

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Education and Children's Services
DATE	2 December 2014
DIRECTOR	Gayle Gorman
TITLE OF REPORT	Stoneywood School –Proposed New Build School
REPORT NUMBER:	ECS\14\059
CHECKLIST:	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise Committee that the Scottish Government have offered further financial support for the creation of a new secondary school to replace Kincorth Academy and Torry Academy. This will release Council capital funding which can be used in the construction of a new build Stoneywood School. The report will also advise how the proposed project to build a new Stoneywood School will be progressed, subject to Committee approval.

2. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Committee:

- (i) Accept the offer of additional funding support from the Scottish Government to assist in the development of a new Academy to replace Kincorth and Torry Academy;
- (ii) Agree to inclusion of a new school building for Stoneywood School, which is estimated at £13 million to be fully funded through the Council's capital programme;
- (iii) Instruct officers to conduct the necessary public consultation on the proposal to relocate Stoneywood School into a new school building.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Scottish Government have offered additional financial support of approximately £4 million, through revenue support, towards the new secondary school. This would allow the Council to realign £4 million from its capital contribution of for the new secondary to assist in meeting the cost of a new build Stoneywood School and it is estimated that the capital cost of building a new primary school with nursery would cost £13 million.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Legal – A public consultation on the proposal to relocate Stoneywood School must comply with the requirements of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

Resources – Officer time and expenditure associated with any future consultation exercise will be met from existing service budgets.

Personnel – Implementation of the recommendations will not result in any significant personnel implications.

Property – If Committee were to approve any proposal to relocate Stoneywood School following a statutory consultation exercise, a new school building would be designed and built to house Stoneywood School.

Equipment – There are no equipment implications or risks associated with this report.

Sustainability and environmental – A new school building would be more energy efficient and assist the Council in reducing its carbon footprint.

Health and safety – There are no implications or risks related to this report.

Policy – there are no implications or risks related to this report.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

5.1 Review of the Primary School Estate

On 7 February 2013, the Education, Culture and Sport Committee agreed to the creation of a new build Stoneywood School at recommendation 9 of the report. The Committee also agreed to rezone the area of Brimmond School's zone which lay to the northern side of the A96 to the zone for Stoneywood School.

5.2 Submission of School Condition and Suitability Data – June 2014

All local authorities in Scotland were asked to provide data on the condition and suitability of their school estate in June 2014 and submit the data to the Scottish Futures Trust (SFT). In particular, the Scottish Government placed an emphasis on identifying those school buildings which were identified as being rated as "C" or "D" for condition. Schools identified as "C" are in need of significant investment and those identified as "D" are considered to be nearing the end of their economic life. In normal circumstances, condition surveys for each building in the Council's property portfolio are undertaken on a 5 year basis.

In the June 2014 return, officers identified that there were no schools in the "C" or "D" rating at that time. However, having reviewed the condition of

those schools believed to be most at risk of becoming “C” condition it was found that Stoneywood School and St Peter’s School were now rated as “C” for condition. After discussion with SFT, it was agreed that the Council’s submission could be updated to reflect these changes.

After consideration by Scottish Ministers, the Council received written confirmation that funding support for the new academy in the South of the City was on offer, provided the Council agreed to use an equivalent sum from its capital contribution towards the cost of a replacement Stoneywood School.

5.3 Stoneywood School

As detailed above, Stoneywood School is now rated as “C” for condition and requires significant capital investment to bring it to an “A” condition. In addition to building factors, the school roll is projected to reach the stated capacity of 180 pupils by August 2015 and by 2021 the number of pupils attending Stoneywood School is likely to be double the current capacity.

A range of options have been considered and these are summarised below:

Do nothing: Keep the school in its current location and at its current capacity.

This option would not address either the physical condition of the building or its suitability to deliver Curriculum for Excellence. It would also fail to meet the needs to educate children in their zoned school and would not attract any funding support from the Scottish Government.

Extend and Refurbish the Existing School Building

With this option the school would be remodelled and extended to improve the physical condition of the school and its suitability rating as well as adding accommodation to meet the projected increase in pupil roll.

This option would not achieve full accessibility as although the school buildings are both single storey there are steps to different levels. This option would also include a period of decant into temporary accommodation which would add to the cost of the construction during the refurbishment and extension works to the building.

