

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

DATE: 19 JANUARY 2010
4 FEBRUARY 2010

SUBJECT: SCHOOLS ACCESS INITIATIVE: PROPOSED SCHEME

WARDS AFFECTED: FORD 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 a proposed capital scheme.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

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

RECOMMENDATION(S):

The Cabinet Member is recommended to:-

- i) approve the proposed scheme;
- ii) refer the expenditure to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme 2009/10 and 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.

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 (School Access Initiative Allocation). If the proposed scheme is approved then £352,790 will remain from the 2010/11 allocation to support further schemes.

<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: Not appropriate.

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

Asset Management: The proposed scheme is in line with the Schools Asset Management Plan.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

The Finance and Information Services Director has been consulted and has no comments on this report. FD 279.

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'S SERVICES TARGETS AND PRIORITIES:

Not applicable.

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

Report to Cabinet Member, Children, Schools & Families and Cabinet - 27/29 October 2009 – Schools Access Initiative Funding 2009/10.

SCHOOLS ACCESS INITIATIVE: PROPOSED SCHEME

1. Background

- 1.1 Sefton MBC has received a School Access Initiative capital allocation of £400,790 in 2009/10 and a further £400,790 for 2010/11. A balance of £22,000 remains from the 2009/10 funding to support new schemes.
- 1.2 Rowan Park Special School has 117 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.
- 1.3 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. Buses arriving to pick up pupils from the senior area of the school have to reverse towards the school entrance as there is insufficient space for them to turn in a complete circle and there are serious health and safety concerns with these arrangements.

2. Proposals

- 2.1 It is proposed to extend an area of the existing car park to allow the minibuses better access around the site and to provide more disabled car parking spaces, near to the main entrance, for parents dropping off and collecting their children.
- 2.2 The estimated cost of the proposed scheme is £70,000 with £22,000 being funded from the 2009/10 balance and the remaining £48,000 from the 2010/11 allocation. The scheme would be progressed during the school Easter holiday period so none of the 2010/11 allocation would be expended in 2009/10.
- 2.3 If the proposed scheme is approved then a balance of £352,790 would be available to support further schemes in 2010/11.