

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

PUBLIC REPORT

Report to:	CABINET
Report of:	Strategic Director for People
Date of Decision:	24 January 2017
SUBJECT:	ELMS FARM PRIMARY SCHOOL – FULL BUSINESS CASE AND CONTRACT AWARD
Key Decision: Yes	Relevant Forward Plan Ref: 002981/2017
If not in the Forward Plan: (please "X" box)	Chief Executive approved <input type="checkbox"/> O&S Chairman approved <input type="checkbox"/>
Relevant Cabinet Member(s) or Relevant Executive Member for Local Services:	Cllr Brigid Jones - Children, Families and Schools Cllr Majid Mahmood – Cabinet Member for Value for Money and Efficiency
Relevant O&S Chairman:	Cllr Susan Barnett - Schools, Children and Families Cllr Mohammed Aikhlaq – Corporate Resources & Governance
Wards affected:	Sheldon

1. Purpose of report:
<p>1.1 To inform members of the proposed capital scheme at Elms Farm Primary School that will result in the replacement of the structurally unsound concrete cladding at an estimated cost of £1,109,885. This scheme was included in the Schools' Capital Programme 2016-17 approved by Cabinet on 28th June 2016.</p> <p>1.2 A private report on this agenda contains further financial information and seeks approval to the Full Business Case and to place orders for works with the preferred contractor.</p>

2. Decision(s) recommended:
That Cabinet:
2.1 Note the content of this report

Lead Contact Officer(s):	Jaswinder Didiaily - Head of Education Infrastructure
Telephone No:	07825 117334
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3. Consultation

3.1 Internal

The Leader has been consulted and agrees that the proposals may go forward for an executive decision. South Yardley Ward Councillors and the Executive Member for the South Yardley District have also been consulted and support the proposal contained within the report. Officers from City Finance, Procurement and Legal Services have been involved in the preparation of this report.

3.2 External

All pupils, parents, governors, teaching and non-teaching staff have been consulted regarding the build proposals. Responses received were supportive of the proposal. There is no requirement for statutory consultation.

4. Compliance Issues:

4.1 Are the recommended decisions consistent with the Council's policies, plans and strategies?

These works are to ensure that all pupils are provided with a safe and secure teaching environment. The spending priorities proposed are in accordance with the Schools' Capital Maintenance Programme 2016-17 approved by Cabinet on 28th June 2016. Works will contribute to Council Business Plan and Budget 2016+, particularly Safety and opportunity for all children, by every child having a fantastic childhood and the best preparation for adult life. CWM Contractors have signed up to the principles of the Birmingham Business Charter for Social Responsibility (BBC4SR) which will form part of the conditions of this contract. Prior to contract award, an action plan proportionate to the contract sum will be agreed with them on how the charter principles will be implemented and monitored during the contract period.

4.2 Financial Implications (Will decisions be carried out within existing finance and Resources?)

The capital costs for the proposed works at Elms Farm Primary School are £1,109,885. The detailed breakdown of this cost is included in the private report. The works will be funded from the Schools' Capital Maintenance allocation. Consequential revenue costs arising, including any on-going day to day repairs and maintenance, will be the responsibility of Elms Farm Primary School and funded from its own delegated budget.

4.3 Legal Implications

This report facilitates the discharge of functions contained within section 22 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 whereby the local authority has a duty to maintain schools, this includes expenses relating to premises.

4.4 Public Sector Equality Duty

A Full Equality Analysis (EA0001202) was carried out in May 2016 for Education and Skills Infrastructure's Education Development Plan and Schools' Capital Programme 2016–2017. The outcomes from consultation demonstrate that proposed capital developments support positive outcomes for children, young people, their families and carers. No negative impact on people with Protected Characteristics was identified.

5. Relevant background/chronology of key events:

- 5.1 The Local Authority has a statutory duty to ensure children have a safe and secure teaching environment.
- 5.2 Elms Farm Primary school was built in the mid to late sixties. In 2015 a site visit from Acivico structural engineers found the external concrete cladding to be showing signs of ageing and degradation.
- 5.3 Due to the serious health and safety risks of falling concrete, all loose concrete was removed from site and all areas made safe until a suitable solution could be found. Unplanned expenditure of £37k was incurred in undertaking these works and these costs are included in the overall project total.
- 5.4 The proposed works at Elms Farm Primary School consists of the removal of concrete cladding panels which will be replaced with weather resistant fibre board cladding.
- 5.5 A Planning Application for this scheme has been submitted and approval granted on 5th September 2016.
- 5.6 The project team, in close consultation with the client, has discussed and agreed arrangements in order to ensure absolute health and safety provisions are in place and disruption is minimised. These arrangements have been agreed by Acivico's Construction, Design and Management (CDM) Co-ordinator. All parties are also committed to ensuring that the educational outcomes for the children will not be adversely affected whilst the construction work is in progress. It is anticipated that in order to best achieve keeping teaching staff and pupils isolated from work in progress as much as possible, there may be an amount of decanting within the school as classrooms are finished and others started. Any costs associated with the decant will be contained within the overall construction cost. The project is expected to be delivered within budget but any unexpected increase in costs will be dealt with in line with the solutions identified in Appendix B (Risk Assessment).
- 5.7 The procurement route for delivery of this scheme is a direct allocation under the Constructing West Midlands (CWM) Framework Lot 7. Further details are included in the private report. The selected contractor will work with Acivico who are acting as Project Manager.
- 5.8 Following approval of this report an order will be placed with the selected contractor, with works commencing in February 2017. These works should be completed by December 2017.

6. Evaluation of alternative option(s):

- 6.1 The option of doing nothing would mean the City Council would fail to meet its statutory obligation to provide a safe and secure environment for the pupils at Elms Farm Primary School.

7. Reasons for Decision(s):

- 7.1 To approve the works at Elms Farm Primary School and to place orders to progress the proposed works in order to ensure a safe and secure environment for pupils.

Signatures	<u>Date</u>
Cabinet Member Children, Families and Schools Councillor Brigid Jones
Cabinet Member Value for Money and Efficiency Councillor Majid Mahmood
Strategic Director for People Peter Hay

List of Background Documents used to compile this Report:
Schools' Capital Programme 2016-17 - Cabinet June 2016. Birmingham Business Charter for Social Responsibility.

List of Appendices accompanying this Report (if any):
A FBC Document B Risk Assessment C Stakeholder Analysis D Milestone Dates and Resources

Report Version	<u>V6</u>	Dated	<u>12th January 2017</u>
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