

Bolton Council

Report to: The Cabinet

Date: 14th January 2013

Report of: Margaret Asquith
Director of Children's and Adult
Services

Report No:

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Children's and Adult Services

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Report Title: Clarendon CP School – Contract Award

**Confidential /
Non Confidential:**

(Non-Confidential) This report does **not** contain information which warrants its consideration in the absence of the press or members of the public

Purpose:

To seek approval to award the contract to build the new Clarendon CP School to Balfour Beatty Construction Limited, via the Blackburn with Darwen and Bolton Local Education Partnership.

Recommendations:

The Cabinet is recommended to:

- Delegate authority to the Director of Children's and Adult Services to award the contract for the construction of the new Clarendon Primary School to Balfour Beatty Construction Limited, via the Blackburn with Darwen and Bolton Local Education Partnership.
- Agree that the Borough Solicitor be authorised to complete all the necessary legal formalities in respect of the project.

Decision:

Background Doc(s):

Report to the Executive member for Children's Services, 27th September 2010: *Procurement of New Primary Schools*.

Report to the Executive, 31st January 2011: *Proposed Rebuilding of Clarendon Primary School*

Application to Planning Committee 11th October 2012: *Planning Applications – Report of the Director of Development and Regeneration*

1.0 Background Information

- 1.1 In September 2010 the then Executive Member for Children's Services gave approval for officers to pursue the procurement and delivery of a new two form entry primary school to replace the existing Clarendon CP School.
- 1.2 At that time, Bolton had recently established a Local Education Partnership (LEP) with Balfour Beatty Education and Blackburn with Darwen LA as part of the proposed delivery strategy for the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme. Although BSF did not proceed in Bolton, the LEP was formed and still exists; indeed it is the vehicle that is being used for the delivery of Blackburn with Darwen LA's BSF programme. The LEP was, therefore, seen as the most efficient route to procure the new primary school, avoiding the need to undertake a lengthy and expensive more traditional procurement route. The LEP also provides a mechanism to ensure value for money in relation to the new school build as Balfour Beatty (the LEP's construction partner) had been required to demonstrate value for money delivery of school building projects in securing their role and involvement within the LEP.
- 1.3 As part of the wider BSF delivery strategy, a process was established by the DfE and managed by the then Partnership for Schools, for the submission and approval of appropriate documentation throughout the design and construction process for each project. This process is referred to as the New Projects Approval Procedure (NPAP), and this same process has been adopted in respect of the proposed delivery and construction of Clarendon CP School, given that the new school will be procured through Balfour Beatty Construction, via the LEP.
- 1.4 After a lengthy period of public consultation and stakeholder engagement with the school, planning permission was granted in October 2012. Immediately thereafter, the contractor submitted their formal detailed proposals for the delivery and construction of the new school. These details have now been carefully reviewed by Officers, technical advisers and the school, and all are now confident that the proposed scheme will meet the Client's requirements in respect of the original development brief and that the new school can be delivered within the agreed budget.
- 1.5 It is now appropriate for the project to progress to the next phase which is the award of the formal contract which will lead to the start of works early in 2013.
- 1.6 Subject to confirmation of contract award, work on site should begin before the end of February 2013 and be completed by Summer 2014.

2.0 Equality Impact Assessment

- 2.1 An initial screening form of Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and no adverse impacts were identified.

3.0 Recommendation

The Cabinet is recommended to:

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- Agree that the Borough Solicitor be authorised to complete all the necessary legal formalities in respect of the project.