



Haringey Council

Agenda item:

Cabinet

On 22 April 2008

Report Title: **Primary Strategy for Change**

Forward Plan reference number (if applicable):

Report of: **Director of the Children and Young People's Service**

Wards(s) affected: **All**

Report for: **Key**

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To report on progress in developing and consulting on the council's Primary Strategy for Change document. This sets out the strategy to transform teaching and learning in Haringey Primary schools, along with proposed three year capital investment priorities. It is required to release the new Primary Capital Programme (PCP) funds from 2009/10.
- 1.2 To delegate to the Director of the Children and Young People's Service in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People the responsibility for approving the Primary Strategy for Change document prior to submission to DCSF. The deadline is 16 June 2008 and no May Cabinet meeting is scheduled.

2. Introduction by Cabinet Member

- 2.1 I recommend this report detailing progress to date on the development of the Primary Strategy for Change and the consultations undertaken.
- 2.2 In view of the need to submit the PSfC to DCSF by 16 June I seek Cabinet's approval to delegate agreement of the final document to the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People and the Director of CYPS.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That the Cabinet delegate approval of the final Primary Strategy for Change to the Director of the Children and Young People's Service in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People.

Report Authorised by:



p.p. Sharon Shoesmith
Director
Children and Young People's Service

Contact Officer:

Ian Bailey, Deputy Director (020 8489 4601)

4. Chief Financial Officer Comments

- 4.1 The Chief Financial Officer was consulted in the preparation of this report. The investment of additional DCSF resources will support the objectives of this strategy. These resources will be formally and fully released once DCSF approval is gained. All other resource implications will need to be met from within existing budgets.
- 4.2 This strategy will guide the allocation of capital resources for future years towards the key priorities agreed in it. The appendix shows other existing capital funding streams that could potentially be utilised and integrated into such investment to achieve greater outcomes.

5. Head of Legal Services Comments

- 5.1 The Head of Legal Services has been consulted on the content of this report and comments that the process described concerning the preparation of the Primary Strategy for Change, including the consultation arrangements meets the requirements of the relevant guidance issued by the Department for Children, Schools and Families.

6. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

DCSF Guidance, Primary Capital Programme, December 2007

7. Strategic Implications

- 7.1 In December 2007 the DCSF launched the Primary Capital Programme, announcing that £1.9 billion would be available to local authorities for major improvements to primary school buildings and infrastructure. This is intended to be the beginning of a 14 year investment programme with specific resources identified for the current comprehensive spending review period, 2008 to 2011. For Haringey the additional identified resources comprise £4.790 million for 2009/2010 and £7.168 million for 2010/2011.

7.2 The stated objectives of this investment programme are as follows:

- Strategic, joined up approach to capital investment
- Supporting national policy agenda: world-class standards, ECM, diversity and responsiveness to parents, extended services, personalisation
- Driving infrastructure changes needed to deliver Children's Plan
- Targeted to address deprivation nationally and in every local authority
- Primary schools equipped for 21st century learning, at the heart of the community, with children's services in reach of every family

DCSF Guidance, Primary Capital Programme, December 2007

7.3 In order to release these new resources we are required to submit a Primary Strategy for Change (PSfC) document by a deadline of 16th June 2008. The guidance specifies that this document must contain the following elements:

- Local perspective: setting out high-level strategic vision and describing the local area, its people and its schools.
- Baseline analysis: where are you now? Analysis of information on places, building condition, educational performance, deprivation, extended and community services.
- Long-term aims: where do you want to be? What will be different after up to 14 years in strategic investment?
- Approach to change: how will you get there? Highlighting local challenges and priorities, the approach to planning and prioritisation, capacity building, design, ICT and procurement.
- Initial investment priorities: what are you going to do first? Details of initial projects and how these contribute to long-term aims

DCSF Guidance, Primary Capital Programme, December 2007

7.4 The first part of this must incorporate our primary strategy, that is our aspirations for primary education in Haringey, including a long-term vision taking account both of the local needs and characteristics of this borough and of the full range of national Every Child Matters policies. We are also required to demonstrate that we have consulted with a wide range of stakeholders, including formal consultation with the Roman Catholic and Anglican diocesan boards.

7.5 The PSfC must also demonstrate a joined up approach to capital investment showing not only how the new funding stream will be used to deliver our strategy but also how we will link to other funding streams to deliver the maximum effect. The range of funding streams potentially available to support primary school investment is described in Appendix 1. While not all can be spent directly on primary schools, the convergence of our strategies for play, children's centre provision and extended schools is it should be possible to develop investment strategies that maximise joining up of these streams. The existing Asset Management Plan will underpin the formulation of the allocation of investment resources.

7.6 Delivering an effective PSfC requires a considerable amount of coordinated work and a considerable amount of consultation. This work will be completed by mid May in order to allow for final drafting and approval of the PSfC document. As there is no Cabinet in May, this report reports progress at the time of writing and indicates the work still to do. We also seek Cabinet approval to the Director of the Children and Young People's Service in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People signing off the final PSfC submission in early June.

8. Financial Implications

8.1 For Haringey the delivery of the PSfC should release additional funding of £4.790 million for 2009/2010 and £7.168 million for 2010/2011. This is intended to be the beginning of a 15 year investment programme. As noted in paragraph 7.1, a further sum of up to £5m per year may be available in future years.

9. Legal Implications

9.1 As in comments of Head of Legal Services

10. Equalities Implications

10.1 The plan must specifically target resources to areas of highest deprivation.

11. Consultation

11.1 There will be three stages to consultation leading up to the development of the PSfC. The first stage has already taken place and is described in full below. This stage was concerned with the primary strategy itself. The two subsequent stages are concerned firstly with proposals to turn the strategic aspirations into an investment programme, setting out how the Council should decide where the investment should go; and secondly with seeking support for the draft PSfC.

