

# COUNCIL

12 DECEMBER 2007

## BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE –UPDATED SUBMISSION TO PARTNERSHIPS FOR SCHOOLS

### REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

#### 1. INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Oldham's "Readiness to Deliver" proposals for a Building Schools for the Future programme in the borough were submitted to Partnership for Schools in October 2006.
- 1.2 Meetings with Partnerships for Schools during the spring and summer of 2007 led to agreements about the overall shape and trajectory of the Oldham proposals, but further clarification was sought around detailed planning, timeline and costs.
- 1.3 Technical assessment visits undertaken by Partnership for Schools during July and August identified further areas of work around the detailed physical condition of the secondary school estate. This presented a challenge during the final phase of planning, in order to ensure the best balance of educational, community cohesion, physical and financial issues was achieved in moving toward final proposals.
- 1.4 Cabinet considered the Building Schools for the Future – Updated Submission to Partnerships for Schools Report on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2007 and fully endorsed the recommendations contained within the report (EDRS 7110091). Please refer to Appendix C for the extract of the Minutes from Cabinet.

#### 2. STATUS OF THE PROPOSALS - CONSULTATION AND GOVERNANCE

- 2.1 These proposals have been subject to consultation among the general public and key stakeholders.
- 2.2 **General** – A consultation process involving each school, governors, staff and parents took place between March and May 2006. This established a broad consensus around the vision for change in Oldham, and identified key areas of concern in relation to the original proposals (as per the Readiness to Deliver document).
- 2.3 **Headteachers** – Were engaged in consultation around the original proposals, and have been engaged in a series of meetings during July and September, to discuss options for revising the original proposals in the light of developing financial, technical and other issues.
- 2.4 **Transforming Secondary Education Partnership** – This is a sub-group of the project board, comprising representatives from across the range of stakeholders. It meets on a fortnightly basis and has been involved fully in the process of working through these

proposals.

- 2.5 Members** – Elected members have received reports on 31 August 2006 and 28 September 2006 to approve the Readiness to Deliver proposals; and an update report on 29 March 2007. There were presentations to senior members of the Labour Group and to the whole of the Labour Group on the 9<sup>th</sup> August 2007.

### **3. CURRENT POSITION**

- 3.1** The Readiness to Deliver document included the vision for BSF in Oldham which contained proposals for School Improvement and Community Cohesion underpinned by a building programme. PfS accepted our proposals but asked that we revisit the building proposals in order to ensure that our plan was affordable and could be delivered within the tight timeframe prescribed. PfS gave a revised deadline of 1<sup>st</sup> October 2007 for delivery of this updated submission. This deadline was met and consequently the formal 'kick off' meeting was arranged to confirm Oldham's place in Wave 4 of BSF on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2007. A paper relating to these meetings and setting out our proposals are attached at Appendix A.

- 3.2** Following successful negotiations on the indicative funding available we now have access to £195.3 million. We have had to undertake specific and detailed investigations into the sites available and the options we would wish to pursue on

- 3.3** Consultation on Oldham's vision and proposals took place in March to May 2007. Although the detail of which schools would be refurbished and by how much as changed, the original vision and the closure of seven schools remains unchanged. In the consultation documents Oldham indicated it would seek to build up to three Academies and this remains the aim, sites for two of the Academies are in the process of being purchased and the site for the third Academy is still to be determined.

- 3.4** A separate consultation exercise has been undertaken by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Salford and the final decision on the location for the amalgamated Roman Catholic school is expected any day.

- 3.5** Post – 16 provision across the Borough still needs to be debated and resolved particularly with the Learning and Skills Council ( LSC ) and the Diocese to ensure suitable provision for Oldham's young people.

### **4. FORWARD PLAN FOR BSF**

- 4.1** Following the formal 'kick off' meeting work has now commenced on the Strategy for Change Part 1 and the Council's website on Building Schools for the Future is now being updated.

- 4.2** In December it is planned to submit this report for consideration by full Council and work will be undertaken to plan the dates for the statutory consultation events so that these can be published at the earliest possible time.

- 4.3** In January 2008 the Strategy for Change Part 1 will be submitted to Partnerships for Schools for their approval and work will commence on the Strategy for Change Part 2

going through to May 2008.

**4.4** In the early part of 2008 we will commence a statutory consultation process on school closures and significant changes and provide information on the overall BSF programme. It is anticipated that consultation will be ongoing over a period of months but will conclude as the authority submits its Strategy for Change Part 2 and commences work on the Outline Business Case in July 2008, which will need to be submitted to government.

**4.5** At Cabinet on 26<sup>th</sup> November, in response to a question raised regarding the amalgamation of schools which would be closing, it was explained that St Augustine's of Canterbury RC and Our Lady's RC would be amalgamating to create one new RC school and Kaskenmoor, South Chadderton, Grange, Breeze Hill and Counthill would close. Cabinet resolved to support the proposals set out in the report, which includes the statutory consultation process, for consideration by full Council.

## **5. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

**5.1** A summary of the proposals are given in the Appendices to this report:

Appendix A – detailed current proposals, school by school, with projected costs.

Appendix B – Income and expenditure budget statement.

## **6. OPTIONS/ALTERNATIVES**

- 6.1**
1. To request officers revisit this submission, and request placement in a much later Wave of BSF.
  2. For Council to approve the proposals set out in Appendix A including the statutory consultation process which will be delivered in the early part of 2008. In summary the proposals are:-

<b>To rebuild on new sites</b>	<b>To refurbish/new build on existing /neutral sites</b>	<b>Closures/Amalgamations</b>
Academy 1 – Oak Colliery	Royton and Crompton	Kaskenmoor
Academy 2 – Orb Mill	Hathershaw	Breeze Hill
Academy 3 – neutral site	North Chadderton	Counthill
Saddleworth	Blue Coat CE	South Chadderton
	Crompton House CE	Grange
	New Catholic School	
	6 <sup>th</sup> Form provision at New Bridge	St Augustine RC Our Lady's RC - amalgamating
	SEN provision on mainstream sites	

## **7. PREFERRED OPTION**

**7.1** The preferred option is Option 2:

For Council to approve the proposals set out in Appendix A including the statutory consultation process which will be delivered in the early part of 2008.

## **8. CONSULTATION**

- 8.1** These proposals have been subject to consultation among the general public and key stakeholders set out in section 2 of this report.

## **9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1** The capital and revenue implications for the proposals are set out in Appendix A. The annual projected affordability being £3.095m which is to be met from a maximum Council contribution of £1.5m per annum and a contribution from the school's budget of £1.595m. (TJB)

## **10. CORPORATE HUMAN RESOURCES COMMENTS**

- 10.1** The BSF programme will have a number of significant HR implications which will be considered by the Transition stream as part of the overall programme. Some initial work has been undertaken which will be developed in conjunction with all relevant stakeholders including council officers, school's representatives and the Trades Unions. (SB)

## **11. LEGAL SERVICES' COMMENTS**

- 11.1** The Council is required to comply with the statutory consultation obligations as outlined in paragraph 4.4 of the report (PAE).

## **12. TREASURER'S COMMENTS**

- 12.1** The financial information is based on the current grant funding regime which will be reviewed annually by PfS which may be subject to change until the Outline Business Case is approved.
- 12.2** The financial assumptions include an element for interest rate rises, however it should be noted that this may change in the financial model until Financial Close is achieved.
- 12.3** Work is ongoing to provide an assessment of possible pricing variations due to the time period of the BSF project which will also seek to provide a price assessment for land value changes. (TJB)
- 12.4** These funding proposals are based upon the new catholic school being provided at a neutral existing site.

## **13. IT IMPLICATIONS**

- 13.1** It is presently very early in the process, but ICT provision will be a fundamental part of the design of the buildings and the BSF workstreams will be looking at using ICT to support personalised learning, choice and diversity and improving outcomes. (TS)

## 14. PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

- 14.1** The BSF programme investment will recover the condition of the secondary school stock. New and refurbished schools will be sustainable and will have BREEAM rating of not less than good which is a requirement of the Corporate Property Strategy.
- 14.2** Schools will be subject to improved levels of maintenance, which will be reflected in the revenue payments in respect of the contract.
- 14.3** Issues relating to the provision of a new catholic school are understood to be addressed within the Treasurer's comments. These relate to site acquisition and land exchanges, which need to be kept under review. (PR)

## 15. ENVIRONMENTAL AND HEALTH & SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 15.1** The full implications can only be accurately assessed when all the sites are confirmed. (JH)

## 16. COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 17 OF THE ACT)

- 16.1** The vision for BSF will contribute directly towards improvements in Community Cohesion across the Borough and address some of the key issues in the most recent Cantle Report.

## 17. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 17.1** Council is recommended to approve the proposals set out in full in Appendix A including the statutory consultation process which will be delivered in the early part of 2008. In summary the proposals are:

To rebuild on new sites	To refurbish/new build on existing/neutral sites	Closures/ Amalgamations
Academy 1 – Oak Colliery	Royton and Crompton	Kaskenmoor
Academy 2 – Orb Mill	Hathershaw	Breeze Hill
Academy 3 – neutral site	North Chadderton	Counthill
Saddleworth	Blue Coat CE	South Chadderton
	Crompton House CE	Grange
	New Catholic School	
	6 <sup>th</sup> Form provision at New Bridge	St Augustine RC Our Lady's RC amalgamating
	SEN provision on mainstream sites	

## 18. FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE

CYPF 21 - 07

**18.1 Key Decision:** YES / ~~NO~~ (delete as applicable)

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

The following is a list of background papers on which this Report is based in accordance with the requirements of Section 100D(1) of the Local Government Act 1972. It does not include documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information as defined by that Act.

<b>DOCUMENT</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>FILE OR OTHER REFERENCE</b>	<b>PLACE OF INSPECTION</b>
Various	2003-2007		Level 8 and Level 10

<b>AUTHOR OF THE REPORT</b>	<b>TEL NO</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>ID NUMBER</b>
Alun Francis, Service Director	8720	13.11.07	

APPENDIX A

School	Proposals	Costs excluding ICT hardware (£m)	Present FE	Planned FE	FE in R2D
Oak Colliery Academy 1	New build – new land	25.2	0	10	10
Orb Mill Academy 2	New build – new land	26	0	10	10
Academy 3	New build – new site/existing neutral site	19	0	8	8
New Catholic School	Refurbishment/new build/neutral site	20.	12	10	10
Saddleworth	New build – new site	27.5	9	9	9
Royton and Crompton	Refurbishment/new building	15.4	8	8	8
Hathershaw	Refurbishment / new building	15.1	7	8	8
North Chadderton	Refurbishment / new building	17.7	9	8	8
Blue Coat	Refurbishment /new building	12	7	8	8
Crompton House	Refurbishment /new building	12.1	6.5	7	7
Newbridge	6 <sup>th</sup> form provision	4			
SEN provision mainstream sites		0.9			
Kaskenmoor	Close		6		
Breeze Hill	Close		6.3		
Counthill	Close		8.8		
South Chadderton	Close		5.6		
St Augustines	Amalgamating to form new RC school		6		
Our Ladys			6		
Grange	Close		5.5		
<b>All sites</b>	<b>Total Capital Costs</b>	<b>195.3</b>			

**Key**

ICT	Information Communication Technology
FE	Form of Entry
R2D	Readiness to Deliver
1FE	= 30 pupils

**Income and Expenditure Budget Statement**

<b>BSF Scheme Affordability</b>				
<b>Summary Revenue Statement</b>			<b>Summary Capital Statement</b>	
<b>Income</b>	000		<b>Income</b>	000
Contribution from the Council		1,500	BSF funding	
Contribution from the schools budget		1,595	Build programme (PFI Credits) and capital grant	172,060
		<b>3,095</b>	ICT element	23,215
				<b>195,275</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			<b>Potential Capital Receipts</b>	
LEP running costs		490	Receipts from schools within the BSF programme	18,400
Annual revenue costs for the prudential borrowing costs		1,505	Net receipts from secondary schools outside the BSF programme	3,750
PFI unitary charge net of existing budget provision		1,100		22,150
		<b>3,095</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>217,425</b>
			<b>Expenditure</b>	
			Land acquisitions, site development costs and demolitions	19,000
			LEP set up and associated costs	3,200
			Build costs	195,370
			ICT costs	23,215
			<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>240,785</b>
			<b>Net Borrowing Requirement</b>	<b>23,360</b>

EXTRACT

CABINET MINUTES - 26<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2007 (EDRS: 07110091)

**BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE -UPDATED SUBMISSION TO PARTNERSHIPS FOR SCHOOLS**

Consideration was given to the report of the Cabinet Member and Executive Director for Children, Young People and Families which updated Members of the proposed updated submission to partnership for schools and sought Cabinet's supports of the proposals, as set out in Appendix A of the report, for resolution by full Council, which included the statutory consultation process to be delivered in the early part of 2008.

It was reported that the majority of school site locations had been resolved however the site for the new Roman Catholic (RC) School needed further clarification from the Diocese.

In response to a question raised regarding the amalgamation of schools which would be closing, it was explained that St Augustine's of Canterbury RC and Our Lady's RC would be amalgamating to create one new RC school and Kaskenmoor, South Chadderton, Grange, Breeze Hill and Counthill would close.

**RESOLVED:-** That Cabinet supports that the proposals as set out in full in Appendix A of the report are considered for resolution by full Council, which includes the statutory consultation process which will be delivered in the early part of 2008. In summary the proposals are:

To rebuild on new Sites:-

Academy 1 - Oak Colliery

Academy 2 - Orb Mill

Academy 3 - Neutral Site

Saddleworth – New Site

To refurbish/new build on existing/neutral sites:-

Royton and Crompton

Hathershaw

North Chadderton

Blue Coat CE

Crompton House CE

New Catholic School

6th Form provision at New Bridge

SEN provision on mainstream sites

Closures:-

Kaskenmoor

Breeze Hill

Counthill

South Chadderton

Grange

St. Augustine's RC & Our Lady's RC (amalgamating)