

**COUNCIL CABINET
20 FEBRUARY 2007
MINUTE EXTRACT**

208/06 Building Schools for the Future

The Council Cabinet considered a report on Building Schools for the Future. Building Schools for the Future (BSF) was the biggest ever programme for investment in school buildings. It aimed to replace or renovate all secondary school buildings during the next 15 or so years. It had now been confirmed that Derby would be included in the BSF programme from September 2007. The planning and preparation for this huge programme needed to begin prior to September. This included establishment of project organisation structures, including a Project Board providing strategic direction, and a BSF Delivery Team. It was important to set up a management structure as soon as possible, and establish BSF capacity. The report sought approval for funding for this purpose. At the same time, there was considerable demand in preparing an Outline Business Case, following the successful bid for additional PFI credits - £2.1m - for a children's centre at Lakeside Primary School. In order to make the most efficient use of resources, the report sought funding for this purpose, to be built into the BSF Project Team capacity.

Options Considered

Careful consideration had been given to the means of supporting the project in the financial circumstances of the Council.

Decision

1. To approve the allocation of corporate resources for the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme, to set up project management arrangements and a dedicated delivery team.
2. To incorporate resources to take forward the project to build a PFI Children's Centre at Lakeside Primary School within this team.

Reasons

1. The BSF programme represented a huge opportunity to transform secondary education in Derby to meet key challenges and objectives. BSF provided substantial levels of capital investment to realise this vision.
2. BSF was an opportunity to replace or renovate all secondary school buildings, following Derby's inclusion in Wave 5 of the national programme. Existing resources were insufficient to manage a project of this scale successfully.

3. Following the successful bid for additional PFI credits for £2.1m, an outline business case needed to be developed to build a Children's Centre at Lakeside by March 2008.

In accordance with Procedure Rule AI26, the Chair of the Children and young People Commission had been advised that this item would be considered although not included in the Forward Plan.