11.2 A full consultation with relevant stakeholders on the Primary Strategy for Change has taken place. This has been planned and carried out with the Corporate Consultation Team. The consultation includes three key aspects:

- Oral soundings taken from identified individuals and groups including children, parents, headteachers, teachers and governors, the 5-11 forum and associated task groups.
- Submissions written and electronic, open to all stakeholders who wish to contribute.
- Analysis of key local authority and schools' data.

11.3 A specific focus of the strategy is consulting young people. This has included:

- Circulating key questions to the Schools Council for discussion and comment.
- Seventeen schools/settings across the full age range taking part in a consultation run by School Standards and Inclusion in partnership with Neighbourhood Initiatives Foundation, a National charity specialising in community participation.
- Art competition for a poster showing a 21st century primary school.
- On-line ICT survey which can be used as part of the curriculum

11.4 The pupil consultation work will close at the end of March ensuring a full cross section of responses from young people has been built into the consultation.

11.5 Parents and carers are also a focus for the consultation. Specific events are being used as an opportunity to collect the views of parents/carers. In addition there is further information available from the website and hard copy consultation documents have been circulated. The Corporate Consultation team have also gathered views outside the school gates from a sample of schools/settings.

11.6 **Determining investment priorities**

The second stage of consultation is currently taking place. In this we are consulting on the model designed to turn strategic aspirations into a detailed investment programme, showing what we will spend where. This model is based on the following principles:

1. That we should aim to bring all schools up to baseline standard. This standard should take account not only of the traditional condition and suitability factors (as in the Asset Management Plan - physical state of the building and its measurement against the relevant building bulletin standards for teaching and learning spaces) but also reflect our aspirations are set out in the primary strategy. For example, ensuring that there is appropriate ICT support to the curriculum or that there is a facility to bring parents and the local community into the school.
2. That we should take account of the relative deprivation of the communities served by each school in determining priorities. This is a requirement of the guidance and clearly one that is of particular relevance to Haringey.
3. That priorities should also reflect other overriding strategic drivers. For Haringey, these will include:
 - Developments in inclusive special education, including the inclusive learning campus at Broadwater farm primary School;
 - Need for places.
 - The 0-19 strategy, as reported to Cabinet in March. This includes the strategy of children's centre provision linked with primary

schools and the integration of the play service with primary schools and children's centres.

- Community use of school facilities. We are currently working with corporate property to review the availability of community use facilities across the Borough. We envisage identifying specific primary schools that should be a priority for community use provision and using a proportion of this investment to enable that to happen.
- Potential for Federation or amalgamation to raise standards.

4. That we should invest only where to do so will deliver sustainable benefits in relation to the council's objectives and for children and the community.

11.7 Point 4 is in effect a final investment gateway. For example, a school may have high need when compared against the baseline and may be operating in challenging circumstances and so would be prioritised more highly because of deprivation. However, if the school is significantly undersubscribed and we could not be confident that the investment would contribute significantly to raising standards and increasing the popularity of the school then investment would be better placed elsewhere.

11.8 Other considerations

The guidance states clearly that the PSfC should reflect national policies and strategies, most of which are now summarised in the national Children's Plan. To comply with this, Members will wish to note that our PSfC will need specifically to address proposals to encourage "choice, diversity and fair access", including proposals to increase "self-governance" across the primary phase. In doing this, we hope to be able to draw on feedback from the Building Schools for the Future Strategy for Change submitted in February.

12. Conclusion

12.1 We intend to produce a consultation draft of the PSfC submission for early May (subject to receiving further details of the submission format from DCSEF, due in February, still awaited at the time of writing). To achieve this, the planned outline timetable is as follows:

21 Apr to 2 May	Second round of consultation
7 May to 21 May	Discussions with Diocesan Boards
25 Mar to 25 April	Collation of data and investment prioritisation
21 April to 9 May	Discussions with affected schools
16 May	Draft PSfC discussed with Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
Before 9 June	Delegated signing and formal Diocesan approval
9 June	Final print version
12 June	Submit (deadline 16 June)

13. Use of Appendices / Tables / Photographs

Appendix 1: Funding Streams potentially within the scope of the Primary Strategy for Change

Appendix 1

Funding Streams potentially within the scope of the Primary Strategy for Change (£000)

	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	Total
<u>New Funding</u>				
Primary Capital Programme*	0.000	4.790	7.168	11.958
Early Years (for private and voluntary providers)	1.343	1.343	1.343	4.029
<u>Existing Funding</u>				
Modernisation (condition and suitability)	2.458	2.520	2.520	7.498
Basic Need (new places)	3.965	3.965	3.965	11.895
Access (Disability Discrimination Act)	0.409	0.409	0.409	1.227
LCVAP (for Voluntary Aided Schools)	1.132	1.132	1.132	3.396
Extended Schools (to enable extended offer)	0.487	0.516	0.267	1.270
Children's Centres (phase 3 developments)	0.289	0.619	0.334	1.242
Devolved Formula Capital** (funding in schools – primary only)	2.576	2.526	2.526	7.628
Harnessing Technology (ICT Investment)	0.701	0.796	0.876	2.373
Total	13.360	18.616	20.54	52.516

* PCP Allocations are indicative until the primary strategy for change has been agreed with the DCSF.

** DFC Totals for 2009/10 and 2010/11 are provisional.

Note: The Primary Strategy for Change requires Local Authorities to show a strategic and joined up approach to capital funding. In some cases, for example the Early Years capital funding for private and voluntary providers, the funding would only be available for a school if there was a partnership with a private and voluntary provider.