

Appendix 4a

ESCW Capital programme

This report includes recommendations for the adoption of capital estimates for two projects in order not to delay matters before the next main ESCW programme report to Cabinet.

1. Seven Mills Primary School

1.1 The LA and the school have developed a joint project to provide a new accommodation block at the school. The scheme will include the replacement of an existing temporary building which is in poor condition in a new block which will also provide classroom space to allow a temporary increase in places at the school.

1.2 Seven Mills School is on the Isle of Dogs, a priority area of pressure on the need for more school places. There are limited options for expanding more primary schools in the area. The Seven Mills site is very restricted and, whilst it may have the potential for rebuilding and expansion in the long term, the current proposal will create additional temporary capacity at the school. This will ensure more pupils can obtain a place near their homes and reduce the number who may have to travel further to school.

1.3 The school and the LA will jointly fund the project. The school will be using carried forward funds and other resources to fund its share. The estimated full cost of the project is £760,000.

1.4 It is recommended that a capital estimate of £380,000 is adopted for this project. This will be funded from the available Basic Need resources in the ESCW programme.

2. St Paul's Way Trust School

2.1 In the report to Cabinet in September 2013 on the ESCW capital programme, details of this proposal were included and, based on the initial proposal, a capital estimate of £5.5m was adopted, funded from the Basic Need grant allocation. The report also stated that a bid for this scheme to a specific DfE programme, Targeted Basic Need Programme (TBNP), had been successful. This provides funding of £4.23m. The September report stated that this funding would be subject to a further Cabinet decision to adopt into the programme.

2.2 The proposal involves Poplar Harca redeveloping two blocks on the Burdett Estate and providing school accommodation on the ground floor. This allows St Paul's Way Trust School to expand by providing primary education. It is proposed that the expansion will come into effect in September 2014, offering 60 places, in temporary accommodation. The permanent accommodation is anticipated to be available in 2016/17 school year (subject to planning approval and the overall programme).

2.3 Since the September Cabinet decision, further development work has been proceeding jointly with the Council and Poplar Harca. This has allowed the initial estimate of costs, for both the temporary phase and the permanent scheme, to be reviewed. It is now recommended that the additional TBNP funding should be included as the scheme budget and that a revised capital estimate for the scheme of £9.73m should be adopted.