

APPENDIX 1

Report of: Cabinet Member for Children's Services

Briefing to: Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Date of Cabinet Decision: 16th February, 2009

Subject: Regents Park Community College Relocation

SUMMARY

1. The decision report will enable statutory notices under the School Standards and Framework Act to be published proposing the relocation of Regents Park Community College from its current location to share the St Mark's CE Junior School site, and incorporating the former Civil Service Sports Club field as playing fields.

BACKGROUND & BRIEFING DETAILS

2. The idea of relocating Regents Park was first publicly discussed in the Learning Futures Review of Secondary Education. The proposal is that it should share the St Mark's CE Junior School site, and that the former Civil Service Sports Club field should be acquired to form a playing field for the resulting learning campus and be available for community use.
3. In order for this plan to be realised several things need to happen.
 - The sports ground must be acquired
 - Resources must be obtained to rebuild Regents Park
 - The future size and status of St Mark's must be resolved
 - Planning permission must be obtained
 - Approval must be obtained for the relocation
4. These processes need to happen in parallel in order to bring the proposal to implementation. The forthcoming decision relates to the fifth bullet point. The decision will delegate to the Executive Director for Children's Services and Learning the authority to publish statutory proposals for the relocation. The timing of this will be left to the Director, as it is important that the decision takes place once the in-principle Building Schools for the Future funding has been agreed by Partnership for Schools. It is also a requirement that there is a six week consultation period in school term time.

RESOURCES/POLICY/FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5. The cost of the consultation will be relatively small, and met from within existing budgets.

OPTIONS AND TIMESCALES

6. The only alternative option would be not to make statutory proposals, or to defer a Cabinet Member decision until after BSF funding was secure. These have been rejected as potentially causing unnecessary delay and uncertainty.