

MEETING: CABINET MEMBER - CHILDREN'S SERVICES
DATE: Tuesday 26 October 2010
TIME: 9.30 am
VENUE: Town Hall, Bootle (This meeting will also be video conferenced at the Town Hall, Southport)

DECISION MAKER: Councillor Moncur
SUBSTITUTE: Councillor P. Dowd

SPOKESPERSONS: Councillor Cuthbertson Councillor Preece

SUBSTITUTES: Councillor Doran Councillor Howe

COMMITTEE OFFICER: Lyndzay Roberts
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E-mail: lyndzay.roberts@sefton.gov.uk

The Cabinet is responsible for making what are known as Key Decisions, which will be notified on the Forward Plan. Items marked with an * on the agenda involve Key Decisions

A key decision, as defined in the Council's Constitution, is: -

- any Executive decision that is not in the Annual Revenue Budget and Capital Programme approved by the Council and which requires a gross budget expenditure, saving or virement of more than £100,000 or more than 2% of a Departmental budget, whichever is the greater
- any Executive decision where the outcome will have a significant impact on a significant number of people living or working in two or more Wards

If you have any special needs that may require arrangements to facilitate your attendance at this meeting, please contact the Committee Officer named above, who will endeavour to assist.

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A G E N D A

Items marked with an * involve key decisions

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Subject/Author(s)</u>	<u>Wards Affected</u>	
1.	Apologies for Absence		
2.	Declarations of Interest Members and Officers are requested to give notice of any personal or prejudicial interest and the nature of that interest, relating to any item on the agenda in accordance with the relevant Code of Conduct.		
3.	Minutes Minutes of the meeting held on 5 October 2010		(Pages 5 - 8)
4.	Youth Capital Fund : Proposed Additional Scheme 2010/11 Report of the Strategic Director - Children, Schools and Families	All Wards;	(Pages 9 - 14)
5.	Basic Need 2010/2011: Additional Scheme Report of the Strategic Director - Children, Schools and Families	Ainsdale;	(Pages 15 - 18)
6.	Schools Access Initiative Funding 2010/2011 Report of the Strategic Director - Children, Schools and Families	Ainsdale;	(Pages 19 - 22)
7.	School Capacity Collection 2010 Report of the Strategic Director - Children, Schools and Families	All Wards;	(Pages 23 - 30)
8.	Thomas Gray Infant School: Site Transfer Report of the Strategic Director - Children, Schools and Families	Linacre;	(Pages 31 - 34)

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|------------|---|------------|-----------------|
| 9. | Proposed Extension and Alterations for Nursery at Summerhill Primary School, Maghull | Sudell; | (Pages 35 - 40) |
| | Report of the Environmental and Technical Services Director | | |
| 10. | Post-16 Annual Travel Passes - Policy Review | All Wards; | (Pages 41 - 48) |
| | Report of the Strategic Director - Children, Schools and Families | | |

THE "CALL IN" PERIOD FOR THIS SET OF MINUTES ENDS AT 12 NOON ON FRIDAY 15 OCTOBER 2010.

CABINET MEMBER - CHILDREN'S SERVICES

**MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, BOOTLE
ON TUESDAY 5 OCTOBER 2010**

PRESENT: Councillor Moncur

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors Cuthbertson, Hands and Preece.
Mr.A.Bell – Church Diocesan Representative

41. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Mr.R.Gregson, Sefton Governors Forum.

42. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declaration of interest was received:-

Officer	Minute	Reason	Action
Peter Morgan – Strategic Director – Children, Schools and Families	45 – St Wilfrid’s Catholic High School; Approval to consult on the closure	Personal – Spouse is an employee of a Catholic High School in the Borough.	Stayed in the room and took part in the consideration of the item

43. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 14 September 2010 be confirmed as a correct record.

44. ST. WILFRID'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL: APPROVAL TO CONSULT ON THE CLOSURE OF THE SCHOOL

The Cabinet Member considered the report of the Strategic Director Children, Schools and Families providing information relating to St Wilfrid’s Catholic High School and seeking approval for the commencement of the statutory consultation process relating to the proposal to close the school.

The Strategic Director Children, Schools and Families outlined the report and gave information as to the background; current demographics; surplus places; funding; standards and options considered.

Agenda Item 3

CABINET MEMBER - CHILDREN'S SERVICES- TUESDAY 5 OCTOBER 2010

The Cabinet Member considered, in accordance with Rule 27 of the Council and Committee Procedure Rules of the Constitution, a petition signed by 26 parents of pupils attending St.Wilfrid's Catholic High School posing a series of questions in relation to the proposals within the report.

The Cabinet Member heard the following representations objecting to the proposal.

1. Mrs.G.Parry - Parent
2. Ms.M.Richardson – Chair of Governors
3. Ms.D.McKenna – Vice-Chair of Governors

Mr. P. Morgan, Strategic Director Children, Schools and Families and the Church Diocesan Representative Mr.A.Bell responded to the representations and Members asked questions thereon.

RESOLVED:

That the commencement of the statutory consultation process relating to the proposal to close St.Wilfrid's Catholic High School, with effect from 31 August 2011 be approved.

45. CAPITAL PROGRAMME - UNCOMMITTED SCHEMES - CLARIFICATION OF CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES I.T (SINGLE CHILD RECORD) PROGRAMME SCHEME

The Cabinet Member considered the report of the Strategic Director, Children, Schools and Families providing further information on the Children, Schools and Families IT (Single Child Record) Capital Programme Scheme.

RESOLVED:

That the report providing further information on the Children, Schools and Families IT (Single Child Record) Capital Programme Scheme be noted.

46. APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES TO GOVERNING BODIES OF MAINTAINED SCHOOLS

Further to Minute No.24 of the meeting held on 13 July 2010, the Cabinet Member considered the report of the Strategic Director - Children, Schools and Families on vacancies on the governing bodies of a number of Community and Voluntary Aided schools.

