

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| By: | Mike Whiting, Cabinet Member for Education, Learning & Skills Patrick Leeson, Corporate Director for Education, Learning & Skills |
| To: | Education Cabinet Committee – 12 September 2012 |
| Subject | Priority School Building Programme (PSBP) |
| Classification: | Unrestricted |

| | |
|----------|--|
| Summary: | This report informs the Education Cabinet Committee about the Priority School Building Programme (PSBP). |
|----------|--|

1. Background

- 1.1 On the 24th May 2012, Kent was advised that 14 schools had successfully secured funding under the Priority School Building Programme (PSBP). Of these 14 schools, 13 applications were made by Kent and Castle Community College applied in its own right. These schools are listed further in the report.
- 1.2 Kent made applications for 58 schools, a number of which did not meet the DfE criteria. Although three of these have been successful, a full breakdown of the schools is attached as appendix 1. The choice of the successful schools was based on those that are in the worst condition and does not take into account the requirement for additional school places or any other criteria such as if there are mobiles on site. The Kent schools were ranked against all applications of which 261 schools were successful across the UK.

2. Funding

- 2.1 It is not known what the level of funding is for each school but it is believed that the majority of schools will be rebuilt and DfE will be undertaking feasibility studies to confirm this.
- 2.2 The funding level is predicted to be set at a level to achieve buildings similar to those at Campsmount Technology College built by Wates, which was seen as a pilot after it was rebuilt following a fire. The link to the web site showing the type of buildings is: <http://www.campsmount.com/category/new-build/>.
- 2.3 Generally the funding is for PFI schools and schools will be expected to make a revenue contribution each year.
- 2.4 For Laleham Gap Special School and Canterbury Primary School, a capital grant will be made available which has been provided to address the schools in the programme who are in the very worst condition and any special schools.

2.5 While the schools will be built as PFI schools, it was announced that: “Schools will have greater flexibility with soft facilities management services, such as cleaning, catering, security and some grounds maintenance being managed and controlled by schools themselves”. This will mean that schools can retain control over these services.

3. Programme

3.1 The announcement indicated that work will begin immediately and the first schools will be open in 2014. The programme is intended to deliver over the next 5 years and the prioritisation will be by condition.

3.2 We understand that the Education Funding Agency (EFA) is going to be procuring a new framework for the PFI schools and that it will be issuing an OJEU in due course.

3.2 The EFA has advised that it will carry out feasibilities for each school. Those that are receiving capital grant will be batched and will be follow on schemes in the same way as the batched Academies. The PFI school feasibilities will be undertaken in parallel with the procurement of the framework. The dates for contact with the schools in Kent have been set as

| School Name | Projected Contact Period |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Aylesham Primary School | 1Q 2014 |
| Chantry Primary School | 1Q 2014 |
| Culverstone Green Primary School | 1Q 2014 |
| Halfway Houses Primary School | 1Q 2014 |
| Laleham Gap School | 4Q 2012 |
| Meopham School | 1Q 2014 |
| Priory Fields School | 1Q 2014 |
| Sevenoaks Primary School | 1Q 2014 |
| Smarden Primary School | 4Q 2012 |
| St Philip Howard Catholic Primary School | 1Q 2014 |
| The Canterbury Primary School | 4Q 2012 |
| Westlands Primary School | 1Q 2014 |
| York Road Junior Academy | 1Q 2014 |

3.4 Legal and technical advisors will be centrally appointed to work with the EFA. The programme for these appointments will be announced in due course.

3.5 Once the programme of schools is announced large group meetings will be held with schools from various areas in each phase and the timing of these events will be dependent upon where each school is in the overall programme.

4. Procurement

4.1 The exact details of the procurement are as yet unknown, although it is understood that the schools will be centrally procured.

- 4.2 The role of Kent in the procurement is unknown, although it is likely that involvement will be necessary for a number of reasons including pupil numbers, land and title issues, and potentially some risks may need to be discussed.
- 4.3 Through various sources we understand that the procurement will be via the Contractor Framework (formerly the Academy framework), although consideration is being given to other procurement routes.
- 4.4 The schools will be procured in batches across areas so it may be that Kent is batched with other Authorities. The size and number of schools in each batch is being worked through and is being worked through with ministers.
- 4.5 EFA have indicated that the contract with the providers not be direct with KCC but will be with either DfE or EFA with a number of licenses and back to back agreements with the LA. The form of these contracts is not yet finalised.

5. Recommendations

5.1 Members are asked to note

- (i) There is no information at present regarding future additional funding.
- (ii) Lobbying for inclusion of schools that have not been successful in obtaining funding and for reprioritisation will continue

Background Documents

None