

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

DATE: 13 APRIL 2010
15 APRIL 2010

SUBJECT: SURE START EARLY YEARS & CHILDCARE GRANT: QUALITY &
ACCESS 2009/10-2010/11

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 is to report on the schemes from 2009/10 and to seek approval for proposed schemes detailed in this report.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

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

RECOMMENDATION(S):

The Cabinet Member is recommended to:-

- (i) note the revised distribution of funding for schemes in the 2009/10 programme;
- (ii) approve the proposed schemes detailed in this report for 2010/11;
- (iii) refer the funding to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children, Schools and 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.

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 the specific resources of the Sure Start Early Years and Childcare Grant. All proposals detailed in this report can be contained within the capital funding available.

<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: Not appropriate.**CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS**

FD – 353 - The Acting 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 proposals detailed in this report will link to the following priorities of the CYPP which will contribute to ensuring integration.

- ❖ Reduce health inequalities.
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ Create a culture and an environment where people can make a positive contribution to their community.

IMPACT UPON CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES TARGETS AND PRIORITIES:

The proposals will have a positive impact on the CYPP priorities detailed above and to the following LAA targets:

- ❖ Improved health and reduced inequalities.
- ❖ Educational achievement and training.
- ❖ Looked After Children.
- ❖ The health of children and young people.
- ❖ Changing perceptions.
- ❖ Crime.
- ❖ Community involvement.
- ❖ Statutory Education Targets.

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

Report to Cabinet 11 June 2009. Sure Start Early Years & Childcare Grant 2009/10.

SURE START EARLY YEARS & CHILDCARE GRANT: QUALITY & ACCESS 2009/10-2010/11

1. Background

- 1.1 Members will recall that approval was given on 11 June 2009 for outline allocations from the Sure Start Early Year & Childcare Grant (EYCG): Quality & Access 2009/10. Settings from the private, voluntary and independent (PVI) and maintained sector were invited to bid for grants totalling £92,040 in one of 4 categories and indicative amounts were allocated to each category.
- 1.2 Sefton MBC has been allocated a further £960,958 in EYCG: Quality & Access in 2010/11. The grant has three aims:
- ❖ to improve the quality of the learning environment in early years settings to support the delivery of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), with particular emphasis on improving play and physical activities and ICT resources;
 - ❖ to ensure all children, including disabled children, are able to access provision;
 - ❖ to enable the Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) providers to deliver the extension to the free offer for 3 and 4 year olds and to do so flexibly.
- 1.3 It is expected that the majority of this capital grant will be used to improve the quality of the environment in PVI early years and childcare settings both to support higher quality experiences for young children and to ensure that all children can access services and benefit from them. Spending on the maintained sector is not precluded.

2. Update on 2009/10 Schemes

- 2.1 The table below shows the proposed allocations for each of the four categories of small capital grants from the 2009/10 grant and also the actual allocations based on the bids received from the Early Years settings.

	Initial Funding Allocated £	Final Funding Allocated £
Block Play	20,000	6,000
Creative Learning Areas	50,000	76,418
Out of School ICT Packages	12,000	9,041
Out of School Storage	10,040	-
Total	92,040	91,459

This leaves a balance of £581.00 to be carried forward into 2010/11.

- 2.2 An indicative allocation of £400,000 to support access for pupils with disabilities and £341,918 to support the flexible delivery of the free offer to 3 and 4 year olds was carried forward from 2009/10 into 2010/11 in order to ensure that the funding was allocated strategically to benefit the maximum number of children.
- 2.3 In total therefore £742,499 was carried forward into 2010/11 which, with the £960,958 allocation for 2010/11, gave a total to support new schemes of £1,703,457.

3. Proposed Schemes for 2010/11

- 3.1 Officers from the Early Years Team invited bids for grants from the PVI sector and Out of School settings and these were considered against the following criteria:-
- ❖ quality of setting;

- ❖ commitment to inclusion;
- ❖ evidence of working in partnership;
- ❖ location and demographics;
- ❖ value for money.

3.2 Government Office, North West has approved the allocations and Officers from the Capital Programme Team have assisted in evaluating the value for money aspect of the bids by visiting the settings and considering the capital proposals.

3.3 It is also proposed to allocate a further £63,498 to provide Creative Learning Areas in an additional number of settings as this particular aspect was oversubscribed in 2009/10.

3.4 The proposed schemes with a total value of £1,214,337 are detailed in the table below. If these schemes and the Creative Learning Areas in 3.3 are approved then a balance of £489,120 will be available to support further schemes.

Name of Nursery	Area	Proposed Scheme	Estimated Cost £
Frantastic	Southport	Extension to form extended schools room.	140,735
Holy Trinity	Southport	Internal modifications to form new room and entrance.	59,999
St Thomas' Out of School Club	Maghull	Extension to form extended schools room.	135,000
Bumbles	Maghull	Extension to baby room and improvements to external play.	55,225
Early Days	Formby	Alternations to relocate WCs and to form large room.	25,000
Early Learners	Bootle	Rationalise WCs and provide access to play area from under 5s room.	58,750
Formby Day Nursery	Formby	Extension to form play room and milk room.	65,800
Little Buds	Lydiate	Toilet and changing room extension to link two rooms.	60,000
Sunflowers	Southport	Development of outdoor room.	68,738
Tiny Hearts	Waterloo	Development of outdoor room.	65,224
YMCA	Southport	Outside play room and link corridor.	93,324
Big Picture	Southport	Internal screens to reduce noise, external gardens developed.	59,443
Kinderworld	Southport	Refurbish WCs and kitchen. Outdoor play developed.	44,650
Home from Home	Waterloo	Extension to rear.	38,981
Gingerbread	Crosby	Toilets and external classroom developed.	72,850
Fun 4 Kidz L30	Netherton	Refurbish the parent room and extended school room.	70,618
Christ Church Youth Club	Bootle	Adaptation to form after school room.	100,000
Total			1,214,337

4. Recommendation(s)

4.1 The Cabinet Member is recommended to:-

- (i) note the revised distribution of funding and the individual allocations for schemes in the 2009/10 programme;
- (ii) approve the proposed schemes detailed in this report for 2010/11;
- (iii) refer the funding to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children, Schools and Families Capital Programme 2010/11.