RESOLVED:

That the undermentioned persons be appointed to serve on the Governing Bodies of the schools indicated for a period of four years:-

School	Governor(s)
BLUNDELLSANDS WARD St. Lukes Halsall CE. Primary, Crosby St. Nicholas's C.E. Primary, Crosby	Cllr P Papworth Mrs. J. Cunningham
CAMBRIDGE WARD Stanley High, Southport	Mr.A.Crabtree
CHURCH WARD Waterloo Primary	Mr. R. Russell
DERBY WARD Hillside High, Bootle	Rev. T. Rich
FORD WARD South Sefton Sixth Form College	Mr. G. Jones
HARINGTON WARD Woodlands Primary, Formby	Mrs. M. Wall
KEW WARD Meols Cop High, Southport	Mrs.J.Clarke MBE
LITHERLAND WARD Lander Road Primary, Litherland Linacre Primary, Bootle	Ms.E. Slater Mr.D.Bill Mrs.M.Carney
MANOR WARD Chesterfield High, Crosby Holy Family Catholic High, Crosby	Mr.T.Beswarick Cllr M.Barber
MEOLS WARD Larkfield Primary, Southport Presfield, Southport	Mr. C. Cross Mrs.C.Godfrey Cllr.D.Rimmer
MOLYNEUX WARD Aintree Davenhill Primary Melling Primary	Mr. P. Gill Mr. T. Lewis Parish Councillor B. O'Brien
NETHERTON AND ORRELL WARD	

Agenda Item 3

CABINET MEMBER - CHILDREN'S SERVICES- TUESDAY 5 OCTOBER
2010

St. George of England High, Bootle

Mr. A. Salisbury
Mrs. H. Marsh

PARK WARD

Green Park Primary, Maghull

Rev.S.Jones
Mrs. P.Molloy
Mrs.S. Williams

RAVENMEOLS WARD

Redgate Primary, Formby

Mr. P.Floodman
Mr. D. Walker

ST. OSWALD WARD

The Grange Primary, Netherton

Mrs. S. Smith

SUDELL WARD

Summerhill Primary, Maghull

Mrs. J. Healy

VICTORIA WARD

Forefield Juniors, Crosby

Mrs.M.Picton

Agenda Item 4

REPORT TO: CABINET MEMBER, CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES
CABINET

DATE: 26 OCTOBER 2010
28 OCTOBER 2010

SUBJECT: YOUTH CAPITAL FUND: PROPOSED ADDITIONAL
SCHEME 2010/11

**WARDS
AFFECTED:** ALL WARDS

REPORT OF: PETER MORGAN
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR - CHILDREN, SCHOOLS &
FAMILIES

**CONTACT
OFFICER:** CHRIS DALZIEL (0151 934 3337)

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** NO

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the proposed scheme.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

The Cabinet Member, Children, Schools & Families, has delegated powers to approve the proposed scheme and to refer the funding to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme 2010/11.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

The Cabinet Member, Children, Schools & Families, is recommended to:-

- (i) approve the proposed scheme detailed in this report;
- (ii) refer the funding to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme 2010/11.

KEY DECISION: No.

FORWARD PLAN: Not appropriate.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Following the expiry of the "call-in" period for the Minutes of the Cabinet meeting.

Agenda Item 4

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Not appropriate.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: Not appropriate.

Financial: There are no financial implications for the Council's general resources as all funding is from specific resources (Youth Capital Fund 2010/11). The Department for Education has confirmed that authorities will receive only half of their original allocation.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal: Not appropriate.

Risk Assessment: There are no risks associated with this report as all funding is from specific resources.

Asset Management: In line with Asset Management Planning.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

FD 466 - The Head of Corporate Finance & Information Services has been consulted and his comments have been incorporated into this report

Officers from the Sefton Youth Service carry out full consultation with Young People in line with the guidance provided.

Agenda Item 4

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	✓		
2	Creating Safe Communities	✓		
3	Jobs and Prosperity		✓	
4	Improving Health and Well-Being		✓	
5	Environmental Sustainability	✓		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	✓		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	✓		
8	Children and Young People	✓		

LINKS TO ENSURING INTEGRATION:

The proposals will encourage integration between all members of the relevant youth provision, staff and outside agencies as appropriate and maximise opportunities for young people in Sefton and support transition into adult life. All five Every Child Matters outcomes will be supported by the proposals.

IMPACT UPON CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES TARGETS AND PRIORITIES:

The proposed schemes will have a positive impact on the following LAA targets:-

- ❖ Making a positive contribution.
- ❖ Changing perceptions.
- ❖ Crime.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Report to Cabinet Member, Children, Schools & Families and Cabinet – 13 July/5 August 2010: Youth Capital Fund.

YOUTH CAPITAL FUND: PROPOSED ADDITIONAL SCHEME 2010/11

1. Background

- 1.1 The Department for Education (DfE) has confirmed that authorities will receive only half of their original allocation of Youth Capital Funding to be paid in two instalments. Sefton will therefore receive a total of £74,850 in Youth Capital Grant for 2010/11.
- 1.2 Members will recall that approval was given on 5 August for schemes totalling £39,391, for works at Crosby Youth Club, leaving a balance of £35,459 to address further schemes.

2. Proposals

- 2.1 It is proposed to relay the floor of the hall at Crosby Youth Club at an estimated cost of £35,000. This would leave a balance of £459 from the available allocation as detailed in 1.2 of this report.

3. Recommendation(s)

- 3.1 The Cabinet Member, Children, Schools & Families, is recommended to:
 - (i) approve the proposed schemes detailed in this report;
 - (ii) refer the funding to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme 2010/11.

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Agenda Item 5

REPORT TO: CABINET MEMBER, CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES
CABINET

DATE: 26 OCTOBER 2010
28 OCTOBER 2010

SUBJECT: BASIC NEED 2010/2011: ADDITIONAL SCHEME

**WARDS
AFFECTED:** AINSDALE WARD

REPORT OF: PETER MORGAN
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR - CHILDREN, SCHOOLS &
FAMILIES

**CONTACT
OFFICER:** CHRIS DALZIEL (0151 934 3337)

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** NO

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the scheme detailed in this report.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

The Cabinet Member, Children, Schools & Families, has delegated powers to approve the proposed scheme and to refer the funding to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme 2010/11.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

The Cabinet Member, Children, Schools & Families, is recommended to:

- (i) approve the proposed scheme;
- (ii) refer the funding to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme 2010/11.

