in funding confirmed by the Department for Education (DfE) for schemes previously approved by Cabinet, the opportunity has been taken to reprofile funding allocations across the whole programme to ensure that the whole programme of schemes is deliverable within available funding allocations.

#### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That Cabinet approves the schemes and budgets set out in **Appendix A** of this report – including permission to seek tenders and appoint contractors to undertake the work identified.
- 2.2 Cabinet delegates to the Executive Director for Children's Services in consultation with the relevant Portfolio holder authority to award contracts (including authorising execution/signature of the contract and ancillary documents) to the most suitable contractors having regard to Best Value for the works/services as set out.
- 2.3 That Cabinet approves the option to use an appropriate form of procurement and contracting arrangements determined by the head of Property Services to provide the most efficient and value for money means of delivering the projects. This shall include consideration of traditional procurement and EU compliant frameworks available to local authorities.

### **3. Background information**

- 3.1 The Education Capital Programme is made up of grant and borrowing powers from Government, Section 106 contributions and capital receipts. Capital schemes funded from the programme usually include a contribution from schools, from their devolved Formula Capital or revenue budgets. All government grants and borrowing powers and much of Section 106 contributions and capital receipts are ring-fenced to education use. Some money is ring-fenced to one phase or one type of accommodation and some targeted for projects at specific schools.

Opportunities to bid for additional funds sometimes occur and Walsall has been successful in drawing down significant additional capital funding for its school buildings.

Priorities for recommendation to Cabinet are made using the following priorities: health and safety; condition, suitability and sufficiency of the building; basic need; standards; opportunity to combine funding; deprivation; pupil number forecasts; parental preferences; deliverability; opportunities for changes to school status; access; and security.

With the exception of health and safety, these priorities are not in order of importance and usually a combination of a number of priorities result in schemes being recommended for funding.

These priorities have been agreed by Cabinet and the Department for Education (DfE) in the past through approval of the Education Asset Management Plan Statement of Priorities.

In July 2008 Cabinet agreed that these priorities should be used to distribute the Primary Capital Programme Grant.

The aim of the education capital programme is to contribute to the delivery of the Local Authority's vision for education in nursery, primary, secondary and special schools; the raising of standards and opportunities of all Walsall pupils; anticipated changes in school population and curriculum needs; and delivering the Council's landlord duties in community and voluntary schools.

To ensure that recommendations on the use of Education Capital complement the strategies of other Council developments, Property Services colleagues have always been consulted on the content of Education Capital Cabinet reports.

It was agreed by the Corporate Property Board in October 2009 that the recommendations to be made on the use of education capital be discussed at the Board. This suggestion was made to ensure that capital investment being recommended for school property is linked to Partnership and Council priorities.

- 3.2 In 2011/12, the total capital funding for investment at schools in Walsall is £9,359,687 which is significantly below the allocations in the last three years and less than half the funding level in the current year – see table below.

Year	Total allocation (incl DFC)
2011/12	£9,359,687
2010/11	£23,932,365
2009/10	£22,374,468
2008/09	£14,136,571

Details of the funding streams and allocations for 2011/12 are provided in the table below.

Basic Need	Capital Maintenance		Devolved Formula Capital for maintained schools		Totals	
Local Authority for all schools	Local Authority maintained schools	LCVAP for VA Schools	Local Authority maintained schools	Voluntary Aided Schools	Local Authority funding	Total for LA and all maintained schools in its area
£2,650,018	£4,711,108	£931,791	£868,878	£197,892	£7,361,126	£9,359,687

These totals are indicative and will be adjusted to take account of pupil numbers in the January 2011 School Census and other changes.

- 3.3 Recently completed condition surveys and information from Property Services has identified a number of schools where high priority condition items need to be addressed. The table below details all of the schemes that it is proposed to fund from the Capital Maintenance allocation for 2011/12 and includes the estimated project cost of the works.

Whilst the list below is based on the best information available now, it is possible that external factors may mean that the list will need to be reviewed in the future.