A New Build on a Site Yet to Be Chosen

Under this option, a new school would be built to accommodate Stoneywood School. This would provide accommodation which would be fully accessible and be “A” rated for suitability and condition. The new school building would also be able to accommodate the projected increase in pupil numbers who live within the school zone.

The sites have been considered for a new Stoneywood School. These are:

- The existing school site at Stoneywood Road;
- The site of the former Bankhead Academy on Bankhead Avenue;
- and

- The playingfields of the former Bankhead Academy at Greenburn Drive.

5.3 Next Steps

It will be necessary to conduct a statutory consultation on the proposal to build a new Stoneywood School. This will commence in January 2015 and consultation feedback being reported to Committee later in 2015. It would be at this stage that a site option would be chosen.

It is a requirement of the Scottish Government's additional funding for the new academy that the new Stoneywood School be completed by March 2017, or as soon as possible thereafter. Construction work would need to commence in late 2015 or early 2016 and should Committee agree to construct a new Stoneywood School, following consultation, details of the proposed construction programme would be presented as part of the Consultation Report.

6. IMPACT

6.1 Corporate

Aberdeen the Smarter City

- (i) We will enhance the physical and emotional wellbeing of all our citizens by offering support and activities which promote independence, resilience, confidence and self-esteem.
- (ii) Working with our third, public and private sector partners, we will provide opportunities for lifelong learning which will develop knowledge, skills and attributes of our citizens to enable them to meet the changing demands of the 21st Century.
- (iii) Again, working with partners, we will create a City of Learning which will empower individuals to fulfil their potential and contribute to the economic, social and cultural wellbeing of our communities.
- (iv) We will aim to have a workforce across the city which has the skills and knowledge to sustain, grow and diversify the city economy.

6.2 Management of the School Estate

A new build school would provide additional capacity to the primary school estate in the north west of the city. It will also improve the learning and teaching environment for pupils and staff alike.

6.3 Equalities Impact Assessment

An Equalities Impact Assessment is included as Appendix 1 of this report.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

There is not expected to be any significant operational risk in the formal public consultation process. Should Committee agree to a new build school a risk register for the project would be developed on a continuous basis throughout the lifetime of the project.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment - the Form

There are separate guidance notes to accompany this form – “Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment – the Guide.” Please use these guidance notes as you complete this form. Throughout the form, **proposal** should be understood broadly to include the full range of our activities and could refer to a decision, policy, strategy, plan, procedure, report or business case, embracing a range of different actions such as setting budgets, developing high level strategies and organisational practices such as internal restructuring. Essentially everything we do!

STEP 1: Identify essential information

1. Committee Report No.

ECS\14\059

2. Name of proposal.

Stoneywood School – Proposed New Build School

3. Officer(s) completing this form.

Name	Designation	Service	Directorate
Euan Couperwhite	Infrastructure and Assets Programme Manager	Policy, Performance and Resources	Education and Children’s Services

4. Date of Impact Assessment.

5. When is the proposal next due for review?

6. Committee Name.

7. Date the Committee is due to meet.

8. Identify the Lead Council Service and who else is involved in delivering this proposal (for example other Council services or partner agencies).

9. Please summarise this Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EHRIA). This must include any practical actions you intend to take or have taken to reduce, justify or remove any adverse negative impacts. This must also include a summary of how this proposal complies with the public sector equality duty for people with protected characteristics - see Step 2. **Please return to this question after completing the EHRIA.**

10. Where will you publish the results of the Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment? Tick which applies.

- Para 9 of EHRIA will be published in committee report in Section 6 "Impact"
- Full EHRIA will be attached to the committee report as an appendix
- Copied to Equalities Team to publish on the Council website

STEP 2: Outline the aims of the proposal

11. What are the main aims of the proposal?

12. Who will benefit most from the proposal?

13. You should assess the impact of your proposal on equality groups and tell us how implementing this proposal will impact on the needs of the public sector equality duty to: eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation; advance equality of opportunity; and foster good relations.

The new build proposals will have a positive impact on young people attending Stoneywood School. It will have no impact on the public sector equality duties.

STEP 3: Gather and consider evidence

15. What **evidence** is there to identify any potential positive or negative impacts in terms of involvement, consultation, research, officer knowledge and experience, equality monitoring data, user feedback and other? You must consider relevant evidence, including evidence from equality groups.