KEY DECISION: No.

FORWARD PLAN: Not appropriate.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Following the expiry of the "call-in" period for the Minutes of the Cabinet meeting.

Agenda Item 5

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Not appropriate.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: Not appropriate.

Financial: There are no financial implications for the Council's general resources as all funding is from specific resources i.e. Basic Need (New Pupil Places) Funding.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal: Not applicable.

Risk Assessment: There are no financial risks associated with this report as all funding is from specific resources.

Asset Management: The proposal is in line with the Schools Asset Management Plan and will make significant improvements to the school building.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

The Headteacher and Governors of Shoreside Primary School have been fully consulted.

FD474 - The Head of Corporate Finance and Information Services has been consulted and has no comments on the report.

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	✓		
2	Creating Safe Communities	✓		
3	Jobs and Prosperity		✓	
4	Improving Health and Well-Being		✓	
5	Environmental Sustainability		✓	
6	Creating Inclusive Communities		✓	
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	✓		
8	Children and Young People	✓		

LINKS TO ENSURING INTEGRATION:

Not applicable.

IMPACT UPON CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES TARGETS AND PRIORITIES

The proposal will have a positive impact on the Children, Schools & Families priority of 'Think Family' by improving security at the school and providing a multi purpose room for multi agency/confidential meetings.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Report to Cabinet – 2 September 2010 – Capital Programme Review.

Agenda Item 5

BASIC NEED 2010/2011: ADDITIONAL SCHEME

1. Background

- 1.1 Sefton MBC has received a Basic Need (New Pupil Places) allocation for 2010/11 of £654,613 to support schemes in 2010/11.
- 1.2 The majority of the funding is supporting approved schemes in 2010/11 and the funding for the proposed scheme can be contained within the overall programme.
- 1.3 Cabinet confirmed, on 2 September 2010, that schemes funded from the uncommitted Basic Need allocation could be progressed.

2. Proposed Scheme

- 2.1 The proposal is to carry out some remodelling and new build at Shoreside Primary School in Southport to provide a new secure entrance lobby, administration office and staffroom. The library will be relocated to the existing staffroom and a multi-agency/confidential meeting room will be provided. This will enable the school to function and to be managed more efficiently and to comply with current safeguarding legislation.
- 2.2 The estimated cost of the scheme is £252,740 which can be contained within the overall budget.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 The Cabinet Member, Children, Schools & Families, is recommended to:
 - (i) approve the proposed scheme;
 - (ii) refer the funding to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme 2010/11.

CD – September 2010

G:\Capital\2010 2011\CM Reports\CM Report - Basic Need 2010-11 Additional Schemes (26.10.10 & 28.10.10).DOC

Agenda Item 6

REPORT TO: CABINET MEMBER, CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES
CABINET

DATE: 26 OCTOBER 2010
28 OCTOBER 2010

SUBJECT: SCHOOLS ACCESS INITIATIVE FUNDING 2010/11

**WARDS
AFFECTED:** AINSDALE WARD

REPORT OF: PETER MORGAN
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR - CHILDREN, SCHOOLS &
FAMILIES

**CONTACT
OFFICER:** CHRIS DALZIEL (0151 934 3337)

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** NO

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the proposed scheme to be funded from the Schools Access Initiative funding.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

The Cabinet Member has delegated powers to approve the proposed scheme and to refer the funding to Cabinet for inclusion in the 2010/11 Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

The Cabinet Member is recommended to:-

- i) approve the proposed allocation of Schools Access Initiative funding as detailed in this report;
- ii) refer the allocation to Cabinet for inclusion in the 2010/11 Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme.

KEY DECISION: No.

FORWARD PLAN: Not appropriate.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Following the expiry of the "call-in" period for the Minutes of the Cabinet meeting.

Agenda Item 6

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Not appropriate.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: None.

Financial: There are no financial implications for the Council's general resources as all funding is from specific resources (Schools Access Initiative allocation 2010/11). The total cost of the scheme detailed in the report is estimated to be £80,000 and if the scheme is approved then a balance of £90,277 will remain to support further schemes.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal: Not appropriate.

Risk Assessment: There are no financial risks associated with this report as all funding is from specific resources.

Asset Management: The proposed allocation of funding is in line with the Children, Schools & Families Asset Management Plan.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

FD 467 - The Interim Head of Corporate Finance & Information Services has been consulted and has no comments on this report.

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	✓		
2	Creating Safe Communities	✓		
3	Jobs and Prosperity		✓	
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	✓		
5	Environmental Sustainability	✓		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	✓		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	✓		
8	Children and Young People	✓		

LINKS TO ENSURING INTEGRATION:

The proposed scheme detailed in this report will link to ensuring integration by contributing towards the following priorities of the CYPP.

- ❖ Create and maintain an environment where people feel safe.
- ❖ Create highly effective, inclusive learning environments for all age groups where learners can enjoy and achieve.

IMPACT UPON CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES TARGETS AND PRIORITIES:

The proposed scheme will have a positive impact on the CYPP targets detailed above and the following LAA targets:-

- ❖ Educational achievement and training.
- ❖ The health of children and young people.
- ❖ Changing perceptions.
- ❖ Statutory Education Targets.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Report to Cabinet Member, Children, Schools & Families – 19 January/4 February 2010 – Schools Access Initiative: Proposed Scheme.
 Report to Cabinet Member, Children, Schools & Families – 13/15 April 2010 – Modernisation Funding: Proposed Scheme at Kew Woods Primary School.
 Report to Cabinet Member, Children, Schools & Families – 22 June/8 July 2010 – Schools Access Initiative Funding 2010/11.
 Report to Cabinet – 2 September 2010 – Capital Programme Review.

