## REPORT FOR: CABINET

Date of Meeting: 23 April 2015

**Subject:** School Expansion Programme

**Key Decision:** Yes

Responsible Officer: Chris Spencer, Interim Corporate Director of

Children and Families

Tom Whiting, Corporate Director of

Resources

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Simon Brown, Portfolio Holder

Children, Schools and Young People

Councillor Sachin Shah, Portfolio Holder for

Finance and Major Contracts

Exempt: No

**Decision subject to** 

Call-in:

Yes

Wards affected: All

**Enclosures:** Appendix A: School Expansion Programme

Capital Forecasts and Funding

# **Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations**

This report provides a quarterly update to Cabinet on the implementation of the school expansion programme and seeks delegated authority to appoint contractors for Phase 3 expansion schools. Updates include: position for school places in September 2015; Government capital funding announcements; free school programme, and; Priority School Building Programme.



## **Recommendations:**

Cabinet is requested to:

- 1. note this update on the implementation of the school expansion programme;
- note the additional Basic Need grant allocation and agree to the use of the extra funding to offset current committed council borrowing within the existing capital programme;
- delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Children and Families, following consultation with the Corporate Director of Resources and the Portfolio Holders for Children, Schools & Young People and Finance & Major Contracts, to appoint contractors for works on projects in the capital programme, including for school expansions, amalgamation, capital maintenance and bulge class works.

## Reason: (For recommendations)

To enable the Local Authority to fulfil its statutory duties to provide sufficient school places in its area.

# **Section 2 - Report**

## Introductory paragraph

- The Local Authority has a statutory responsibility to provide sufficient school places for its area. Like many boroughs, Harrow is experiencing significant growth in the pupil population. There are several key strands to the delivery of sufficient school places because an increasing pupil population impacts across primary, secondary and special school provision.
- 2. This is the sixth quarterly report to Cabinet on the School Expansion Programme covering primary, secondary and special school places. It updates Members and outlines the progress to date on the planned programme implementation.

## **Options considered**

- 3. Cabinet agreed its School Place Planning Strategy in February 2010 to meet the increasing demand for school places that is primarily birth rate driven. In July 2011, Cabinet agreed on a Primary School Expansion Programme as part of the School Place Planning Strategy. The strategy aims to secure sufficient primary school places through the creation of additional permanent places, supplemented by planned bulge classes opened if required.
- 4. In July 2013 Cabinet approved the Special School SEN Placements Planning Framework for bringing forward proposals over the next 3-5 years to increase provision for children and young people with special educational needs.
- 5. In November 2013, Cabinet approved the Secondary School Place Planning Strategy which outlines the proposed approach to increase capacity within the secondary sector by September 2015 for the demand expected by September 2018.

- 6. Statutory proposals to expand 15 schools on 13 sites in Phase 2 of the Primary School Expansion Programme in 2014 and 2015 were agreed by Cabinet at its meetings in March and April 2014.
- 7. In July 2014, Cabinet agreed to the publication of statutory proposals to expand permanently a third phase of primary schools.

## **School Expansion implementation**

## Summary of additional places at schools

- 8. <u>Phase 1</u> of the Primary School Expansion Programme was implemented in September 2013 with the creation of 8 additional permanent Reception forms of entry at expanded schools.
- 9. <u>Phase 2</u> of the Primary School Expansion Programme will deliver 15 additional permanent Reception forms of entry by September 2015. Seven in September 2014 and a further eight in September 2015.
- 10. The combined increase of permanent Reception classes across Phase 1 and Phase 2 is 23 additional forms of entry in primary schools from the 2008 baseline.
- 11. Phase 3 planning continues to provide additional places in September 2015 and September 2016. Current Phase 3 proposals would create a further 6 additional primary forms of entry by September 2016 (4 at community schools and 2 at a free school). Phase 4 will cover 2017 and 2018.
- 12. Additional <u>secondary school</u> places and additional <u>special educational need</u> provision at special and mainstream schools are approved from 2015.

