

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

A record of decisions made by the Executive Cabinet Member with responsibility for Children's Services, Looked after Children, Safeguarding for Children and Young People, Schools and Early Years:-

MONDAY, 4th APRIL, 2022

Following consideration of the matters detailed below in the presence of:-

Councillor Galloway	- Executive Cabinet Member – Children's Services
Councillor Donaghy	- Major Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor McGeown	- Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Sanders	- Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Wright	- Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor McMulkin	- Minor Opposition Spokesperson

Officers

Mr P. Rankin	- Deputy Director of Children's Services
Ms G. Whitehead	- Assistant Director of Children's Services – Inclusive Education and Learning
Mr I. Walker	- Assistant Director – Social Care and Early Help
Ms L. Butcher	- Head of Finance
Ms A. Kelly	- Senior Lawyer
Mrs S. Bailey	- Principal Democratic Services Officer

41. MONITORING OF EXECUTIVE CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

The Borough Solicitor submitted a report which provided an update on decisions taken at previous meetings of the Executive Cabinet Member.

The Executive Cabinet Member NOTED the report.

CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

The background papers and report in relation to the following item were considered confidential as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and that it be deemed that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in their exemption outweighs the public interest in their disclosure.

42. PROPOSED SCHOOLS BUILDING MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME FOR 2022-23

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report which sought approval to commit Capital Funding from the Schools Building Maintenance Capital Programme to support essential building maintenance works at the six undermentioned schools:

- Oxford Grove Primary School - Roofing Scheme £1.1M
- Hardy Mill Primary School – Roofing Scheme £650K
- Egerton Primary School – Electrical Scheme £350K
- Gaskell Primary School – Roofing Scheme £550K
- The Orchards Lower site – Roofing Scheme £550K
- St James DH VC School – Roofing/Structural Scheme £700K.

The report advised that the Council received annual Capital Funding via the Schools Condition Allocation (SCA) from the Department for Education to carry out works at Local Authority Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools. The allocation recognised the need for capital repair and replacement to keep buildings in good condition whilst their day-to-day maintenance

was met from the Revenue Funding provided to schools for this purpose.

The Children's Services Departmental Capital Programme used the SCA funding allocation to support the annual Schools Building Maintenance Programme (BMP). Separate Capital Funding allocations for similar works to Academy and Voluntary Aided schools was allocated to the respective responsible bodies for works at their schools.

The report stated that during 2020/22, school condition reports had been undertaken at all Local Authority Community and Voluntary Controlled schools. These were now being used to identify future school building condition needs for the purposes of prioritising schemes to be included in the annual BMP.

In this regard, the report put forward proposals to allocate Capital Funding for repair works at the six schools now identified.

The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –

The allocation of Capital Funding support to undertake necessary repairs at the six schools identified in the report now submitted, subject to receipt of an appropriate funding allocation from the DfE.