Agenda Item 6

SCHOOLS ACCESS INITIATIVE FUNDING 2010/11

1. Background

- 1.1 Sefton MBC has received a Schools Access Initiative capital allocation of £400,790 in 2010/11. Taking into account schemes already approved there remains a balance of £170,277 to support new projects.
- 1.2 The Schools Access Initiative funding provides support for capital projects to improve access to education in schools for pupils with disabilities and special educational needs.
- 1.3 Cabinet confirmed, on 2 September 2010, that schemes funded from uncommitted Schools Access Initiative capital could be progressed.

2. Proposed Scheme

- 2.1 Merefield Special School, Southport, has 60 children on roll, all of whom have severe learning difficulties and complex needs. The majority of pupils are transported to and from school by minibus with a small proportion travelling by car.
- 2.2 The current arrangements, within the school grounds, to drop off and pick up children at the beginning and end of the school day have become increasingly congested particularly since the larger, Sefton owned buses have been used rather than the smaller commercial vehicles. Some of the vehicles reverse onto the roadway which forms part of the entrance to the adjacent Shoreside Primary School which jeopardises the safety of pupils. In spite of improvements to the existing arrangements a safer system can only be developed by creating an additional entrance/exit to the car park so that a one-way system can be introduced. Officers from Highways are assisting in the design of the scheme which will improve safety for pupils at both Merefield Special and Shoreside Primary School.

3. Finance

- 3.1 The total estimated cost of the scheme detailed in this report is £80,000. If this scheme is approved then a balance of £90,277 will remain to support further schemes.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 The Cabinet Member is recommended to:-
 - i) approve the proposed allocation of Schools Access Initiative funding as detailed in this report;
 - ii) refer the allocation to Cabinet for inclusion in the 2010/11 Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme.

CD – September 2010

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Agenda Item 7

REPORT TO: CABINET MEMBER, CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES

DATE: 26 OCTOBER 2010

SUBJECT: SCHOOL CAPACITY COLLECTION 2010

**WARDS
AFFECTED:** ALL WARDS

REPORT OF: PETER MORGAN
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR – CHILDREN, SCHOOLS &
FAMILIES

**CONTACT
OFFICER:** CHRIS DALZIEL (0151 934 3337)

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** NO

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to update the Cabinet Member on the School Capacity Collection (formerly the Surplus Places Return).

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

Not applicable as no decision is required.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

The Cabinet Member is recommended to note the contents of the report.

KEY DECISION: No.

FORWARD PLAN: Not appropriate.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Following the expiry of the “call-in” period for the Minutes of the Cabinet Member meeting.

Agenda Item 7

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Not appropriate.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: None.

Financial: There are no financial implications directly associated with this report. However, schools with a high percentage of surplus places, particularly those in excess of 25%, are more likely to suffer from financial pressures and to offer poorer value for money when compared to schools with few surplus places.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal: Not appropriate.

Risk Assessment: Not appropriate.

Asset Management: Not appropriate.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

Not appropriate.

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		✓	
2	Creating Safe Communities		✓	
3	Jobs and Prosperity		✓	
4	Improving Health and Well-Being		✓	
5	Environmental Sustainability		✓	
6	Creating Inclusive Communities		✓	
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy		✓	
8	Children and Young People		✓	

LINKS TO ENSURING INTEGRATION:

Not appropriate.

IMPACT UPON CHILDREN'S SERVICES TARGETS AND PRIORITIES:

Not appropriate.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

School Capacity Collection Guidance 2010.

Agenda Item 7

SCHOOL CAPACITY COLLECTION 2010

1. Background

- 1.1 All local authorities have a statutory duty to submit a School Capacity Collection (formerly the Surplus Places Return), to the Department for Education, on an annual basis. The return details, for each primary and secondary school, the number and percentage of surplus places based on the May School Census and the net capacity for each school. Surplus places for each planning area and for Sefton overall are also given.

2. The 2010 School Capacity Collection – Primary Schools

- 2.1 A summary of the submitted commentary and details of schools with 25% or more surplus places are given below.
- 2.2 The total number of pupils in Sefton primary schools is continuing to decrease, albeit at a slower rate, in spite of a slightly increased birth rate in recent years. Births reached a low of 2,557 in 2002 and have risen again slightly in recent years to reach a more stable position of around 2,700; the latest 2008 figure for births is 2,718. This is however well below the birth rate in the early 1990s of 3,400+.
- 2.3 The total net capacity is 22,323 showing a 13% reduction since 2005. There are 2,733 surplus places (12.24%) compared with 4,084 (15.86%) in 2005. The level of surplus places in individual planning areas is in the range of 4.83% to 22.65% with the highest levels in the south of the borough (Bootle and Litherland).
- 2.4 The number of schools has reduced to 76 (88 in 2005) with 15 schools having no surplus places and 12 schools with 25% or more surplus places (23 schools in 2005). Fourteen schools have pupils in excess of their capacity mainly resulting from appeals granted for pupils who have moved into an area where the school is already full. Table 1 overleaf shows the schools with 25% or more surplus places.

Agenda Item 7

Table 1: Primary Schools with 25% or More Surplus Places

Primary School	NOR May 2010	Number of Surplus Places	Percentage of Surplus Places %
Thornton	24	162	87.10
Litherland Moss	96	114	54.29
Hudson	109	101	48.10
Bishop David Sheppard CE	112	98	46.67
Netherton Moss	150	126	45.65
Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic	93	75	44.64
Springwell Park	249	171	40.71
Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic	124	65	34.39
Our Lady of Walsingham Catholic	262	134	33.84
St John's CE	133	58	30.37
Hatton Hill	301	119	28.33
Waterloo	315	105	25.00
Total	1,968	1,328	-