#### **Phase 3 of the Primary School Expansion Programme**

- 13. In July 2014, Cabinet agreed to the publication of statutory proposals to expand permanently a third phase of primary schools and delegated authority to the Corporate Director of Children and Families, following consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Children, Schools and Young People, the decision about the final list of schools that should be moved to the statutory process for permanent expansion.
- 14. Cabinet has approved Phase 3 expansions at: Grimsdyke and Welldon Park schools from September 2015; Weald from September 2016. There is a separate report to April Cabinet recommending approval of the expansion of Longfield Primary School from September 2015. Consultation about the proposed expansion of the Stag Lane schools was held from 24 November to 16 December 2014. Discussion continues with governors about the site scoping and the timing of expansion before decision is made about publishing statutory proposals.

## **Delivery of the School Expansion Capital Programme**

#### Phase 2 delivery

- 15. A building programme is underway, coordinated by the School Capital Team, to create the spaces and facilities required by September 2015. Keepmoat the Council's Framework Partner is delivering the majority of the programme.
- 16. Fourteen of the sixteen Phase 2 Projects are all on site and are being regularly monitored through weekly and monthly meetings to ensure that pupil places are

available in September 2015. Indications are that all of the Government's Targeted Basic Need Programme grant (TBNP) will be expended against the allocated Phase 2 schools. Of the two deferred schemes at Grange Primary School and Pinner Wood School, plans are being considered about alternative delivery routes.

17. Whitefriars School, which has been procured through the Education Funding Agency Framework Agreement, is progressing well on site with one compensation event occurring after the discovery of buried material under the old Teachers' Centre school gym. It is expected to be delivered as planned allowing for a September 2015 intake for Year 7, as part of the newly established all-through school, and the permanent expansion of the Reception intake.

## Phase 3 delivery

- 18. Work is progressing with the initial stages of the feasibility studies and some early surveys have started on site. There has been a delay in the appointment of Technical Advisors to complete surveys and develop the designs. The indicative timescale for capital delivery of Phase 3 is being re-evaluated but overall delivery is still achievable by September 2016 with interim arrangements for September 2015 for the additional pupil intakes.
- 19. In terms of procurement, the Council's single contractor framework agreement, which was with Keepmoat, has expired and has not been replaced as there are a number of alternative procurement routes available to the Council. These alternatives include using framework agreements let by other public sector bodies and issuing tenders to the market on a project by project basis. For each requirement, the Children's Capital Project Team, in conjunction with the Divisional Director Commercial, Contracts and Procurement, will utilise the route that it is considered will best address issues such as cost effectiveness (given the current market conditions which have seen construction costs rise significantly), severe pressures on the availability of the construction supply chain and a desire to enable, as far as possible, local companies to be able to compete for the work.

#### Recommendation

20. Delegated authority is sought from Cabinet to appoint contractors for works on projects in the capital programme, including for school expansions, amalgamation, capital maintenance and bulge class works. Delegated authority would enable contractors to be appointed in a timely manner to enable the projects in the capital programme to keep to the timescales required for delivery.

# Position for school places in September 2015 Reception places

21. On-time Reception applications are at a slightly lower level than expected and below last year's total. However, late applications are being received and are expected to continue up to 31 August 2015 and then to continue with in-year applications through the 2015/16 school year. Current Phase 3 planning to open additional permanent places in September 2015 will establish 30 Reception places more than are provided this school year (at a total of 3,330 Reception places). Planning for further Reception places is not confirmed yet and additional temporary (bulge) Reception classes may need to be opened.

