

# Operational Decision Record

Publication Date 17/03/22	Decision Reference Number 4563
<b>Decision Title</b> To allocate £128,000 of Basic Need Grant funding to Bulwell Academy, to support sufficiency of secondary school places.	
<b>Decision Value</b> £128,000	
<b>Revenue or Capital Spend?</b> Capital	
<b>Department</b> Education	
<b>Contact Officer (Name, job title, and contact details)</b> Lucy Juby, Project Manager, lucy.juby@nottinghamcity.gov.uk	
<b>Decision Taken</b> To allocate £128,000 of Basic Need Grant funding to Bulwell Academy, to support sufficiency of secondary school places.	
<b>Reasons for Decision and Background Information</b>  The Basic Need allocation will fund the following:  1) Reconfiguration of break out and communal spaces to create additional classroom space.  Bulwell Academy has some key areas originally designated as break-out or open plan spaces. With the increasing student numbers, they will now convert areas into dedicated classroom spaces by providing internal walling, glazing, partitioning and with the necessary mechanical and electrical amendments to ensure they conform to building regulations.  2) Refit of the Food Technology room to support the increase in pupil numbers.	

The original building incorporated a catering kitchen, which has remained unusable due to its configuration and layout. This will be converted into a more conventional Food Technology room.

Both projects will support Bulwell Academy's significant pupil growth and will enable the school to admit an additional 30 pupils (1 full class) over their normal PAN (Pupil Admission Number) this September 2022. This additional capacity has been negotiated with the Council's Education Department, which is vital to support our statutory duty to deliver sufficient secondary school places. There is significant growth in demand for places in this area of the City and Bulwell Academy are full and oversubscribed. The Academy are only able to offer the additional places, with delivery of these schemes.

For the two specified projects, any purchase or maintenance costs of equipment or buildings will be funded by the Bulwell Academy.

The project meets the Basic Need grant conditions and the Council has sufficient secured uncommitted Basic Need Funding to fund this project.

**This decision was approved by the Council's Capital Board and the Chief Finance Officer on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022.**

### **Other Options Considered and why these were rejected**

None. Additional capacity in the north of the city is vital to accommodate secondary pupils for the coming Admission year in Sept 2022. Bulwell Academy is the most oversubscribed in this area and is currently at full capacity. To enable the school to admit additional pupils over their normal admission number and to deliver an effective curriculum, they need to create additional teaching space and associated facilities.

### **Reasons why this decision is classified as operational**

Has a value below £150,000 and is taken within agreed policies and budgets.

### **Additional Information**

You should consider:

- obtaining and recording advice if necessary from legal, finance or other colleagues
- informing relevant ward councillors if a decision particularly affects their ward
- whether an EIA, DPIA, Carbon Impact assessment or consultation exercise is required for this decision
- for capital spend, confirmation that the decision has been through the appropriate capital approval processes
- referring to any related previous decisions
- risks of the decision and any mitigation of those risks
- if the decision is approving capital spend, please include confirmation that the Chief Finance Officer has agreed to it.

<b>Decision Maker (Name and Job Title)</b>
Catherine Underwood, Corporate Director for People
<b>Scheme of Delegation Reference Number</b>
1
<b>Date Decision Taken</b>
14/03/22