- 2.5 Springwell Park Primary School and Children's Centre (40.71%) was a new build school following the amalgamation of Roberts and Orrell Primary Schools in 2004. Ofsted, in 2007, judged the school to be good in all areas and outstanding in care, guidance and support. KS2 results (level 4) for English were above the national average in 2009 with level 5 in English and Levels 4 and 5 in mathematics below the national and Sefton averages.
- 2.6 The single siting of Thomas Gray Primary School has reduced the surplus places at this school from 38.80% to 9.52%.
- 2.7 Our Lady of Walsingham Catholic Primary School (33.84%) is undergoing a single-siting and resultant reduction in capacity from 396 to 210 as part of the Primary Capital Programme and this will in turn reduce surplus places. In 2010 the school was judged by Ofsted to be good in overall effectiveness and in the school's capacity for sustainable improvement. KS2 English at level 4 was above the national and Sefton averages in 2009 with level 5 above the national average. Results for both levels in maths were below the national average.
- 2.8 Netherton Moss Primary School gained a number of pupils as a result of school closures in 2005 but the increase in surplus places to 45.65% is a matter for concern and the situation continues to be monitored. In 2010 the school was judged by Ofsted to be good in overall effectiveness and in the school's capacity for sustainable improvement. KS2 results in English and maths at level 4 were above the national averages and at level 5 were above the national and Sefton averages in 2009.
- 2.9 The situation at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Primary School will continue to be kept under review as there is no alternative Catholic provision in the immediate area. Ofsted judged the school to be

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satisfactory in 2008 and in 2009 KS2 results were above the national average for both English and maths at levels 4 and 5 and equal to the Sefton average in level 5 English and level 4 in maths whilst exceeding the Sefton average in level 5 maths. Hatton Hill (28.33%), Litherland Moss (54.29%) and Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic (34.39%) Primary Schools continue to be a concern. Hatton Hill was judged to be satisfactory, with good for personal development, curriculum and other activities and care, guidance and support. With the exception of level 4 maths, which exceeded both national and Sefton averages, all other indicators at KS2 were below the national and Sefton averages in 2009.

- 2.10 In 2009 Ofsted judged Litherland Moss to be a good school and outstanding in care, guidance and support. At KS2 in 2009 the school's results exceeded the national average at level 4 for English and maths and exceeded both the national and Sefton averages at level 5. Our Lady Star of the Sea was judged to be good in 2010 by Ofsted but all indicators at KS2, in English and maths, were below the national and Sefton averages in 2009. All of the schools mentioned above are in areas of severe deprivation in the south of the borough and provide much needed family and community support. Wherever possible schools are being remodelled and downsized and this will continue as the Primary Capital Programme is implemented if funding continues to be available.
- 2.11 Thornton Primary School (87.10%) in Crosby will close in August 2010 and the surplus places at St William of York Catholic Primary School (8.10%) have halved as a result of this. Waterloo (25.00%) and St John's CE (30.37%) Primary Schools serve the same catchment area and surplus accommodation at Waterloo has been sympathetically converted into a Children's Centre and provision for an independent nursery provider. It is anticipated that with the closure of Thornton Primary School that these two schools, in the same planning area, should benefit from increased pupil numbers. Waterloo Primary School was judged by Ofsted to be good in 2010; with the exception of Level 5 English, which was above the Sefton and national averages, all other indicators at KS2 were below the national and Sefton averages.
- 2.12 In 2007 St John's was judged to be satisfactory but good for personal development and care, guidance and support. The KS2 indicators at levels 4 and 5 for both English and maths were above the national and Sefton averages in 2009.
- 2.13 Formby has no schools with 25% or more surplus places and three schools in this area have excess pupil numbers.
- 2.14 Hudson Primary School (48.10%) in the Maghull & Aintree area has become a phase 3 Children's Centre and again this school serves a deprived area of the borough where closure would have a detrimental effect on families within the local community. Similarly, Bishop David Sheppard CE Primary School (46.67%) is located in the most deprived area of Southport and is geographically isolated with very few places

available at other neighbouring schools. Both Hudson and Bishop David Sheppard Primary Schools were judged by Ofsted to be good schools in 2009 and 2007 respectively. KS2 results at Hudson in 2009 were equal to the national average for English at level 4 and above the national average for level 5. Results were below both national and Sefton averages at both levels for maths. KS2 results at Bishop David CE Primary School were above the Sefton and national averages for levels 4 and 5 in English but below both indicators at levels 4 and 5 for maths.

3. The 2010 School Capacity Collection – Secondary Schools

- 3.1 In the secondary sector, the total number of pupils has again fallen (19,300 in January 2009 to 19,090 in May 2010), as smaller numbers continue to feed through from the primary sector. The total number of surplus places has increased from 2,580 in 2009 to 2,626 in 2010 giving a surplus capacity of 12.17% in the secondary sector. Sixteen of the 20 secondary schools have surplus places ranging from 1.11% to 54.13% whilst at 5 schools the NOR exceeds the net capacity. The newly opened South Sefton Sixth Form College has 54.13% surplus places as there is only a year 12 cohort in this academic year.
- 3.2 Four high schools have surplus places in excess of 25% and St George of England High School (46.67%) is due to close in August 2013. Pupils will transfer to Hillside High or Litherland High School which will be rebuilt as Sefton's One-school Pathfinder school and is due to open in February 2011.
- 3.3 Under the BSF programme Sefton had proposed to amalgamate Savio Salesian College (20.53%) and St Wilfrid's Catholic High School (42.53%) as an Academy. The percentage of pupils attaining 5+ grades A*-C at GCSE, including English and maths, in 2009 was well below the Sefton and national averages at St Wilfrid's Catholic High School. These plans and those for Crosby and Netherton areas (St Ambrose Barlow Catholic College 26.33% and St Michael's CE High School 43.03%) will be reconsidered in light of the recent government announcement to stop the Sefton BSF programme. Both of these schools were judged good by Ofsted in 2010 but both scored below the national and Sefton averages for the percentage of pupils attaining 5+ grades A*-C at KS4.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 The Cabinet Member is recommended to note the contents of the report.