### Other primary year groups

22. Harrow's Fair Access Protocol has been heavily used in recent years to ensure inyear applications of children without school places receive offers. The demand is such that all Harrow primary schools have classes with children above the published admission number. Additional temporary (bulge) classes have helped to ease the pressure, and it is proposed to open further bulge classes in each of next academic year's Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4. It is believed that opening these additional classes will help to ensure that pupil numbers above published admission number will be reduced and kept to more manageable levels as these year group cohorts progress through the primary phase. Schools have been invited to offer to open additional bulge classes in September 2015.

### Allocation of Year 7 places

23. Offer day for Year 7 places was 2 March 2015 and all applications received offers. 68% were offered their first preference and 90% were offered one of their first three preferences (higher than the London average of 88%). Applications for Year 7 places at Harrow high schools were higher than last year and 169 above the projected Year 7 numbers. If all offers are accepted, there would be 58 vacancies at Harrow high schools in September 2015. The situation will be monitored carefully because this increase in numbers would be a year in advance of the first expansion classes in the primary sector opened from September 2009 moving into the secondary sector.

## **Government Capital Funding Announcements**

## **Priority School Building Programme second phase (PSBP2)**

- 24. The Priority School Building Programme is the Government's programme to rebuild or refurbish schools in the very worst condition across the country. The programme is funded and managed by the Department for Education and implemented by the Education Funding Agency (EFA). An update on the first phase of the programme (PSBP1) is provided under Brief Updates below.
- 25. Harrow submitted four bids to the second phase of the Priority School Building Programme (PSBP2) for the period 2015-2021. On 9 February 2015, the EFA announced that one local authority bid had been successful Elmgrove Primary School. In addition Hatch End Academy was also successful with its PSBP2 bid. The EFA will undertake scoping study to assess the detailed work required together with any specific site issues during the next few months and announce the timing of any works in the Autumn of 2015. Work will be scheduled by the EFA at schools across the whole lifetime of the programme up to 2021.

### Basic Need allocations 2017-18 and additional funding 2015-17

- 26. On 12 February 2015, the Department for Education announced the latest Basic Need allocations. In addition to the 2017-18 new allocation, the Government has allocated "top up" funding in 2015-16 and 2016-17 to distribute £300 million held back for those local authorities with unexpected increases in forecast pupils. Local authorities which have reported an increase in their forecast of total pupil numbers for academic year 2017-18 of at least 2% and 250 pupils receive a portion of this funding in 2015-16 and 2016-17, to reflect their unexpected increase in need.
- 27. The Basic Need allocations announced for Harrow reflect the high level of pressure for school places being experienced in the borough. The allocation for 2017-18 is significantly higher than in previous years and Harrow is one of four London boroughs to receive top up funding. A further £1.137m has been allocated to Harrow, which is to support local authorities that have built new primary schools or whole primary school expansions that opened in 2013-14.
- 28. The total allocations are shown in the Table below: (Figures are 000s)

Funding Source	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	TOTAL
Basic Need Yearly Allocation	7,346	7,346	6,083	6,387		27,161
New Top ups			5,670	12,087		17,758
New allocation 2017-18					13,487	13,487
Subtotal Basic Need	7,346	7,346	11,753	18,474	13,487	58,406
Primary School Expansions					1,137	1,137
Grand Total Basic Need	7,346	7,346	11,753	18,474	14,624	59,543
Increase						32,381
Existing capital programme funding gap assumed funded by additional future years' allocations						12,774
Real increase						19,607

- 29. The capital programme was developed on the prudent assumption of basic need capital allocations in line with previous allocations received. On this basis, in order to deliver Phases 3 and 4 of the School Expansion Programme, borrowing of £23.575m was required. In February 2015, Council agreed the Capital programme 2015/16 2018/19 including the borrowing to afford the school expansion programme. This is shown at Appendix A.
- 30. The Basic Need allocation has provided £19.607m capital grant above previous assumptions. The demand for school places is monitored continuously to ensure that there is an appropriate supply of school places to pupil demand. The pupil projections are reviewed annually and the programme adjusted in the light of pupil numbers and places becoming available through the government's free school programme.
- 31. At this point in the school expansion programme it is recommended that this funding is used to off-set the agreed borrowing. However, should the needs change within the school expansion programme or significant condition improvements are required to schools, this position would be reviewed accordingly through the annual budget setting process. This brings the borrowing down from £23.575m to £3.968m. Appendix A shows the agreed capital programme for 2012-13 to 2018-19 and the sources of funding.

