

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.

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.

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.