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REPORT TO: CABINET MEMBER, CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES

DATE: 26 OCTOBER 2010

SUBJECT: THOMAS GRAY INFANT SCHOOL: SITE TRANSFER

**WARDS
AFFECTED:** LINACRE WARD

REPORT OF: PETER MORGAN
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR - CHILDREN, SCHOOLS &
FAMILIES

**CONTACT
OFFICER:** CHRIS DALZIEL (0151 934 3337)

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** NO

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to declare the premises at Thomas Gray Infant School surplus to the operational requirements of Children, Schools & Families.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

With effect from 31 September 2010 Thomas Gray Infant School, Balfour Road, will be surplus to the operational requirements of Children, Schools & Families and the Cabinet Member, Children, Schools & Families, is requested to approve the transfer of the property back into the Corporate Portfolio under the control and management of the Council's Corporate Property Client.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

The Cabinet Member is recommended to authorise the Strategic Director, Communities, in consultation with the Legal Director, with effect from 1 October 2010, to negotiate the transfer of site and buildings of Thomas Gray Infant School, Balfour Road, back into the Corporate Portfolio, under the management of the Council's Corporate Property Client.

KEY DECISION: No.

FORWARD PLAN: Not appropriate.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Following the expiry of the "call-in" period for the Minutes of the Cabinet Member meeting.

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ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: Not appropriate.

Financial: There are no financial implications.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal: None specific to this report.

Risk Assessment: There are no specific risks associated with this report.

Asset Management: Under the approved Corporate Asset Management Plan it is established policy and procedure for properties declared surplus to operational requirements to return to the Corporate Portfolio under the management and control of the Council's Corporate Property Client.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

This matter was considered and approved by the Strategic Asset Management Group at their meeting on 7 September 2010.

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		✓	
2	Creating Safe Communities		✓	
3	Jobs and Prosperity		✓	
4	Improving Health and Well-Being		✓	
5	Environmental Sustainability		✓	
6	Creating Inclusive Communities		✓	
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy		✓	
8	Children and Young People		✓	

LINKS TO ENSURING INTEGRATION:

Not appropriate.

IMPACT UPON CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES TARGETS AND PRIORITIES

Not appropriate.

<p>LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT</p>

<p>None.</p>

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THOMAS GRAY INFANT SCHOOL: SITE TRANSFER

1. Background

- 1.1 Approval was given on 12 July 2007 for a major capital scheme to single site Thomas Gray Primary School onto the Junior School site.
- 1.2 The single siting was completed in August 2009 and all pupils were relocated onto the junior site. The building housing the Marie Clark Family Centre was damaged by fire and was relocated on a temporary basis to the Thomas Gray Infant building in September 2009. The repair and refurbishment works to the Marie Clark building have been completed enabling staff to return there and to vacate the Thomas Gray Infant building.

2. Proposal

- 2.1 The buildings at Thomas Gray Infant School, Balfour Road, will be surplus to the requirements of Children, Schools & Families with effect from 31 September 2010. It is proposed to transfer the property back into the Corporate Portfolio, under the control and management of the Council's Corporate Property Client.
- 2.2 In accordance with current Council policy the responsibility for ongoing costs of maintenance and security of the premises will remain with the Children, Schools & Families Directorate until the property is disposed of or put to an alternative use.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 The Cabinet Member is recommended to authorise the Strategic Director, Communities, in consultation with the Legal Director, with effect from 1 October 2010, to negotiate the transfer of site and buildings of Thomas Gray Infant School, Balfour Road, back into the Corporate Portfolio, under the management of the Council's Corporate Property Client.

G:\Capital\2010 2011\CM Reports\CM Report Thomas Gray Inf Sch Site Transfer 05.10.10.DOC

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REPORT TO: Cabinet Member – Children’s Services

DATE: 26th October 2010

SUBJECT: Proposed Extension and Alterations for Nursery at Summerhill Primary School, Maghull

WARDS AFFECTED: Sudell

REPORT OF: Peter Moore
Environmental and Technical Services Director

CONTACT OFFICER: David Kay
Architecture and Buildings Manager
Tel: 0151 934 4527

EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL: No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

This report is to advise Members of tenders received in respect of the proposals to provide new nursery accommodation at Summerhill Primary School, Maghull as part of the Early Years and Childcare Grant and Extended Schools programme.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

To enable acceptance of tenders and to thereby allow the timetable for implementation and expenditure to be met.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

It is recommended that:

- i) The Cabinet Member for Children’s Services approves acceptance of the lowest tender received.
- ii) Subject to (i) above the Legal Director be requested to enter into a formal contract with the successful tenderer.
- iii) The Cabinet Member is requested to note that the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children’s Services) has been requested to consent, under Rule 17 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules, to the call-in period being waived in respect of this matter.

KEY DECISION:

No

FORWARD PLAN:

Not Appropriate

IMPLEMENTATION DATE:

Subject to the agreement to waive call in, Immediately following this meeting.

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ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

All alternative options have been considered and have been discounted.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: Funding totalling £350,000 is included in Children’s Services Capital Programme to address the proposals at Summerhill Primary School. This funding is provided through the Early Years and Childcare Grant: Quality and access (£220,000), the Extended Schools Programme (£17,019) and the Modernisation Programme (£112,981).

Financial Tenders for the works will be received at 12.00 noon on the 22nd October 2010. Details of the tenders received and the overall financial implications will be reported to Members on the day of the meeting.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	N/A			
How will the service be funded post expiry?	N/A			

Legal: Not appropriate

Risk Assessment: Not appropriate

Asset Management: Not Applicable

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

The Children's Services Department have been consulted and any comments have been taken into account in preparing this report.

FD 530 - The Interim Head of Corporate Finance & Information Services has been consulted and his comments have been incorporated into this report

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	√		
2	Creating Safe Communities	√		
3	Jobs and Prosperity	√		
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	√		
5	Environmental Sustainability	√		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	√		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	√		
8	Children and Young People	√		

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Report to Cabinet 2 September 2010: Capital Programme Review
 Report to Cabinet 10 June 2010: Sure Start Early Years and Childcare Grant/Extended Schools Capital Allocation
 Children's Services Capital Programme

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1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Little Acorns is an independent nursery housed in a classroom at Summerhill Primary School.
- 1.2 The Authority and the school are keen to retain the nursery on the school site but as the nursery classroom can only be accessed by crossing the school playground there are safeguarding issues that the school needs to address.
- 1.3 The school would also like to regain the classroom in order to develop a new staffroom and provide separate offices for the Headteacher and school secretary.
- 1.4 It is therefore proposed that a self-contained nursery unit is constructed within the school site consisting of a large nursery room, pupil and staff toilets, small office/staff area, storage and a dedicated play area. The facility will also be used for holiday club activities.
- 1.5 The proposed scheme was approved by Cabinet on 10 June 2010 and Cabinet confirmed on 2 September 2010 that the proposal could be progressed following the review of the capital programme.

