

Report sponsor: Andy Smith, Strategic Director
of People Services

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Children's Integrated Commissioning

Ravensdale Infant and Nursery School – New School Project

Purpose

- 1.1 To seek approval to award the contract for the final construction phase of the replacement Ravensdale Infant and Nursery School building, following a major fire in October 2020.
- 1.2 The overall cost of the new build is expected to be £7.549m, subject to final detailed design work, and the final insurance settlement will remain unconfirmed until the end of the scheme and all costs have been determined.
- 1.3 To seek approval to amend the Council's approved capital programme, as set out in the part 2 confidential Cabinet report which includes commercially sensitive financial information.

Recommendations

- 2.1 To approve the increase to the Schools Capital Programme for the replacement construction work for Ravensdale Infant and Nursery School, as set out in the part 2 confidential report.
- 2.2 To approve scheme commencement for the above works without the need for Gateway approval, to add the profiled spend to the 2020/21-2022/23 capital programme and to amend the Council's approved capital programme.
- 2.3 To note that the costs are anticipated costs, and the Council is working closely with its insurer to seek a full insurance settlement for each element. Should costs vary from currently anticipated figures, any necessary approvals will be made in line with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules and scheme of delegation. Final costs will be reported to Council Cabinet once confirmed.

Reason(s)

- 3.1 In accordance with Financial Procedure Rules, additions to the Council's capital programme not provided for in the approved budget are required to be reported to Cabinet for approval.

Supporting information

- 4.1 Back in October 2020, Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service (DFRS) were called to attend Ravensdale Infant and Nursery School, following reports of a fire. Unfortunately, it was not possible to contain the fire and the majority of the building was destroyed by the blaze, along with almost all the building contents.
- 4.2 In close consultation with the school, the Council moved quickly to reopen the school across temporary sites and all pupils returned to schooling during the week commencing 2 November 2020. Details of the ongoing decanting arrangements for the school are set out in Appendix 2.
- 4.3 At its meeting on 13 January 2021, Council Cabinet gave approval for design work and placing of initial orders for the new school building. The new school will include Fire Sprinklers. The scheme is currently being developed to industry standard RIBA Stage 4 design, and the planning application was submitted on 19 February 2021. It is anticipated that planning permission will be granted by 21 May 2021, with work due to start on site in July 2021. The new school building is scheduled to open in early June 2022.
- 4.4 The final requirements for the new build will be subject to further refinement as plans are developed and implemented and will be subject to usual procurement processes. It is therefore not possible to confirm the final costs at this stage. However, it is expected that the overall new build cost will be in the region of £7.549m. This includes the stage 4 design work of £0.601m, for which Cabinet approval was given on 13 January 2021. It is anticipated that the final scheme designs will be completed and costed before appointing the contractor by June 2021.
- 4.5 The current anticipated costs are based on Stage 3 feasibilities. Commercially sensitive financial details of the proposals for funding the replacement school are set out in the part 2 confidential Cabinet report.
- 4.6 The design of the new school has been developed in close partnership with Ravensdale Infant and Nursery School and the Council. Project Design and governance meetings continue to take place to ensure detailed engagement, and robust project management.

Public/stakeholder engagement

- 5.1 The Council is working closely with its Insurer to finalise costs associated with these works and is continuing to work very closely with the school during the decanting and replacement school building scheme.

Other options

- 6.1 The Council has no other option but to seek to replace Ravensdale Infant and Nursery School at the earliest opportunity.

Financial and value for money issues

- 7.1 The anticipated cost of providing a permanent replacement school building is £7.549m. Further details are set out in the Part 2 confidential report.
- 7.2 Each stage of the project will be procured and approved in line with the Council's contract procedure rules.

Legal implications

- 8.1 The Council has a legal duty to provide sufficient school places, under the Education Act 1996 Section 14(1), and needs to secure the replacement of Ravensdale Infant and Nursery School as soon as is practically possible.
- 8.2 Necessary planning permissions for the works will be sought as part of the scheme.

Climate implications

- 9.1 The replacement school will comply with modern building regulations and benefit from modern energy efficient plant and equipment. The new school design will include fire sprinklers.

Other significant implications

- 10.1 None

This report has been approved by the following people:

Role	Name	Date of sign-off
Legal	Madhuri Gembali, Solicitor	22/03/21
Finance	Toni Nash, Head of Finance Organisation and Governance	18/03/21
Service Director(s)	Gurmail Nizzer, Director of Commissioning	22/03/21
Report sponsor	Andy Smith, Strategic Director for People Services	18/03/21
Other(s)	Diane Whitehead, Head of School Organisation and Provision	15/03/21
	Philip Derbyshire, Head of Property Projects and Technical Services	22/03/21
	Manju Mahey, Principal Insurance Officer	23/03/21

Background papers:	
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Decanting Arrangements

Decanting Arrangements for Ravensdale Infant and Nursery School

In September 2021, both Hackwood Primary and Highfields Primary, will admit a new Reception year classes into their schools. This will mean that the schools will have less surplus space available and will not be able to continue to fully accommodate the original Ravensdale Infant school numbers. It is therefore planned that stage 3 decanting arrangements will begin for September 2021. It is proposed that the two remaining year groups, not already at Ravensdale Infant, will join together and relocate to the new Castleward Primary School, until the completion of the permanent replacement Ravensdale Infant School.

Castleward Primary School is scheduled to be completed for August 2021, and open to just one year group in September 2021. This presents the opportunity to use the new building, and initial surplus space, to bring together the two other Ravensdale Infant year groups, currently split over two separate sites, onto a single site. Full details are set out below:

Year Group	Summer Term 2021 (2020/2021 Academic Year)	September 2021 to June 2022 (2021/2022 Academic Year)
Nursery and Administration	Temporary Classes at the Ravensdale Infant School site.	Temporary Classes at the Ravensdale Infant School site.
Reception Classes	Highfields Primary School.	Temporary Classes at the Ravensdale Infant School site.
Year 1 Classes	Hackwood Primary School.	Castleward Primary School.
Year 2 Classes	Temporary Classes at the Ravensdale Infant School site.	Castleward Primary School.

Decant and return into a permanently rebuilt Ravensdale Infant School

The final decanting arrangements will see the relocation of all three year groups, plus Nursery, from their temporary locations into a new permanent replacement Ravensdale Infant and Nursery School. Final feasibility, design, planning and procurement works for the new replacement school building are currently being completed. The construction programme is also still being developed, but it is expected that the new school will be available from June 2022.