The government has reduced the amount of DFC distributed to schools. They are also due to publish the James Report that is going to set out how capital will be allocated and utilised in future years. In addition, there may be changes of status in schools that affect how they access capital resources. Any of these may affect the appropriateness or viability of schemes.

Any proposed changes to these recommendations will be brought back to Cabinet.

School	Scheme	Project Cost
<b>Aldridge School - A Science College</b>	Rewire/fuse boards	£150,000
<b>Barr Beacon Language College</b>	Works to comply with Fire Officers report	£140,000
<b>Brownhills School</b>	Rewire/relight	£150,000
<b>Castlefort Primary</b>	Rewire/relight	£90,000
<b>County Bridge Primary</b>	Re-roofing works	£100,000
<b>Delves Infant &amp; Nursery</b>	Replacement heating & distribution system	£180,000
<b>Delves Junior</b>	Legionella works and associated pipe work etc	£30,000
<b>Frank F Harrison</b>	Rewire/relight	£150,000

<b>Harden Primary</b>	Replacement heating & distribution system - Phase 1 of 2 (KS2)	£180,000
<b>Joseph Leckie Community Technology College</b>	Heating distribution to main block	£120,000
<b>King Charles Primary</b>	Rewire/relight	£100,000
<b>King Charles Primary</b>	Heating & Ventilation improvements	£100,000
<b>King's Hill Primary</b>	Replacement heating & distribution system - Phase 1 of 2	£200,000
<b>Lindens Primary</b>	Replacement windows & doors	£100,000
<b>New Inventions Junior</b>	Re-roofing works	£80,000
<b>Palfrey Junior</b>	Rewire/relight	£90,000
<b>Pheasey Park Primary</b>	Rewire/relight (phase 2 of 3)	£100,000
<b>Pool Hayes Arts &amp; Community School</b>	Replacement boiler & distribution to art block boiler house	£80,000
<b>St John's CE Primary</b>	Legionella works and associated pipe work etc	£75,000
<b>Walsall Wood Primary</b>	Rewire/Fire alarm	£140,000
<b>Watling Street Primary</b>	Re-roofing works	£120,000
<b>Willenhall School Sports College</b>	Legionella works and replacement heat emitters in Sports area	£60,000

- 3.4 Another essential scheme that has been identified is the upgrading of the dining area at Willenhall School Sports College. This work involves improvements to the dining facilities and associated asbestos removal, replacement ceilings and new lighting. The total cost of this scheme is expected to be £150,000 and it is proposed to fund the work through the Capital Maintenance allocation (£69,576) for the asbestos removal etc and to use section 106 contributions to fund the improvements and upgrading (£80,424) of dining facilities. The section 106 contributions relate to the developments at 45A Park Road Bloxwich, Saracen's Head Public House, Bloxwich Road South Willenhall and William Bird Ltd Lichfield Road Rushall.
- 3.5 Section 106 developer contributions of £181,104 have also been received in relation to developments at the site formerly known as Eagle Envelopes Bloxwich Road, land C/O Mill Street/Cannon Street and Tasker Street. It is proposed to use this funding at Joseph Leckie Community Technology College. The work will be to upgrade and significantly improve the learning environment in the art block enabling the development of curriculum opportunities.
- 3.6 Cabinet will recall approving funding to commence a programme to bring a number of schools up to an enhanced level of physical accessibility. Cabinet is now asked to agree a further allocation of £330,000 to enable Bentley Drive Primary, Castlefort Primary, Green Rock Primary, Lodge Farm Primary, Pelsall Village Primary, Whetstone Fields Primary and Palfrey Infant and Junior Schools to benefit from this investment. On completion of the proposed schemes at these schools, at least one school in each ward of the Borough will have an enhanced level of physical accessibility for primary age pupils.

3.7 Cabinet will also recall approving a scheme at King Charles Primary to provide additional pupil places following the completion of the associated statutory processes. As part of this scheme it is necessary to provide a lift to give physical access to teaching accommodation on the first floor of the building. It is proposed to allocate £60,000 from the Schools Access Initiative funding for this purpose.