## **School Condition Allocations for 201516**

- 32. On 9 February 2015, the Education Funding Agency announced the School Condition Allocations for 2015-16. Data collected by the Property Data Survey Programme (see Brief Updates below) has informed these allocations.
- 33. The previous funding gap in the capital programme included an assumption of schools condition allocations funding for 2015-16 which has now been announced at £1.864m and is included on the attached capital programme at Appendix A.

## **Brief updates**

#### **Secondary Phase**

34. In November 2013, Cabinet agreed its Secondary School Place Planning Strategy. The aim of the Secondary School Place Planning Strategy is to ensure that there

are sufficient secondary school places in Harrow. The Strategy brings together the strategic planning of the Local Authority and individual school development planning. It informs how opportunities provided by the Government to create school places will contribute to the provision in Harrow.

- 35. The strategy detailed the projections and the shortfall of places. It set out the first phase of proposals to increase capacity within the secondary sector by September 2015 for the demand expected by September 2018. It acknowledged that beyond September 2018 there would remain a shortfall of up to 11 forms of entry and that a Phase 2 secondary places expansion programme would be required.
- 36. The level of future demand for secondary places is kept under review in light of the annually updated projections, additional places established through the first phase of creating additional secondary places and the application and take-up data. The school roll projections updated in July last year confirmed that, to meet projected demand, Phase 2 secondary expansion planning will require expansion of places at existing high schools as well as potentially an additional new school above the current free school plans in the borough.
- 37. In Phase 2 of the secondary expansion planning, the following factors will need to be taken into consideration:
  - the impact of primary school expansions on the secondary schools local to them:
  - the balance of single sex provision in the faith sector;
  - individual school aspirations for expansion.

## Special Educational Need and Alternative Provision strategies

38. The draft Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Strategy 2015 - 2020, drafted with a representative group of Headteachers, was distributed for consultation in February 2015 to headteachers, governors and other stakeholders. The strategy articulates the shared vision for special education in Harrow and aims to ensure that there is a continuum of high quality local provision for children and young people from 0-25 years of age with special educational needs. Six Strategic Priority Areas have been identified for the next five years. There is a separate report to April Cabinet that reports the outcomes of the consultation and recommends Cabinet approve the SEND Strategy.

#### **Free School Programme**

- 39. Officers continue to liaise with proposers of free schools and with the Education Funding Agency about the establishment of free schools in Harrow. Free schools provide an important contribution to meeting the demand for school places and add to the diversity and choice of school provision in the borough. Planning consents will be needed for the necessary building developments at the planned locations of the free schools.
- 40. It is proposed that Pinner High School will be established from September 2016 at the former Heathfield School site in Beaulieu Drive, Pinner. The school will admit its first Year 7 cohort of 180 students in September 2016 and will grow to a school with over 1,150 students from Years 7 to 13 by September 2022.
- 41. The Education Funding Agency (EFA) is working to secure the permanent location for Avanti House School. A site off Wemborough Road on Whitchurch Playing Fields is proposed by the Avanti Schools Trust and the EFA as the location of the secondary phase of the school. It is understood planning application will be

submitted with a view to a new building being available for the school from Summer 2017.

