

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE:	Education, Culture and Sport
DATE:	30 May 2013
DIRECTOR:	Gayle Gorman
TITLE OF REPORT:	School for Children and Young People with Severe and Complex Needs
REPORT NUMBER:	ECS/13/042

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is

- (i) to inform Committee that a suitable site is available for the location of the school for children and young people with severe and complex needs and
- (ii) to seek approval to progress with the necessary arrangements to deliver the school within the Bucksburn Farm site.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

To note the availability of land at the Bucksburn Farm site and to endorse this as the preferred site for the new school.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no revenue or capital implications for current and future years, any financial risk arising directly as a result of this report in itself.

There are significant financial implications for the delivery and on-going running of this new facility but these have been and will continue to be addressed through other committee reports.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal, resource, personnel, property, equipment, sustainability and environmental, health and safety and/or policy implications arising directly as a result of this report, other than the requirement for officer time to implement the required arrangements.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

5.1 Background

The Raeden Centre which provided facilities for children with severe and complex needs closed in July 2011.

A variety of sites across the city were considered for the new provision to replace Raeden, Woodlands and Hazlewood Schools.

The site at Bucksburn Farm was identified by Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure and Education, Culture and Sport as being the preferred site.

This site was unavailable at the time of the Committee Meeting in June, 2012 when officers were instructed to progress ground investigations on the two remaining sites.

The Bucksburn Farm site has subsequently become available and officers seek approval to progress with building the new school on this site.

5.2 Main Issues

5.2.1 Location of the new school

The Site Options Appraisal Document provides details of all sites considered and the methodology used to evaluate the sites.

The proposed site of the new school will be within the Greenferns Landward development, identified under the Aberdeen Local Development Plan.

5.2.2 Implementation of the Proposal

If Committee endorses Bucksburn Farm as the preferred site for the new school, officers of Education, Culture and Sport will make all necessary arrangements to procure and deliver the new school.

6. IMPACT

Corporate – The first high-level priority within Smarter People (Social and Human Capital) of the administration's policy document '*Aberdeen – the Smarter City*' states,

'We will provide a high quality education service within our schools and communities which will improve attainment and life chances of our children and young people to achieve their full potential in education, employment or training'.

Public – There will be public interest in this report. In particular, parents/carers of children and young people with complex needs will have an interest in the site of the new school.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

The assessment of risk associated with this report is low, as the site meets the criteria for the new provision.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Site Appraisals Document – Provision for Children with Complex Needs (published by Asset Management, Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure).

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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