3.8 Local Authorities and schools are required to ensure that pupils with disabilities are fully included in all aspects of school life (SENDA, 2001).

Some pupils with disabilities require specialist equipment to enable them to access the curriculum and other aspects of school life. This equipment could include items such as specialist seating, standing frames, rise-and-fall tables or aids to support moving and handling.

The purchasing of a range of equipment that can be loaned or hired to schools will facilitate the inclusion of disabled children and young people and be cost-effective for schools. It is therefore proposed to allocate £20,000 for the purchase of such equipment from the Schools Access Initiative funding allocation.

3.9 In order to enable Basic Need schemes in Walsall to be enhanced by considering all aspects of physical accessibility it is proposed to transfer the remaining £90,000 of Schools Access Initiative funding to the Basic Need funding stream. Opportunities to allocate the available Basic Need funding are currently being investigated and once proposals are developed these will be brought to a future Cabinet meeting.

3.10 LCVAP - Discussions have been held with diocesan authorities and representatives of other VA schools to agree a programme of condition (including health and safety) schemes to be funded through the LEA Co-ordinated VA Programme (LCVAP) in 2011/12. Rewiring schemes are required at Cooper and Jordan CE Primary, St Bernadette's Catholic Primary and St Francis Catholic Primary schools at estimated costs of £110,000, £90,000 and £100,000 respectively. The heating distribution pipework, boiler and heat emitters at St Anne's Catholic Primary require replacement at a cost of £150,000. It is also intended to replace the heating distribution system at St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary at an estimated cost of £80,000. The creation of a new safe pedestrian access route at St Mary's of the Angels Catholic Primary at an estimated cost of £44,000 will address safeguarding concerns. The sum of £175,000 has been identified to carry out fire officer's requirements, health and safety improvements, and condition works to the electrical installation and roofs at Blue Coat CE Performing Arts Specialist College.

#### **4. Resource considerations**

##### **4.1 Financial:**

4.1.1 Walsall has been advised of capital allocations for the 2011/12 financial year only although the DfE has confirmed that there is no spend deadline on this funding. Further schemes will be brought forward for consideration by Cabinet when details are finalised.

- 4.1.2 The Government is currently undertaking a review of the way education capital allocations are made available to local authorities and others. The outcomes of this review, which will affect capital allocations from 2012 onwards, are expected to be announced later in the spring. The implications of the review will be reported to a future Cabinet meeting.
- 4.1.3 Every effort is being made to maximise the use of capital resources to secure the greatest benefit for the Borough and Walsall is on track to spend all allocations within the spend periods. Slippage figures include funding provided through grants for which the spend period is the academic year rather than the financial year.
- 4.1.4 Other than in exceptional circumstances, schemes detailed in this report are funded in partnership with schools in order to maximise the number of schemes that can be taken forward. Such a partnership approach also takes account of capital resources made available to schools by the DfE through devolved formula capital (DFC). School DFC allocations for 2011/12 have been significantly reduced to approximately 20% of those for the previous financial year. In view of this, school contributions will not be at the same level as previous years. These contributions are negotiated on an individual basis by Walsall Children's Services – Serco, and are detailed in **Appendix A** of this report. Any individual schemes where school contributions are not yet finalised will be reported to a future Cabinet meeting.
- 4.1.5 The majority of schemes are to be managed by Walsall Council Property Services who will ensure compliance with all Walsall Council Finance and Contract Rules. For Schemes at Voluntary Aided schools, the trustees of the individual schools are responsible for ensuring compliance with the DfE contractual and financial requirements.