- 42. In February it was announced by the EFA that the secondary phase of Avanti House has been granted use from September 2015 of the former Heathfield site until a permanent building is secured for the school in Summer 2017. This ensures the site is not left vacant and enables it to be used for the benefit of Harrow students and local community before Pinner High School opens. It will involve Avanti House working closely with the Pinner High School Trust and, from September 2016 to Summer 2017, co-locating the nearly 700 students by then with Pinner High School when it opens with its first Year 7 cohort of 180 students.
- 43. A recent announcement on 12 March 2015, confirmed that unfortunately the Saint Jérôme Church of England Bilingual School, which was intended to open in September 2015, at the former Wickes building in central Harrow, will not open until September 2016. There may be the need to open additional bulge Reception classes during the academic year starting September 2015 at other schools.
- 44. Harrow View Primary School is proposed to open in September 2016 on the Kodak site. The opening of the school will need to be aligned with the plans of the developers to bring forward the housing development on the Kodak site.
- 45. On 9 March 2015, the Department for Education announced that the application to establish the New School for Harrow free school should proceed to the next stage of the process (pre-opening stage). The New School for Harrow is proposed to be a two form of entry 4-11 years mixed primary school in Harrow. The school will open in September 2016 with two Reception classes and a Year 1 class (90 pupils) and grow to its full capacity of 420 pupils in 2022. Officers will liaise with the proposers and Education Funding Agency about plans for the location and opening of the school.

## **Priority School Building Programme first phase (PSBP1)**

- 46. The Education Funding Agency (EFA) is delivering 7 rebuilding projects in Harrow under the first phase of PSBP. The Capital Team continues to work closely with the EFA on all projects, the last batch of which should be completed during 2016 and 2017. These will provide additional spaces in primary and secondary phases.
- 47. The first two projects at Marlborough and Vaughan are behind the scheduled completion of December 2015 because of EFA procurement issues. Occupation of the new build is expected to be Easter 2016 for Marlborough and it is likely that Vaughan will not be fully complete until much later in 2016. In March 2015, the EFA identified a single contractor for the Priestmead, Aylward, Cedars Manor and Weald projects after initial issues with market interest. It is anticipated that there will be a delay in a September 2016 completion for most of these projects. Salvatorian College remains a challenge for the EFA in rebuilding the school and completing the project by its December 2017 Programme deadline.

### **Property Data Survey Programme**

- 48. On 9 February 2015, the Education Funding Agency published the outcomes of the Property Data Survey Programme (PDSP) and the 'condition dashboard' that informed the School Condition Allocations for 2015 to 2018.
- 49. The property data survey programme (PDSP) was established following Sebastian James's independent review into spending on school buildings and equipment in

- July 2010. The programme consisted of a series of surveys of educational establishments in England, including all local-authority-maintained schools which took place between May 2012 and July 2014. Data for just under 19,000 establishments was collected by the PDSP (about 85% of the education estate). The dashboard contains information on the relative condition need of educational establishment buildings.
- 50. The information collected from these surveys helped the EFA to calculate school condition funding allocations and to determine which schools will have one or more of their buildings rebuilt or refurbished as part of the second phase of the priority school building programme (PSBP2). It has also allowed the EFA to fund Capital Maintenance on a three year, rather than an annual, basis.

## **Asset Management Planning and Condition and Measured Surveys**

51. Children & Families Directorate are working in consultation with Environment & Enterprise Directorate on school asset management. Condition and Measured Surveys have been procured to ascertain the current condition of the school maintained estate to align with the Education Funding Agency approach following the National Property Data Survey. The last major survey in 2010 needs fully updating to better align it to the maintenance needs of schools and to rebalance planned and reactive programmes and spending. It will also be an opportunity to review the statutory elements of maintenance responsibilities which were passed to schools some years ago. The surveys will be completed by the end of May 2015. The data will inform planning and prioritising for school condition works and will also provide the information needed on net capacity for the annual school capacity (SCAP) returns to the Education Funding Agency.

