

# Education, Children and Families Committee

10am, Tuesday, 7 March 2017

## Schools and Lifelong Learning Estate Update

Item number	7.1
Report number	Executive
Executive/routine	
Wards	All

### Executive summary

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This report provides an update on a number of issues related to the schools and lifelong learning estate as requested at the previous Education, Children and Families Committee on 13 December 2016.

In particular it provides further details of how the Communities and Families input into the asset sections of the emerging Locality Improvement Plans will be developed before being reported back to Committee in June 2017 for consideration.

The report also recommends that a statutory consultation for the final Wave 3 school infrastructure project which is the replacement of St Crispin's Special School should now be progressed.

### Links

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Coalition pledges	<a href="#">P4</a>
Council priorities	<a href="#">CP1, CP12</a>
Single Outcome Agreement	<a href="#">SO3</a>

## Schools and Lifelong Learning Estate Update

### Recommendations

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- 1.1 Note the update on the schools and lifelong learning estate and the intention to carry out a strategic review to inform the Communities and Families input into the asset sections of the emerging Locality Improvement Plans.
- 1.2 Delegate authority to the Executive Director of Communities and Families to progress a statutory consultation for the final Wave 3 schools infrastructure project which is the replacement of St Crispin's Special School.

### Background

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- 2.1 The Education, Children and Families Committee on 13 December 2016 considered three reports - [Developing a Vision for the Schools and Lifelong Learning Estate](#); [Local Development Plan Education Infrastructure Update](#) and; [Rising School Rolls](#) - and approved several recommendations which related to accommodation issues in the school estate, requesting updates be provided to Committee in March 2017.
- 2.2 Further to this, an addendum to a report about the new [Queensferry High School](#) considered by the City of Edinburgh Council on 24 November 2016 also requested regular updates on progress with delivery of a West of Edinburgh High School be provided to the Education, Children and Families Committee.
- 2.3 This report provides an update on all of these issues.

### Main report

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#### **Developing a Vision for the Schools and Lifelong Learning Estate**

- 3.1 The report on *Developing a Vision for the Schools and Lifelong Learning Estate* approved that school roll projections would be published online and these are now available at: <http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/schoolrollprojections>
- 3.2 The report also approved the future asset requirements for Children and Families should be developed in partnership with all relevant stakeholders and integrated into the asset sections of the emerging Locality Improvement Plans. The timescale for development of the first draft of the Locality Improvement Plans is summer 2017 and Communities and Families have established appropriate representation on the Locality Management Board and the Locality Leadership Teams to ensure all future asset requirements are included in these plans.

3.3 It is the intention that the proposed Communities and Families content within the asset sections of the improvement plans will be reported to the Education, Children and Families Committee in June 2017, for consideration before it is finalised. As part of this process a strategic review will be undertaken with regard to the most effective approach to delivery of all future Communities and Families infrastructure including:

- short term “rising rolls” accommodation requirements for August 2018 and August 2019;
- longer term delivery of new schools related to the Local Development Plan or the Wave 4 investment programme;
- early years facilities required to meet the statutory increase in hours for eligible children due to be introduced by the Scottish Government by 2020;
- the future asset requirements to support the emerging 3-18 Gaelic Medium Education (GME) strategy (being developed by a co-production group involving Council officers and members of the Gaelic Implementation Group) which is part of the next Gaelic Language Plan due to be finalised by October 2017;
- the asset requirements for Children’s Services and;
- wider community infrastructure requirements linked to the service delivery remit of Communities and Families, other services and partners.

3.4 To support this review a detailed consultation and engagement programme is being developed with the Council’s Insight and Engagement team which will involve workshops with pupils, teachers, parents and the wider community within each locality to ensure any new infrastructure provided serves the needs of all potential user groups. The involvement of the Council’s corporate engagement expertise will ensure the consultation exercise is fully integrated with any other engagement activity being undertaken through the 2050 City Vision and asset rationalisation programmes. The engagement programme will include children being directly involved in shaping the form and layout of future learning environments. This aspect of the engagement is at the core of the current *Future Schools Project* and will continue beyond the completion of the strategic review to ensure briefing material for new infrastructure continues to evolve to meet the needs of users.