#### 4.2 **Legal:**

- 4.2.1 The majority of schemes identified in this report will be managed through Walsall Council Property Services and they will ensure that all statutory obligations in relation to the schemes are adhered to. These issues include building regulations, planning approvals, Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) and Construction Design and Management Regulations (CDM). This is in addition to ensuring compliance with Walsall Council Financial and Contract Rules and compliance with the European regime and regulations covering the procurement of goods, services and contracts of work.
- 4.2.2 Schemes funded through the Local Education Authority Controlled Voluntary Aided Programme (LCVAP) will be managed by the trustees of the individual schools. The responsibility for complying with the legislation detailed in paragraph 4.2.1 will, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3 to Schedule 3 of the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998 (which was amended by the Regulatory Reform (Voluntary Aided Schools Liabilities and Funding) (England) Order 2002), be that of the trustees of those schools.

#### 4.3 **Staffing:**

- 4.3.1 There are no direct implications as a result of this report.

## **5. Citizen impact**

The schemes will contribute to an improved learning environment for Walsall pupils, their families and the wider community. .

## **6. Community safety**

Security issues will be considered as part of the development of schemes.

## **7. Environmental impact**

All schemes will incorporate the use of sustainable resources wherever possible and designs would incorporate developments to reduce the impact on the environment.

## **8. Performance and risk management issues**

### **8.1 Risk:**

8.1.1 Construction programmes are at risk of delays that might affect the timescales and cost of projects and these may require adjustments to the programme. These risks will be managed as far as is practicable on an ongoing basis.

### **8.2 Performance management:**

8.2.1 There are specific criteria established by the DfE for the project management of schemes funded by the Capital Programme within the designated timeframe.

## **9. Equality implications**

The proposed schemes would result in improved learning environments for pupils and families in Walsall schools.

## **10. Consultation**

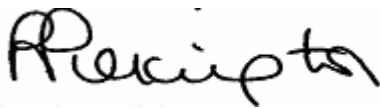
Relevant stakeholders including schools, Diocesan Authorities and Foundation representatives, as appropriate. Walsall Council: Property Services, Transforming Learning and Children's Services Finance.

## **Background papers**

Education Asset Management Plan

## Author

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Signed:  
Executive Director: Pauline Pilkington  
Date: 31 March 2011



Signed:  
Portfolio Holder: Councillor R Andrew  
Date: 31 March 2011



Signed:  
Interim Managing Director, Walsall  
Children's Services, Serco: Graham  
Talbot  
Date: 31 March 2011



<b>Capital Maintenance</b>				<b>2011/12</b>
<b>Allocation</b>				<b>£4,711,108</b>
<b>Commitments</b>				<b>£0</b>
<b>Balance Remaining</b>				<b>£4,711,108</b>
<b>School</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Project Cost £</b>	<b>School Contribution £</b>	<b>2011/12 Allocation £</b>
Aldridge School - A Science College	Rewire/fuse boards	150,000	TBC	150,000
Barr Beacon Language College	Works to comply with Fire Officers report	140,000	TBC	140,000
Brownhills School	Rewire/relight	150,000	TBC	150,000
Castlefort Primary	Rewire/relight	90,000	TBC	90,000
County Bridge Primary	Re-roofing works	100,000	TBC	100,000
Delves Infant & Nursery	Replacement heating & distribution system	180,000	TBC	180,000
Delves Junior	Legionella works and associated pipe work etc	30,000	TBC	30,000
Frank F Harrison	Rewire/relight	150,000	TBC	150,000
Harden Primary	Replacement heating & distribution system - Phase 1 of 2 (KS2)	180,000	TBC	180,000
Joseph Leckie Community Technology College	Heating distribution to main block	120,000	TBC	120,000

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<b>Allocation</b>				<b>£4,711,108</b>
<b>Commitments</b>				<b>£0</b>
<b>Balance Remaining</b>				<b>£4,711,108</b>
<b>School</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Project Cost £</b>	<b>School Contribution £</b>	<b>2011/12 Allocation £</b>
King Charles Primary	Rewire/relight	100,000	TBC	100,000
King Charles Primary	Heating & Ventilation improvements	100,000	TBC	100,000
King's Hill Primary	Replacement heating & distribution system - Phase 1 of 2	200,000	TBC	200,000
Lindens Primary	Replacement windows & doors	100,000	TBC	100,000
New Invention Junior	Re-roofing works	80,000	TBC	80,000
Palfrey Junior	Rewire/relight	90,000	TBC	90,000
Pheasey Park Primary	Rewire/relight (phase 2 of 3)	100,000	TBC	100,000
Pool Hayes Arts & Community School	Replacement boiler & distribution to art block boiler house	80,000	TBC	80,000
St John's CE Primary	Legionella works and associated pipe work etc	75,000	TBC	75,000

