

Bath & North East Somerset Council		
DECISION MAKER:	Cllr Michael Evans, Cabinet Member for Children’s Services	
DECISION DATE:	On or after 17 February 2017	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		E 2929
TITLE:	St Saviour’s Junior School – Bulge Class Accommodation	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report:		

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 One additional classroom is required to accommodate a bulge class transferring through from St Saviours Infant School. Accommodation will be required for Year 3 pupils from September 2017. In order to deliver the additional class space it is proposed to remodel existing accommodation.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet Member are asked:

- 2.1 To approve a capital budget of £165,000. A Section 106 contribution totalling £18,000 has been received by the Council, leaving a balance of £147,000 to be allocated from Basic Need funding to provide bulge class accommodation and facilities.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 3.1 There are no revenue implications, revenue funding for pupil places will be provided by the Department for Education (DfE) through the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) on a per pupil basis.
- 3.2 The DfE currently allocate Basic Need capital funding to local authorities in order to provide additional school places, where pupils are projected to exceed the number of places available and where the increase is occurring as a result of population growth.
- 3.3 Basic Need grant funding of £3.039m in 2017/18 and £5.758m in 2018/19 has been confirmed by the Education Funding Agency (EFA) for Basic Need to support the provision of additional pupil places where there is population growth.

- 3.4 A Section 106 Capital Contribution of £18,000 has been received for primary school places in the area.
- 3.5 Provisional approval of the capital budget is being sought in the Council's 2017-18 Budget Report.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

- 4.1 Relevant considerations: The Council's statutory duty to provide sufficient school places for its area (Section 14 Education Act 1996), Children, Equalities, Planning, Social Inclusion, Property, Impact on staff, sustainability.

5 THE REPORT

- 5.1 Unprecedented localised population growth led to St Saviour's Infant School taking bulge classes for up to 30 extra pupils in 2011 and 2014. These larger year groups have now moved through St Saviour's Infant school. For the academic year beginning September 2017 St Saviour's Junior school will, for one year only, need to accommodate two larger year groups at Year 3 and Year 6. The school currently has 9 classrooms and will need 10 classrooms for a one year period. Once the Y6 pupils move on at the end of the 2017-18 academic year the school can revert to using 9 classrooms and the music classroom can be reinstated.
- 5.2 The project is to convert an existing music room into a classroom, removing wall partitions, installing and upgrading IT provision and setting up the classroom with fitted furniture and equipment.
- 5.3 In order to accommodate the additional pupils and provide further staff support there will also be some upgrading and remodelling of the staff room/deputy head office, medical room and hall seating all of which will provide future enhanced facilities for both staff and pupils
- 5.4 The classroom provided to be reinstated as a music room once the large year group has moved on from the school in September 2018.
- 5.5 The existing school site is undersized and remedial works to an area of land, that is currently unusable, will provide additional external space to support the bulge class and will result in a permanent new facility and asset for the school.

6 RATIONALE

- 6.1 The Council retains the legal responsibility for pupil place planning in its area and in order to do this effectively must find solutions for the delivery of additional school places where required.
- 6.2 Basic Need grant funding is made available to local authorities to address the issue of population growth, enabling them to provide additional school places.
- 6.3 A S106 contribution has been received to enable the provision of primary school places in the area.
- 6.4 To aid parental preference as stated in the Council's School Organisation Plan and to facilitate sustainable methods of transport to school and keep home to school transport costs to a minimum.

7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 7.1 Install a temporary building to house the pupils for one year. Rejected due to the cost of installation and time constraints for required delivery by September 2017. This option was not favoured by the school as they did not want a temporary building on site.
- 7.2 Permanent build new classroom. Rejected due to the cost and time constraints for required delivery by September 2017.

8 CONSULTATION

- 8.1 The School Organisation Manager and Admissions Manager are supportive of the proposal and have reviewed this report.
- 8.2 A PID was presented to and approved by Divisional Directors on 13 December 2016.
- 8.3 The Strategic Director for People & Communities has been consulted, is supportive of the project and has reviewed this report.

9 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 9.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance. The significant risks identified are:
- 9.2 The Council has a statutory duty to secure sufficient school places and failure to ensure this will result in the Council being at risk of breaching its responsibility. If implemented the recommendation in this report will enable the Council to meet its statutory duty and the local need in a sustainable manner.

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Background papers	<i>None</i>
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	