A review of the school building’s condition has found that it is categorised as “C” and its suitability is also classed as a “C”.

A full public consultation will be undertaken with stakeholders on the proposal to build a new school and where it should be located. All responses will then be reviewed by officers to determine if there any aspects of the proposal which should be re-assessed. This is in full compliance with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 and Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

STEP 4: Assess likely impacts on people with Protected Characteristics

16. Which, if any, people with protected characteristics and others could be affected positively or negatively by this proposal? Place the symbol in the relevant box. Be aware of cross-cutting issues, such as older women with a disability experiencing poverty and isolation.

(Positive +, neutral 0, - negative)

Protected Characteristics					
Age - Younger	+	Disability	0	Gender Reassignment*	0
Older	0				
Marriage or Civil Partnership	0	Pregnancy and Maternity	0	Race**	0
Religion or Belief	0	Sex (gender)***	0	Sexual orientation****	0
Others e.g. poverty	0				

Notes:

* Gender Reassignment includes Transsexual

** Race includes Gypsy/Travellers

*** Sex (gender) i.e. men, women

**** Sexual orientation includes LGB: Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual

17. Please detail the potential positive and/or negative impacts on those with protected characteristics you have highlighted above.

In making the assessment you must consider relevant evidence, including evidence received from individuals and equality groups. Having considered all of these elements, you must take account of the results of such assessments. This requires you to consider taking action to address any issues identified, such as removing or mitigating any negative impacts, where possible, and exploiting any potential for positive impact. If any adverse impact amounts to **unlawful discrimination**, the policy must be amended to avert this. Detail the impacts and describe those affected.

Positive impacts (describe protected characteristics affected)	Negative Impacts (describe protected characteristics affected)
Age Younger – the new build proposals will ensure that young people attending the Stoneywood School can be taught in a state of the art school which is fit for the delivery of the 21 st Century curriculum.	

STEP 5: Human Rights - Apply the three key assessment tests for compliance assurance

18. Does this proposal/policy/procedure have the potential to interfere with an individual's rights as set out in the Human Rights Act 1998? State which rights might be affected by ticking the appropriate box(es) and saying how. **If you answer "no", go straight to question 22.**

NO

- Article 3 – Right not to be subjected to torture, inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment
- Article 6 – Right to a fair and public hearing
- Article 8 – Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence
- Article 10 – freedom of expression
- Other article not listed above

How?

Legality

19. Where there is a potential negative impact is there a legal basis in the relevant domestic law?

Legitimate aim

20. Is the aim of the policy identified in Steps 1 and 2 a legitimate aim being served in terms of the relevant equality legislation or the Human Rights Act?

Proportionality

21. Is the impact of the policy proportionate to the legitimate aim being pursued? Is it the minimum necessary interference to achieve the legitimate aim?

STEP 6: Monitor and review

22. How will you monitor the implementation of the proposal? (For example, customer satisfaction questionnaires)

Full public consultations on the Council’s new build proposals will be completed. These allow stakeholders to submit comments and views, which under the requirements of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 and the Children and Young People’s Act (Scotland) 2014 must be reported to the Council in the follow up Consultation Report which provides a summary of the issues raised and the Council’s response to those issues.

23. How will the results of this impact assessment and any further monitoring be used to develop the proposal?

This impact assessment ensures that public consultations comply with legislation and that the positive Educational Benefits of the proposal can be demonstrated.

STEP 7 SIGN OFF

The final stage of the EHRIA is formally to sign off the document as being a complete, rigorous and robust assessment.

Person(s) completing the impact assessment.

Name	Date	Signature
Euan Couperwhite	18 November 2014	

Quality check: document has been checked by

Name	Date	Signature
Andrew Jones	18 November 2014	

Head of Service (Sign-off)

Name	Date	Signature
David Anderson	18 November2014	

Now –

Please send an electronic copy of your completed EHRIA - without signatures - together with the proposal to:

Equalities Team
Customer Service and Performance
Corporate Governance
Aberdeen City Council
Business Hub 13
Second Floor North
Marischal College
Broad Street
Aberdeen
AB10 1AB

Telephone 01224 523039 Email sandrab@aberdeencity.gov.uk