

REPORT TO: Cabinet Member, Children's Services
Cabinet

DATE: 7 December 2010
16 December 2010

SUBJECT: Schools Access Initiative - Additional Schemes

**WARDS
AFFECTED:** Derby And Cambridge 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 schemes to be funded from the Schools Access Initiative Capital Allocation.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

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

RECOMMENDATION(S):

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 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 schemes detailed in this report is estimated at £17,000 which, if approved, will leave a balance of £38,946 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 555 - 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 schemes will contribute towards the inclusion agenda by improving access for pupils with physical disabilities and/or mobility problems.

IMPACT UPON CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES TARGETS AND PRIORITIES:

The proposed scheme will have a positive impact on 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 – 2 September 2010 – Capital Programme Review

SCHOOLS ACCESS INITIATIVE: ADDITIONAL SCHEMES

1. Background

- 1.1 Sefton MBC has received a Schools Access Initiative (SAI) capital allocation in 2010/11 of £400,790. Taking into account schemes already approved there remains a balance of £90,277.
- 1.2 The SAI 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 SAI capital could be progressed.

2. Proposed Scheme

- 2.1 Stanley High School is one of Sefton's secondary schools that is designated for pupils with physical disabilities or mobility problems and serves the Southport area of the Borough.
- 2.2 All areas of the school are accessible to pupils in wheelchairs with the exception of the stage within the main hall. Pupils with physical disabilities cannot access the stage during drama or for presentations and award events. The proposal is to provide a mobile lifting device which will allow access from the rear of the stage when required. The cost of the device is £8,000.
- 2.3 A second proposal is to improve accessibility from four classrooms to the external play area at Christ Church CE Primary School in Bootle. This will involve resurfacing an area of playground to bring it level with the classroom doors at an estimated cost of £9,000. This will ensure that pupils, already attending the school, will have greater access to external play areas.
- 2.4 Maghull High School, Maghull is designated as a school for pupils with physical disabilities and caters for a number of pupils in wheelchairs. The first floor areas of the school have evacuation chairs so that pupils in wheelchairs can be safely escorted from the building in case of fire. However, the four storey science block presents a problem simply because of the number of stairs and the difficulty of evacuating secondary age pupils over such a distance. It is therefore proposed to convert the existing lift to an evacuation lift which could be used in an emergency. The lift would have its own power supply and intercom system. The estimated cost is £34,331.
- 2.5 The total cost of proposals detailed above is £51,331 which, if approved, would leave a balance of £38,946 to support further schemes.

3. Recommendations

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 2010/11 Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme.