
Meeting of Executive Members with Children's Services Advisory Panel

22 January 2007

Report of the Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services

Extended Schools Capital

Summary

1. This report details the results of the bidding round for capital support for Extended Schools.

Background

2. The Department for Education and Skills (DfES) have awarded new additional capital funding of £1,010,743 over two years to support schools to extend their services, so that all can provide a minimum of the five core offers by 2010.

Consultation

3. Bids were invited from all schools other than those who were proposed for designation as an Integrated Children's Centres (ICC), as these had already received funding.

Options

4. All schools were circulated with details of the funding and a total of 18 bids were received. These have been scored against the bid criteria. The report recommends certain schemes for approval.

Analysis

5. The bidding forms and criteria were developed by staff from the Early Years and Extended Schools Service. All bids were independently scored by Project Managers from Planning and Resources. The scoring of the bids reflected the criteria set out in the bidding forms, a copy of these forms are shown in Annex 1.
6. The scored bids were reviewed by a panel consisting of the Head of Early Years and Extended Schools, the Early Years Adviser, the Chair of the Early Years Partnership and the Head of Planning and Resources.

7. The full list of bids is attached at Annex 2. In making recommendations for approval, the panel placed each of the bids in one of three groups:
- | | |
|-------------|--|
| Yes | recommended for approval |
| Conditional | recommended for approval subject to certain conditions being met |
| No | not supported at this time |
8. The recommendations of the panel are shown on the list of bids with the appropriate conditions or a reason for not supporting the bid, shown in the 'comments' column.
9. In all cases, the panel felt that schools should undertake to deliver the projects described in their bids within the amount of funding bid for, as a condition of accepting the funds. Staff from the Early Years and Extended Schools Service and Planning and Resources will work with the schools to support them in this objective. They will also work with those schools whose bids were not successful in this round to work up a stronger bid should further funding become available.

Corporate Priorities

10. Supporting schools in offering a range of extended services to both pupils and the wider community can impact on the following priorities:
- a. Increase people's skills and knowledge to improve future employment prospects
 - b. Improve the health and lifestyles of the people who live in York, in particular among groups whose levels of health are the poorest
 - c. Improve the life chances of the most disadvantaged and disaffected children, young people and families in the city
 - d. Improve efficiency and reduce waste to free up more resources

Implications

Financial

11. The funding has been made available in the form of a capital grant from the DfES, and totals £1,011k over two years. The successful bids detailed in Annex 2 total £879.5k, leaving a balance of £131.5k. It would be prudent to hold this as a contingency against unforeseen budget pressures. If not required, the balance can be made available for allocation to a project which currently sits below the funding line, but may qualify following further work.
12. There is a requirement that expenditure relating to this grant funded initiative must be incurred by 31 March 2008.

Human Resources (HR)

13. There are no HR implications.

Equalities

14. There are no implications for equalities

Legal

15. There are no legal implications

Crime and Disorder

16. There are no crime and disorder implications at this stage, but detailed school developments incorporate the principles of 'Safer by Design'

Information Technology (IT)

17. There are no IT implications

Property

18. Instructions for work will be issued to Property Services when approval has been obtained.

Other

19. There are no further implications

Risk Management

20. The major risks associated with the Extended Schools Capital Funding are that:
- individual projects overspend their budget allocation
 - projects do not deliver their specified outcomes
21. The mitigation for these risks are both the recommended general condition for accessing this funding and working with Directorate staff to work up robust project plans and budgets.

Recommendations

22. That the Advisory Panel advise the Executive Member that:

- 1) Approval is given for the supported bids to go ahead

Reason: To enable the DfES funding to be spent on appropriate projects within the required timescale

- 2) All successful bidders undertake to deliver the outcomes described in their bids within their funding allocation.

Reason: To mitigate the risks of overspending against this cash-limited budget

- 3) Approval is given for the conditional bids to go ahead, providing that schools agree to meet the additional conditions relevant to their project.

Reason: to ensure that DfES and corporate objectives are fulfilled.

- 4) Projects currently below the line are further developed with Directorate staff and, if a higher score can be achieved and funding is available, these projects come forward for approval in the quarterly Capital Monitoring reports.

Reason: to ensure that funding is spent within the time limits and best value is achieved.

Contact Details

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Report Approved

Date 10.1.07

Specialist Implications Officer(s) List information for all

Financial

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Wards Affected: List wards or tick box to indicate all

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers

None

Annexes

Annex 1: Bidding forms and criteria

Annex 2: List of bids received