3.5 The outputs of the strategic review will be a set of proposals for shaping the future schools and lifelong learning estate which will include:

- 3.5.1 New schools and associated community facilities required as a result of the housing and associated population growth outlined in the Local Development Plan;
- 3.5.2 Extensions to existing assets which will create a more effective and efficient schools and lifelong learning estate;

- 3.5.3 A list of statutory consultations which will be required for any new policy or catchment proposals thought necessary to support the creation of a more effective and efficient schools and lifelong learning estate;
- 3.5.4 A detailed cost plan demonstrating the overall value of establishing a more strategic approach to provision of future asset requirements, showing the funding which is already available and identifying any funding gaps which will be required to be addressed in the longer term.
- 3.6 The final recommendation in the report to Committee in December was to offer working groups at three schools - *Bonaly Primary School, St Ninian's RC Primary School and Trinity Academy* – which were identified in the projections as potentially requiring solutions to be developed to address rising rolls issues in future years.
- 3.7 Since the December 2016 Committee, Bonaly Primary School has been involved in the *Future Schools Project* and at present a separate working group is not required. Similarly a working group is not yet required at St Ninian's RC Primary School as the registrations recorded in January for August 2017 are lower than expected. A working group has been established at Trinity Academy and two meetings have taken place during January and February.
- 3.8 As Trinity Academy is one of the four schools at which feasibility studies are currently being progressed through the Wave 4 investment programme, the architects working on the feasibility study for the school have been asked to consider what short term investment would be required to address the rising rolls issues and could be designed to be compatible with any longer term investment. The working group is also considering what essential works could be progressed through current capital funding available for asset management that would also be compatible with any future Wave 4 investment. The proposals arising from the feasibility study will be considered as part of the strategic review.

### **Local Development Plan Education Infrastructure Update**

- 3.9 Following consideration of the *Local Development Plan Education Infrastructure Update* report in December 2016 the Education, Children and Families Committee approved that a statutory consultation regarding the establishment of a new non-denominational primary school within south east Edinburgh could be progressed. The consultation period ran from 16 January to 3 March 2017 and two public meetings were held on 31 January and 9 February as part of the consultation process. An *Outcomes of the Consultation* report will now be prepared and submitted to Council for consideration in June 2017.
- 3.10 The report noted that the funding implications of the proposal for the new school would be reported to the Finance and Resources Committee as part of the [Local Development Plan Action Programme](#) update in January 2017. The report to the Finance and Resources Committee confirmed that existing LDP funding could be used to engage the design team for the new school and that a further update on the longer term funding required to deliver LDP infrastructure projects would be provided in six months.

## **Rising School Rolls**

- 3.11 Following consideration of the *Rising School Rolls* report in December 2016 the Education, Children and Families Committee approved that a statutory consultation regarding the relocation of Victoria Primary School to the site reserved in the Local Development Plan for a school in the Western Harbour could be progressed. The consultation period started on 30 January and will conclude on 17 March 2017. Two public meetings were held on 21 and 27 February as part of the consultation process. Following the consultation period an *Outcomes of the Consultation* report will be prepared and submitted to Council for consideration in June 2017.
- 3.12 The Rising School Rolls report noted that the funding implications of the proposal for the new school would be reported to the Finance and Resources Committee as part of the [Local Development Plan Action Programme](#) update in January 2017. The report to the Finance and Resources Committee confirmed that existing LDP funding could be used to engage the design team for the new school and that a further update on the longer term funding required to deliver LDP infrastructure projects would be provided in six months.
- 3.13 The report also noted that an update on the preferred solution to accommodation issues at Stockbridge Primary School would be brought back to Committee in March 2017. The current solution being developed at Stockbridge Primary School is the creation of a two classroom standalone facility for August 2018 and the design team are currently progressing with the preparation of a planning application for this solution so that if it is required it will be able to be delivered on time. However, due to the space within an already limited playground that would be taken up by new classrooms the working group has also requested that all other options to address the accommodation issues continue to be considered. This request will be progressed as part of the strategic review.
- 3.14 The final recommendation in the Rising School Rolls report was that unless an alternative lower cost solution could be identified to address rising rolls issues at Boroughmuir and James Gillespie's High Schools, a statutory consultation proposal to establish a permanent annexe for both schools at the Darroch building would be brought to Committee for consideration. However, due to the ongoing delays with the delivery of the new Boroughmuir High School and the intention to consider the future assets requirements for GME as part of the strategic review, it is still considered to be too early to progress a statutory consultation. Once the new Boroughmuir High School is operational and the strategic review is completed, more suitable and cost effective solutions to the rising rolls issues at both schools are likely to emerge.

## **West Edinburgh High School**

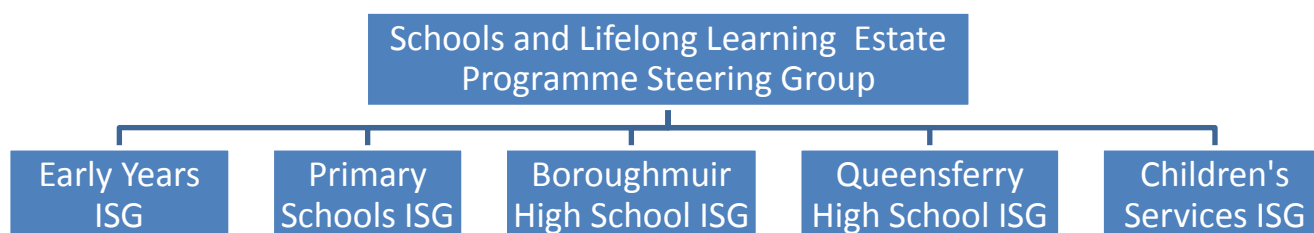
- 3.15 A new West Edinburgh High School is currently identified as a future requirement in the Local Development Plan Action Programme. A report on the replacement of [Queensferry High School](#) to Council on 24 November 2016 noted that in the future it may be necessary to propose a catchment review to transfer

the Kirkliston area from the current catchment area of Queensferry High School to the catchment area for the new West Edinburgh High School.