2.0 TENDER ACTION

- 2.1 Tenders to carry out the works have been invited from suitably qualified and experienced contractors, as follows (in alphabetical order):

J. Armor	Melling
D. Henderson and Son	Southport
E.J.Horrocks	Prescot
Lyjon Construction	Ellesmere Port
Mellwood Construction	Huyton
Triangle Builders	Bootle

- 2.2 Tenders will be received at 12.00 noon on the 22nd October 2010. Details of the tenders received will be reported on the day of the meeting.
- 2.3 The tenders will be subject to technical and arithmetical checking and acceptance of the lowest tender will be subject to such checking.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Funding totalling £350,000 is included in Children's Services Capital Programme to address the proposals at Summerhill Primary School. This

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funding is provided through the Early Years and Childcare Grant: Quality and access (£220,000), the Extended Schools Programme (£17,019) and the Modernisation Programme (£112,981).

- 3.2 The total financial implications of the scheme will be established following receipt of the tenders and will be reported on the day of the meeting.
- 3.3 Subject to the total scheme cost not exceeding the funding available the Cabinet Member for Children's Services is requested to give consideration to accepting the lowest tender received.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

- i) The Cabinet Member for Children's Services approves acceptance of the lowest tender received.
- ii) Subject to (i) above the Legal Director be requested to enter into a formal contract with the successful tenderer.
- iii) The Cabinet Member is requested to note that the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children's Services) has been requested to consent, under Rule 17 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules, to the call-in period being waived in respect of this matter.

Peter Moore
Environmental and Technical Services Director

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REPORT TO: CABINET MEMBER CHILDREN SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES AND CHILDREN SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

DATE 26TH OCTOBER 2010

SUBJECT: POST-16 ANNUAL TRAVEL PASSES – POLICY REVIEW

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL WARDS

REPORT OF: PETER MORGAN
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR, CHILDREN SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES

CONTACT OFFICER: EDDIE SLOAN AND JANE CLARK

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** NO

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

In the context of a likely requirement to make a significant budget reduction in the Post 16 travel budget, this report provides the Cabinet Member and Overview and Scrutiny Committee with relevant information relating to the current Sefton Post 16 Travel Pass and Transport policy. It then recommends a revision of the policy to take into account the revision to the budget.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

Review of current Transport Policy for Post 16 students in Sefton is required to ensure most effective use of available resources.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

It is recommended that:

1. The report be noted
2. That the Children's Schools and Families Cabinet Member:
 - a) Approves the recommended option, which continues to support lower income households
 - b) Requests that Officers consult on the proposals with Colleges, Sixth Forms, Connexions Service and Merseytravel.
 - c) Requests a further report, following consultation for final approval by 31st January 2011 in order to ensure that students can be made aware of the revised policy when considering their options.
3. That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:
 - a) Endorses the recommended option.

KEY DECISION: No.

FORWARD PLAN: Not appropriate.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: For Page 41 of the "call-in" period for the Minutes of the Cabinet Member meeting.

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ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Various options are outlined and discussed in the body of the report

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: None

Financial: The Post 16 Travel budget is £440,000, in 2010/11. The recommended option in the report will reduce this requirement by £140,000 in 2011/12 and will be subject to further review as the Council looks to make the required budget reductions over the next MTFP period.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2009/ 2010 £	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal: None

Risk Assessment: Provision of Mainstream Post 16 Travel and transport provision is not a statutory requirement

Asset Management: Not appropriate.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

FD 541 The Interim Head of Corporate Finance and Information Services has been consulted and his comments have been incorporated into the report.

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community			✓
2	Creating Safe Communities		✓	
3	Jobs and Prosperity			✓
4	Improving Health and Well-Being		✓	
5	Environmental Sustainability		✓	
6	Creating Inclusive Communities		✓	
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy			✓
8	Children and Young People			✓

LINKS TO ENSURING INTEGRATION:

IMPACT UPON CHILDREN'S SERVICES TARGETS AND PRIORITIES:

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Comparison of current post 16 transport policies for Merseyside Authorities- Appendix A

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POST-16 TRAVEL PASSES **(MAINSTREAM SCHOOLS SIXTH FORMS AND FE COLLEGES)**

1. Background

- 1.1 At their 8th July 2010 meeting Cabinet received a report entitled “Strategic Budget Review and Budget 2010/11” that outlined the impact of Government’s intention to reduce public expenditure by an average 25% over the next 3 years. The overall impact of these measures was to increase the predicted 3 year MTFP budget gap from ~£30m to ~£53m.
- 1.2 A number of savings options are being considered as the Council works towards ensuring a balanced budget position. One of these is a reduction of £200,000 in the Post 16 Mainstream Travel Allowance budget for next financial year. This budget is subject to further review during the next MTFP period.
- 1.3 In order to take account of the Cabinet budget changes and to ensure the available resource is appropriately targeted a review of the existing policy will be carried out.

2.0 Existing Policy

- 2.1 Sefton Council has historically operated a discretionary transport policy, which allows assistance with travelling expenses for post-16 students residing within Sefton. The existing policy for post-16 students travelling to either a school sixth form, Sixth Form College or a Further Education College stipulates that an annual travel pass will be issued to eligible students. Eligible students are Sefton residents living more than 3 miles away from an Institution that are attending. The Institution can be inside or outside of Sefton.
- 2.2 In Sefton, there are approx 8000 post- 16 students (aged 16-19). Annually, about 1500 of those students are assessed as eligible students for transport and issued with a travel pass. This is broadly 20% of the Sefton student population

The existing policy allows students to use public transport (bus and train) to attend a full time course at their choice of Sixth Form or FE Institution.

