

<b>DECISION-MAKER:</b>	CABINET		
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE - APPROVAL OF STRATEGY FOR CHANGE PART 1 AND PRIORITISATION OF SCHOOLS (WAVE 6A)		
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	29 JUNE 2009		
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES		
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Name:	Beky Mepham	Tel: 023 8083 2269
	E-mail:	beky.mepham@southampton.gov.uk	

<b>STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY</b>
None

## SUMMARY

This report recommends that the document entitled Strategy for Change Part 1 (SfC1), which sets out the educational vision for Southampton and the broad strategy for taking the Building Schools for the Future wave 6a programme forward towards procurement be approved for submission to Partnerships for Schools. This includes the prioritisation of the five schools to be included in Wave 6a of Building Schools for the Future ('BSF').

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (i) To approve the Strategy for Change Part 1, for submission to Partnerships for Schools ('PfS'), including the prioritisation criteria for sequencing projects throughout the programme, and the initial selection of projects for wave 6a. The schools initially selected for wave 6a are:
  - Bitterne Park School
  - Chamberlayne College for the Arts
  - St George Catholic VA College
  - The Sholing Technology College
  - Upper Shirley High School

These projects will be subject to further feasibility testing. The selection will be reconfirmed or re-sequenced in the Strategy for Change Part 2.
- (ii) To delegate authority to the Executive Director, Children's Services and Learning to approve any further changes required to the document
- (iii) To delegate authority to the BSF and Academies Project Director, following consultation with the Executive Director of Children's Services and Learning and the Cabinet Member for Children's Services as appropriate, to take any steps necessary for the preparation of the Strategy for Change Part 2 for submission to PfS and to commence all work required in order to prepare an Outline

Business Case for approval by Cabinet and submission to PfS in due course.

## **REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Strategy for Change Part 1 is a mandatory element of the BSF programme. It must be approved and submitted to enable continuation of the programme, which will deliver significant educational and environmental improvements to the schools and school communities included within the BSF programme.
2. Partnerships for Schools or ministerial colleagues may suggest non-substantial changes to the document before they will formally approve.

## **CONSULTATION**

3. The Strategy for Change Part 1 has been through several drafts and has been shared with a wide variety of colleagues, partners and stakeholders during its development. They have included: members, local MPs, the Diocese, the PCT and local colleges. In addition, secondary head teachers have been consulted individually and as a group on the contents of the SfC1 over the past two school terms. The SfC has also been shared with the Building Schools for the Future Stakeholder Board, which draws its membership from local businesses, the Hampshire Constabulary, the Learning and Skills Council, Southampton City Youth Parliament, and primary and Special Educational Needs head teachers.

## **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

4. Not to submit the document. This would halt our progression in the programme
5. To materially amend the Strategy for Change Part 1. This would require further detailed negotiation with PfS and would potentially delay or halt progression within the programme.

## **DETAIL**

6. BSF is the biggest single investment in improving school buildings for more than 50 years. It is intended that every secondary school in the country will be rebuilt or improved over the next 15 years. The aim is to help our young people improve their life chances and create schools that meet the needs of their local community. In July 2008 Southampton City Council succeeded in its bid to be included in Wave 6a and the programme formally commenced at the Remit meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> April 2009.
7. Strategy for Change Part 1 is the first required document as part of the programme. It must be submitted eight weeks after the Remit meeting if we are to adhere to the prescribed timetable, illustrated in Appendix 2. The Strategy for Change Part 1 aims to set out the educational vision for the City.
8. Wave 6a covers only the five schools as outlined in Recommendation i), the five schools were prioritised based upon educational need (5 A\*-C GCSE grades including English and Maths) and a social deprivation calculator (Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index). These factors were balanced with deliverability and the overall prioritisation confirmed.

9. All other mainstream and special schools will be part of the second wave of BSF for Southampton. It is yet to be confirmed when this wave will be activated.

## **FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

### **Capital**

10. The reports to Council and Cabinet in March 2008 detailed the estimated capital costs of the BSF programme.
11. The amount of funding available from the DCSF for Wave 6a is still to be confirmed but is likely to total £87 million. Two of the projects are likely to be Design and Build funded by capital grant. The remaining three projects are likely to be Private Finance Initiative (PFI) schemes, funded by PFI credits. There is likely to be a gap in the capital grant available to fund the Design and Build projects, equating to between 10 – 20% of the capital costs (£4 - £8 million). An annual revenue contribution will also be required for the PFI schemes, over the life on the PFI contract. This will be part paid for by the schools themselves. The size of the council contribution is still to be finalised.
12. A funding allocation model (FAM) will be provided to the Local Authority at several stages in the process:
- Draft affordability models will be developed Oct/Nov 09
  - Confirmation of funding will be available at Outline Business Case sign-off (April 2010)
13. The model calculates an indicative funding allocation based on the number of pupils forecast to be in the schools, the required floor area, and the relative proportion of new build, remodelling and refurbishment required.

### **Revenue**

14. The reports to Council and Cabinet in March 2008 detailed the estimated revenue costs of the BSF programme.
15. The 2009/10 Children's Services Portfolio estimates include expenditure budgets of £1,393,900 funded partly from school budgets agreed by the Schools Forum to fund the work of the BSF team.

### **Property**

16. There will be substantial investment into the five schools named.
17. The BSF Programme is a key priority for the Authority. The redevelopment or replacement of the property assets will result in a reduction in the repairs and maintenance backlog and is consistent with the corporate property strategy.

### **Other**

18. None.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

### **Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:**

19. Section 14 of the Education Act 1996 imposes a duty on Local Authorities to secure sufficient primary and secondary school places are available for the inhabitants of their areas. Provision is not considered 'sufficient' unless it is

