

# Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



**Nottingham**  
**City Council**

Reference Number:	2370
Author:	Caroline Butrymowicz
Department:	Chief Executives Group
Contact:	Caroline Butrymowicz (Job Title: Project Manager, Email: caroline.butrymowicz@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 01158763396)
Subject:	Approval of the allocation of funding for the provision of additional accommodation at Fernwood Primary school for September 2016
Total Value:	£750,000 (Type: Capital)
Decision Being Taken:	<p>Approve the allocation of £750,000 from the capital programme (Basic Need Grant) to create two infant classrooms at Fernwood Primary school.</p> <p>Approve the procurement of the contractor GF Tomlinson from the East Midlands Property Alliance (EMPA) Framework and the Council's Design Services team to support the delivery of the project. GF Tomlinson are the preferred contractor as they are part of the early works design team and already are very familiar with the site and buildings.</p> <p>Delegate authority to the Head of Legal Services to enter into contract with GF Tomlinson , subject to the project being in budget.</p>
Reasons for the Decision(s)	<p>Overall the pressure on primary school places is continuing to increase and the number of children in Nottingham accessing school places is still increasing. There was a significant shortage of reception catchment places in Wollaton for 2015/16 and the shortage is set to remain for 2016/17 onwards.</p> <p>Currently a consultation process is underway on the permanent expansion of Fernwood Primary school from 840 places to a 1050 school. Ahead of this permanent expansion (subject to consultation) the Governing Body at the school agreed to accommodate a bulge year of 30 pupils for 2015/16. In order to accommodate these pupils the space used for breakfast club was converted into a classroom (DD 2184). The continued demand for catchment places within the reception age is explained and evidenced by colleagues in School Organisation Team in DD 2164.</p>
Briefing notes documents:	Business Case - Fernwood V2.pdf

<b>Other Options Considered:</b>	Do nothing - This option will prevent the school from increasing it's capacity to accommodate additional pupils for 2016 admission intake.
<b>Background Papers:</b>	None
<b>Published Works:</b>	DD 2164: Proposed expansion of Fernwood Primary School, Wollaton DD 2184: Early works including design development to allow Fernwood Infant and Junior schools to expand
<b>Affected Wards:</b>	Wollaton East and Lenton Abbey
<b>Colleague / Councillor Interests:</b>	N/A
<b>Any Information Exempt from publication:</b>	Yes
<b>Exempt Information:</b>	
<b>Description of what is exempt:</b>	Legal advice
	An appendix (or appendices) to this decision is exempt from publication under the following paragraph(s) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972
<b>5 - Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.</b>	The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information because the decision maker is entitled to consider the legal risks in the proposed course of action without the City Council's position being prejudiced simply by the consideration of those risks
<b>Documents exempt from publication:</b>	2016-02-23 exempt legal obs JLT.pdf

<b>Consultations:</b>	Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.
<b>Crime and Disorder Implications:</b>	None
<b>Equality:</b>	Please login to the system to view the EIA document: Fernwood Expansion - EIA.doc
<b>Social Value Considerations:</b>	N/A
<b>Relates to staffing:</b>	Yes
<b>Relates to Council Property Assets:</b>	Yes
<b>Decision Type:</b>	Portfolio Holder
<b>Subject to Call In:</b>	Yes
<b>Call In Expiry date:</b>	15/03/2016
<b>Advice Sought:</b>	Legal, Finance, Procurement, Human Resources, Equality and Diversity, Property
<b>Legal Advice:</b>	This advice is exempt from publication and is contained within an exempt appendix Advice provided by Andrew James (Team Leader Contracts and Commercial) on 25/02/2016.

£4.6m for Primary Schools Reorganisation for undeveloped schemes in areas with increased demand for places was approved (pending business case) as part of the Investment Strategy by Full Council in October 2014. Fernwood Primary and Nursery school is continuously oversubscribed and experiences increasing waiting lists, the total cost of the overall expansion is forecast at £2.000m this report requests £750k in order to progress two classrooms of the expansion. The remainder is expected to be approved by Executive Board in March 2016.

The development is part of Primary Schools Re-Organisation Phase 2 which is to be funded from basic needs grant (confirmed up until 2017/18). Over the past few years it has been usual to forecast future Basic Needs Grant and to use this indicative grant to build a programme of expansions, however there is now some concern over likely future grants being awarded to local authorities, therefore indicative grant will not be included in the funding envelope until there is some clarity. The programme is currently balanced and remains within its current funding envelope, however, if costs increase significantly or new expansions are identified (in addition to those currently expected) it is likely that there will be a funding shortfall. Remaining expansions within the current plan which are not yet approved will be continuously monitored in order to ensure schemes being worked up can remain within the available and confirmed funding.

The capital programme will be amended accordingly.

Advice provided by Tina Adams (Capital and taxation Manager) on 23/02/2016.

If the proposal to expand Fernwood Primary were approved, the Local Authority would fund the school for an additional class each year from the Pupil Growth Contingency Fund until the school is full (i.e. for the next six years). This funding would cover the period September to March of each year. Once the additional pupils were accounted for on the October Autumn Census after the September they were admitted, they would then be funded in the following financial year through the local funding formula.

The School Organisation Team will allocate funding to the school based on the eligibility criteria approved by Schools Forum.

#### Funding Criteria Values

Teacher M3 (7/12ths) £17,824

Teaching Assistant Pt 22 (7/12ths) £14,242

Midday Supervisor Pt 8 (7/12ths) £2,150

Classroom set up costs per class Up to £8,000

Utilities (7/12ths) based on £150 per pupil per year £2,625

The staffing and ancillary costs will be for the seven months (7/12ths) to cover the months between when additional pupils join the school in September and when the increased numbers are recognised in the budget the following year.

The Reception bulge class admitted in September 2015 was funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant Pupil Growth Contingency Fund £0.047m.

**As stated above the funding to meet the cost of the expansion of Fernwood Primary has been set aside within the Basic Needs Grant. However, the ongoing maintenance costs of building would have to be met from the schools budget.**

**Julia Holmes - Advice provided by Julia Elizabeth Holmes (Finance Analyst) on 24/02/2016.**

**Procurement Advice:**

**There are no significant procurement concerns with this decision. The EMPA minor works framework agreement with GF Tomlinson Ltd provides a compliant and value for money option to undertake the construction works. Advice provided by Sue Oliver (Category Manager - Procurement) on 19/02/2016.**

**HR Advice:**

**There are no HR implications with this proposal. Advice provided by Leanne Sharp (Service Redesign Consultant) on 04/02/2016.**

**Equality and Diversity Advice:**

**There are no significant E&D issues with the proposal. Advice provided by Adisa Djan (Equalities and Diversity Consultant) on 02/03/2016.**

**Property Advice:**

**This decision has no property implications as the freehold owner of the site subject to obtaining the statutory consents including if necessary Sports England. Advice provided by Peter Taylor (Senior Surveyor) on 23/02/2016.**

**Signatures**

<b>Sam Webster (Portfolio Holder for Schools)</b>
<b>SIGNED and Dated: 08/03/2016</b>
<b>Alison Michalska (Corporate Director for Children and Adults)</b>
<b>SIGNED and Dated: 03/03/2016</b>