#### **Performance Issues**

- 52. Schools in Harrow perform well in comparison to national and statistically similar local authorities. The vast majority of primary schools and secondary schools are judged 'good' or 'outstanding' by OfSTED. As at October 2014, 87% of Harrow's primary and secondary schools are judged 'good' or 'outstanding', compared to 85% in London and 80% nationally (Source: Ofsted Data View).
- 53. The Education Act 2011 maintains a focus on driving up standards in schools, and places more of the responsibility with the schools directly for their improvement. The role of the Local Authority in measuring performance and driving improvement has changed significantly and is reduced from its previous level. However, the Local Authority maintains a strategic oversight and enabling role in local education, and is likely to retain some role in monitoring educational achievement and key measures such as exclusions and absence. The Local Authority is also statutorily responsible for supporting and improving underperforming schools.
- 54. The Local Authority continues to monitor key education indicators. The indicators are used locally to monitor, improve and support education at both school and local authority level. They are also used within information provided to the Department for Education.
- 55. There is a complex interrelationship between a number of other performance issues such as traffic congestion, road safety, traffic and parking enforcement and travel plan performance, as referred to earlier in the report, and all these considerations are taken into account in assessing school expansion proposals.

### **Environmental Implications**

- 56. The Council's over-arching climate change strategy sets a target to reduce carbon emissions by 4% a year. Schools account for 50% of the Council's total carbon emissions. Reducing emissions from schools is therefore a vital component in meeting the Council's target. However there is a significant risk that the expansion programme will increase emissions rather than reduce them. Phase 2 of the School Expansion Programme will have an impact on carbon emissions that will need to be carefully considered in this context.
- 57. The RE:FIT Schools Programme will be available to retrofit existing school buildings to improve their energy efficiency. For new-build schools, the design standards will need to ensure that they meet high energy use efficiency standards. Of particular importance will be the use of low carbon technologies particularly for space heating and these will need to be thoroughly investigated during the design phase.
- 58. For many of the projects in the school expansion, programme, planning applications will be required and part of the application will be a school travel plan. Through this process and the development of the solutions for the schools, the impact of the additional pupils and their travel modes will be addressed.

## **Risk Management Implications**

- 59. Risk included on Directorate risk register? Yes Separate risk register in place? Yes
- 60. The directorate and corporate risk management implications for the Council arising from school place planning are included on the directorate and corporate risk registers. A Programme Risk Register is reviewed by the Programme Board.
- 61. The risks for delivery of the school expansion programme have been reported in detail to Cabinet in the previous quarterly update reports. The highest priority risk for this programme is financial in respect of the programme or individual projects being unaffordable and thereby incurring additional costs to the Council. Control actions to mitigate against this risk include:
  - Capital strategy brings together the Government's school funding streams: Basic Need, Capital Maintenance, Targeted Basic Need Programme; and building programmes e.g. Priority School Building Programme.
  - School expansion feasibility designs aligned to the DfE guidance on spaces and areas for schools.
  - Indicative costs calculated from feasibility studies to inform programme budget.
  - Programme contingency has been included in the programme budget.
  - Robust financial and programme monitoring through the Programme Board, Capital Forum and Cabinet reports.
  - Exploring how the Government's Free School Programme for new schools (programme funded directly from government) may be supported in Harrow.

## **Legal Implications**

62. The Council has a statutory duty under the Education Act 1996 to ensure the provision of sufficient schools for the provision of primary and secondary education in their area.

- 63. Under s.14 of the Education Act 1996, a local authority shall secure that sufficient schools for providing primary and secondary education are available in their area. Sufficient means sufficient in number, character and equipment to provide for all pupils the opportunity of appropriate education.
- 64. In meeting this duty, a local authority must do so with a view to securing diversity in the provision of schools and increasing opportunities for parental choice.
- 65. The Council must ensure it meets its public law duties when making decisions, including meeting its public sector equality duty. It must consider all relevant information, disregard irrelevant information, act in accordance with the statutory requirements and make its decision in a fair and transparent manner.
- 66. The Council must comply with public procurement rules when procuring contractors to undertake construction works. Local contractors can be encouraged to tender but the tender process must be fair and transparent and all potential contractors must be treated equally.