- 3.16 An addendum to the report was accepted by Council which requested an update within two cycles to the Education, Children and Families Committee (and regular future updates) in respect of the building and funding of a "Kirkliston High School" or West Edinburgh High School to include indicative timescales and reference to any potential opportunities in relation to co-operation with West Lothian Council on catchment or other relevant matters. To date an initial meeting has been held with officers from West Lothian Council to discuss opportunities for co-operation and the potential for the Kirkliston area of Queensferry High School's catchment area to be aligned to the new High School proposed for Winchburgh in West Lothian (which is 2 miles from Kirkliston) was discussed. Further detailed analysis of this opportunity including informal consultation with the families who would be affected is required and will be progressed as part of the strategic review.

### **Governance arrangements for the Strategic Review and Infrastructure Delivery**

- 3.17 In order to oversee the strategic review of the schools and lifelong learning estate and the delivery of current and future associated infrastructure projects the following governance structure which incorporates all Investment Steering Groups for existing schools infrastructure projects has been established.



- 3.18 The Schools and Lifelong Learning Estate Steering Group involves all three Communities and Families Heads of Service and colleagues from Finance, Procurement, Property & Facilities Management, Strategy & Insight and Corporate Communications. The main responsibilities of the steering group will be to oversee the wide ranging consultation and engagement programme, ensure business plans for any new projects reflect the service needs identified through the engagement programme and to consider the most appropriate procurement route for the design and delivery of each infrastructure project.
- 3.19 The business plans for new projects created by the steering group will require to be referred to the new Property Board established as part of the Council's new Corporate Landlord approach to asset management. The investment steering groups which are standard practice for delivery of major projects within the Council have been organised in line with the main categories of schools and lifelong learning infrastructure and will ensure that once approved, each specific project is delivered in line with the agreed scope and budget.

- 3.20 The current investment steering groups for the replacement St John's RC Primary School and Primary School Rising Rolls will be incorporated into the proposed primary school Investment Steering Group. The Wave 4 feasibility studies and secondary school rising rolls issues will be considered by the overarching programme steering group in the first instance with dedicated project steering groups established for each High School as and when required.
- 3.21 The final Wave 3 project which requires to be implemented is the replacement for St Crispin's Special School. A preferred site for the school has been identified which is the former site of the Burdiehouse Primary School and it is now proposed that a statutory consultation for the relocation of the school to this site is progressed.
- 3.22 More detail on the requirements for the new school are provided in the *Additional Support Needs and Special School Update 2016-17* report which is a separate item on the agenda for this Committee. In order that the consultation can be progressed as soon as possible it is recommended that delegated authority is provided for the Executive Director of Communities and Families to progress the statutory consultation including the preparation and approval of an appropriate statutory consultation paper.

## Measures of success

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- 4.1 A vision for the future of the schools and lifelong learning estate which is fully integrated with the requirements of the whole Council and other key partners.

## Financial impact

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- 5.1 This report provides a strategic overview and has no direct financial implications. The financial implications of any specific Communities and Families projects are outlined in the appropriate operational report to the appropriate Committee.

## Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

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- 6.1 The intention of developing a new vision for the schools and lifelong learning estate is to ensure Communities and Families are fully engaged in a "One Council" approach to the provision of future assets which will assist with the improvement of service delivery. As such any future project led by Communities and Families will be aligned to all the necessary Council risk, policy, compliance and governance requirements.

## Equalities impact

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- 7.1 There are no negative equality or human rights impacts arising from this report.

## Sustainability impact

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- 8.1 An approach to the provision of Communities and Families assets which is fully integrated with the wider asset priority of the Council and its partners will ensure a sustainable approach to future asset provision.



## Consultation and engagement

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9.1 The details of the consultation and engagement plan are provided in the main report.

## Background reading/external references

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Education, Children and Families Committee - 13 December 2016: [Developing a Vision for the Schools and Lifelong Learning Estate](#); [Local Development Plan Education Infrastructure Update](#); [Rising School Rolls School Roll Projections](#)

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## Links

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<b>Coalition pledges</b>	P04 - Draw up a long-term strategic plan to tackle both over-crowding and under use in schools
<b>Council priorities</b>	CP1 – Children and young people fulfil their potential CP12 – A built environment to match our ambition
<b>Single Outcome Agreement</b>	S03 - Edinburgh’s children and young people enjoy their childhood and fulfil their potential
<b>Appendices</b>	