As the costs to the Authority for individual travel passes ranges from £200 up to £500 each per student depending on student age (plus number of zones, bus or train and distance etc.)

An annual compulsory contribution to the cost of a travel pass is also charged (£30 per student) for all eligible students. This equates to approx £45,000 annual income to the Authority, which is offset against the annual costs.

In addition to this the current policy also allows a panel of Senior Officers (who act as an appeals process/panel) to issue travel passes under exceptional circumstances.) Approximately 40 post 16 applications are considered through this appeals process per annum.

3. Review options/Alternatives (Academic Years)

3.1 Retain existing /current policy

2011/12 Budget Required : £440,000

2012/13 Budget Required: £440,000

Risks: Budget may become inadequate in light of increased purchase costs of passes from travel operators.

3.2 Retain the current policy, but with an increase in the annual contribution from £30 to £60 per student

2011/12 Budget Required :£395,000

2012/13 Budget Required: £395,000

The net cost of providing passes to eligible students would be reduced by an estimated £45,000 (generated by extra income of £30 per student from 1500 students).

Risks: Impact on low income households with increased contribution.

3.3 Retain current eligibility criterion with policy adjustment to allow travel passes for Sefton Post- 16 Students attending Sefton Institutions only

Approx 20% of the 1500 post 16 students eligible for a travel pass currently travel to FE provision (including School Sixth Forms) outside of Sefton. Although the percentage is not exceptionally high, the travel passes for students travelling outside of Sefton are more expensive to issue.

2011/12 Budget Required : £390,000 (2nd yr students continuing)

2012/13 Budget Required : £340,000 (Full policy implementation)

Risks—Less Choice for students plus many of the students studying outside of Sefton may revert back to a Sefton Institution and still be eligible for a travel pass therefore increase the budget requirements significantly

3.4 Adjust eligibility to include Sefton students from low- income households accessing provision only within Sefton (allowing 2nd year students to complete existing courses under old eligibility)

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Education Maintenance Allowance is the national benchmark used to assess low income households for post -16 students.

32% of the 8000 Sefton student population are eligible to receive the Education Maintenance Allowance.

This benchmark would be used to assess eligibility for a travel pass for Sefton Students.

This would allow students eligible for any level of Education Maintenance Allowance, (EMA) where the household income is under £30,800 that are travelling more than 3 miles to their Sixth Form or College within Sefton to be provided with a travel pass.

Using this formula, 32% of Sefton students that are currently eligible to receive a travel pass via distance would therefore be eligible students using a revised policy of low income households.

If we based the average price of a travel pass as £400 and use the 500 eligible students as a cohort then the full annual budget requirements from September 2012 would be £200,000. There would be no standard appeals process with this option.

Budget Required for 2011/12 £300,000

Budget Required for 2012/13: £200,000

Based on £200,000 (2nd and some third year students completing existing courses) and £100,000 for 1st Year revised policy eligible low income household students.

Taking in to account the new policy would only allow students to attend Sefton Institutions; the assumed eligible number of 500 eligible students may be reduced further.

Risks. Eligibility checks may delay application processing slightly

3.5 **Remove current policy and provision completely.**

Option 1- Phased Implementation

2011-12 Provision for Second Years / returning students only.

2012-13 no provision

This would allow those students access to a travel pass (in order to complete 2 yr courses such as A level and Diploma courses already commenced in 2010-11 under existing policy.)

Budget Required : 2011/12 £220,000

Budget Required : 2012/13 £ Nil, unless a small budget is retained for appeals

Risks ---Learner choice will be restricted by financial constraint and consequently achievement could suffer

Most of the vocational offer is at each northerly and southerly end of the borough

Option 2 Provision removed completely in September 2011
2011/12 No provision at all for new or existing students

2011/12 Budget Required : £ Nil unless small budget is retained for exceptional cases e.g. LAC

2012/13 Budget Required £ Nil

Risks---- 2nd year and returning students unable to complete existing courses unless they pay full costs of travel

Many reasons why transfers to more local institutions cannot lead to course completion

3.6 **Reduce Budget by 50% and distribute the remaining allocated budget amount to School Sixth forms and Colleges within Sefton.**

An allocated amount could be given to each Institution. This would allow each Institution to add the Local Authority budget allocation to their existing Learner Support Funds which support students with financial hardship. The fund would be distributed directly to students directly (those most in need)

2011/12 Budget Required £200,000

2012/13 Budget Required £ 200,000

Risks---Budget not controlled centrally, no Local Authority audit for use of funds by individual Institutions

Favours institutions with greater cash flexibility to provide transport subsidies

4. **Resources within Service Area.**

Due to the current economic climate there has been a significant increase in applications for free school meals, travel passes and clothing allowances over the last 12 /24 Months. Additional resources have been used to administer the increase in applications

The adjustment or removal of the post 16 travel pass policy will reduce the workload sufficiently to allow means testing to be administered if it is considered.

5.0 **Recommended Way Forward**

5.1 In order to continue to support students from low income households and

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align policy with other Merseyside Authorities that currently provide any support (means testing); it is recommended that the option outlined in 3.4 above be adopted for September 2011 onwards. This will provide a policy for Post 16 Mainstream Travel which will allow the Authority to support students from Sep 2011 with a reduced budget, and from Sep 2012 fully within the budget available. This policy will focus the available resource on those with most need.

- 5.2 This policy option will therefore not generate the full required budget saving until 2012 because of the transition from the old policy.
- 5.3 An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out in relation to the proposed policy. The initial findings are that the policy should not disproportionately impact on any target category within the Equality Act. 2010
- 5.4 If Overview and Scrutiny approve this way forward Officers will undertake a consultation with stakeholders and submit a detailed report to the Sefton Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the preferred option and the results of this process. A final decision is required by January 2011 as this information needs to be publicly available for those making choices about post 16 education for the next academic year.