## **Financial Implications**

#### Revenue

67. School revenue budgets are funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). As the Department for Education (DfE) allocates DSG based on pupil numbers, any increase in pupil numbers results in additional revenue funding for the expanding school. The revenue funding is allocated to schools based on the Harrow Schools Funding Formula. School budgets are based on the pupil numbers in the October prior to the start of the financial year, so there is always a funding lag when schools increase their pupil numbers. To ensure that schools who agreed to an additional class are not financially penalised, the DSG growth fund provides Additional Class funding for the period from September to March following which the mainstream funding formula will take effect. This ensures that schools have adequate funding for at least the average costs of a teacher and some set up costs.

## Capital

- 68. The budget for the school expansion programme through to 2018-19 is £125.382m and is shown at Appendix A.
- 69. This does not include costs for two schools (Priestmead and Aylward) which will be delivered as part of the Government's Priority School Building Programme (PSBP) to improve the schools in the worst condition across the country.
- 70. The budget has been increased by £31.936m as approved by Council in February 2015 to extend the number of expansions in Phase 3, add in a primary Phase 4 and allocations for new SEN and secondary provision.
- 71. Based on current estimates and market conditions it is still expected that it is possible to deliver this programme without the need for additional council capital funding.
- 72. The Basic Need allocation announced in February 2015 has provided £19.607m capital grant above previous assumptions. As referred to in paragraph 32 above, at this point in the school expansion programme it is recommended that this funding is used to off-set the agreed borrowing. However, should the needs change within the

school expansion programme or significant condition improvements are required to schools, this position would be reviewed accordingly through the annual budget setting process. This brings the borrowing down from £23.575m to £3.968m which is reflected at Appendix A.

## **Equalities implications / Public Sector Equality Duty**

- 73. Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires that public bodies, in exercising their functions, have due regard to the need to (1) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other unlawful conduct under the Act, (2) advance equality of opportunity and (3) foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- 74. Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken on Phase 2 of the Primary School Expansion Programme and on each school proposed for permanent expansion. The overall conclusion of these assessments is that the implications are either positive or neutral in that the expansion of the schools will help to ensure sufficient school places for the increasing numbers of children in Harrow. The assessments have not identified any potential for unlawful conduct or disproportionate impact and conclude that all opportunities to advance equality are being addressed.
- 75. Harrow's schools are successful, inclusive and provide a diversity of provision. The school expansion programme will ensure sufficient school places for the increasing numbers of children in Harrow and will build on the successful provision that already exists in Harrow's schools. By acting to ensure all children in Harrow have access to a high quality school place, Harrow is promoting equality of opportunity for all children and young people.

## **Council Priorities**

The Council's vision is: Working Together to Make a Difference for Harrow

- 76. The Council Priorities are as follows:
  - Making a difference for the vulnerable
  - Making a difference for communities
  - Making a difference for local businesses
  - Making a difference for families
- 77. The recommendation supports these priorities by:
  - Ensuring Harrow Council fulfils its statutory duties to provide sufficient school places in its area.
  - Providing high quality local mainstream and special educational need provision in schools for children close to where they live.

# **Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance**

Name: Jo Frost

Date: 25 March 2015

Name: Sarah Wilson

Date: 30 March 2015

on behalf of the

on behalf of the

Monitoring Officer

Ward Councillors notified:

NO, as it impacts on all Wards

YES Undertaken on the School Expansion Programme during Phase 2

EqIA cleared by:

Equality Impact Assessment Quality Assurance Group

# **Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers**

Contact: Johanna Morgan, Education Lead School Organisation,

020 8736 6841 johanna.morgan@harrow.gov.uk

**Background Papers:** Equalities Impact Assessment on Phase 2 of the School Expansion Programme

Call-In Waived by the Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committee

**NOT APPLICABLE** 

[Call-in applies]