<b>Capital Maintenance</b>				<b>2011/12</b>
<b>Allocation</b>				<b>£4,711,108</b>
<b>Commitments</b>				<b>£0</b>
<b>Balance Remaining</b>				<b>£4,711,108</b>
<b>School</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Project Cost £</b>	<b>School Contribution £</b>	<b>2011/12 Allocation £</b>
Walsall Wood Primary	Rewire/Fire alarm	140,000	TBC	140,000
Watling Street Primary	Re-roofing works	120,000	TBC	120,000
Willenhall School Sports College	Asbestos removal and associated ceiling and lighting update	150,000	TBC	69,576 *
Willenhall School Sports College	Legionella works and replacement heat emitters in Sports area	60,000	TBC	60,000
<b>Total</b>				<b>2,604,576</b>
<b>Balance Available</b>				<b>2,106,532</b>

\* Remainder of funding from Section 106 Contribution

<b>Section 106 - Secondary</b>				
<b>School</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Project Cost £</b>	<b>School Contribution £</b>	<b>Allocation £</b>
Joseph Leckie Community Technology College	Upgrade of Art Block to provide enhanced learning environments	181,104.65	TBC	181,104.65
Willenhall School Sports College	Upgrade of Dining Room and associated areas	150,000.00	TBC	80,424.89 *
<b>Total</b>				<b>80,424.89</b>

\* Remainder of funding from Capital Maintenance allocation

LCVAP				2011/12
Allocation				£1,035,323
Commitments				£50,000
Balance Remaining				£985,323
School	Project	Project Cost £	School Contribution DFC (In addition to Governor's 10%) £	2011/12 Allocation £
Blue Coat CE Performing Arts Specialist College	Fire Officer's requirements, health & safety improvements condition works to the electrical installation and roofs	175,000	15,000	160,000
Cooper & Jordan CE Primary	Rewiring	110,000	TBC	110,000
St Anne's Catholic Primary	Heating distribution pipework, boiler and heat emitters	150,000	TBC	150,000
St Bernadette's Catholic Primary	Rewiring	90,000	TBC	90,000
St Francis Catholic Primary	Rewiring	100,000	TBC	100,000
St Mary's of the Angels Catholic Primary	Creation of a new safe pedestrian access route	44,000	TBC	44,000

LCVAP				2011/12
Allocation				£1,035,323
Commitments				£50,000
Balance Remaining				£985,323
School	Project	Project Cost £	School Contribution DFC (In addition to Governor's 10%) £	2011/12 Allocation £
St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary	Replacement of heating distribution system	80,000	TBC	80,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>15,000</b>	<b>734,000</b>
<b>Balance Available</b>				<b>251,323</b>

Schools Access Initiative			2009/10	2010/11
Allocation			£586,620	£586,620
Commitments			£586,620	£86,620
Allocation - Balance Available			£0	£500,000
School	Project	Total Project Cost	2009/10 Allocation £	2010/11 Allocation £
King Charles Primary	Provision of a lift to provide physical access to teaching accommodation on the first floor of the building	60,000		60,000
Various	Transfer of remaining balance to Basic Need Funding Stream	90,000		90,000
Various Schools	The purchasing of a range of equipment that can be loaned or hired to schools will facilitate the inclusion of disabled children and young people	20,000		20,000
Various Schools	Further schemes to upgrade various Primary schools to an enhanced level of physical accessibility	330,000		330,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>500,000</b>
<b>Balance Available</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>