

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:	2286
Author:	Pratima Balaghee
Department:	Development
Contact:	Pratima Balaghee (Job Title: Assistant Project Manager, Email: pratima.balaghee@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 01158762570)
Subject:	Approval of funding and procurement to undertake works for the proposed expansion of Whitegate Primary School with additional classrooms.
Total Value:	£500,000 (Type: Capital)
Decision Being Taken:	- Approve the allocation of £500k from the Basic Needs Grant to undertake expansion works of Whitegate Primary School . - Approve the procurement of a contractor from the East Midlands Property Alliance (EMPA) Framework and the Council's Design Services' team to support the delivery of this project . Delegate authority to the Head of Legal Services to enter into contract with the preferred contractor, subject to the project being in budget.
Reasons for the Decision(s)	Approval of the decisions will enable the design, development and delivery of the works required to expand Whitegate Primary School with two additional classrooms by mid-August 2016. Approval of the £500K budget from the Basic Needs Grant fund will enable the: - appointment of a contractor from the EMPA framework to undertake the design, development and delivery of the expansion works. This will fund the surveys required to inform the design works. - procurement of the Council's Design Services' team to support the project delivery. Delegating the decision to the Head of Legal Services to enter into contract with the preferred contractor from the EMPA framework, subject to the project being in budget, will ensure the expansion works are delivered without any undue delays.
Briefing notes documents:	Appendix _Background information on expansion works at Whitegate Primary School.docx

Other Options Considered:

Do nothing - This option will prevent the school from increasing its capacity to accommodate more pupils for September 2016 admissions intake.

Approval of the decisions above - This will allow the design, procurement and delivery of the expansion of Whitegate Primary School. Delegation of authority to the Head of Legal Services to enter into contract with the preferred contractor, subject to the project being in budget, will prevent delays in project delivery which is due for completion by mid August 2016. This is the preferred option.

Background Papers:

Published Works:

None

Affected Wards:

Clifton South

Colleague / Councillor Interests:

Consultations:

Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

Crime and Disorder Implications:

None

Equality:

Please login to the system to view the EIA document: Equality Impact Assessment_Whitegate Primary.doc

Social Value Considerations:

The Scape framework which will be used for procuring the contractor to deliver the works commits to investing in communities , through:

- 80% of their services and the services of their partners delivered locally.
- an employment and skills plan produced for every project
- engagement with local businesses to ensure reinvestment of capital is maximised.

Scape's regional frameworks are procured through a 2 stage OJEU (The Official Journal of the European Union) process, with all documentation and contracts provided for clients to use. OJEU is the publication in which all tenders from the public sector which are valued above a certain financial threshold according to EU legislation, must be published.

Each framework partner has been appointed following a competitive tendering to ensure they provide exceptional value for money. 100% of each project cost is market tested.

Discussions with the school around the needs of staff, pupils and other users on site will take place throughout the duration of the project through regular meetings with the headteacher and the school's business manager. The impact of the options on community cohesion and integration will be considered before implementation.

Decision Type:

Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In:

Yes

Call In Expiry date:

04/01/2016

Advice Sought:

Legal, Finance, Procurement, Equality and Diversity

Legal Advice:

This report raises no significant legal issues as the proposal is to use an EU compliant framework for the works. Advice provided by Andrew James (Team Leader Contracts and Commercial) on 16/12/2015.

Finance Advice:

Capital Advice

This development is part of Primary Schools Re-Organisation Phase 2 (PSR) which is to be funded from basic needs grants (both confirmed and expected over a five year period). In October Full Council approved an initial amount of £0.410m (pending business case) for the expansion of Whitegate Primary School, since then the costs have increased slightly to £0.500m, but will still be within the existing funding envelope approved to PSR. Part of the overall PSR programme has been funded by indicative future grant, therefore, there is a chance that actual grant may be lower than anticipated which could cause a potential shortfall on the overall PSR programme. However, future grant has been forecast on a prudent basis, and due to the shortage of primary school places being an increasing nationwide issue it is thought unlikely the government will reduce the basic needs grant significantly over the next few years.

Advice provided by Tina Adams (Capital and taxation Manager) on 11/12/2015.

Finance Advice

Each financial year funding is earmarked within the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for the expansion of schools within the city. The funding is allocated based on the Pupil Growth Contingency Fund Criteria set by Schools Forum. The School Organisation Team are responsible for the administration of the fund and they have advised that they have provisionally earmarked £0.016m for Whitegate Primary in the financial year 2016/17 for two new classrooms. The total proposed Pupil Growth Contingency for 2016/17 is £0.962m. Currently the Pupil Growth Contingency for 2016/17 has not been approved by Schools Forum which is a Department of Education requirement. This is due to go to Schools Forum for approval on the 21st January 2016. Confirmation of the DSG for 2016/17 is expected by the Education Funding Agency by Christmas 2015. The Schools Block of the DSG from which the Pupil Growth Contingency fund is funded is based on an amount per pupil and is allocated based on the pupils recorded on the Autumn 2015 school census. Therefore, as the number of pupils within the city has risen since last year it safe to assume that there will be sufficient DSG funding to support this proposal.

Advice provided by Julia Elizabeth Holmes (Finance Analyst) on 14/12/2015.

Procurement Advice:

There are no significant procurement concerns with this decision. The EMPA framework agreements provide a compliant and value for money option to undertake the works. Advice provided by Sue Oliver (Category Manager - Procurement) on 11/12/2015.

Equality and Diversity Advice:

Effective consultation will be paramount to ensure that any developments fit the needs of all stakeholders. Additionally, it will also be important to ensure that the equality aspects and targets as outlined in SCAPE are reviewed with an aim to ensure that they have been met.

Advice provided by Adisa Djan (Equalities and Diversity Consultant) on 11/12/2015.

Signatures

Sam Webster (Portfolio Holder for Schools)
SIGNED and Dated: 22/12/2015
Alison Michalska (Corporate Director for Children and Adults)
SIGNED and Dated: 18/12/2015