

Meeting:	School Organisation Committee
Date:	17 January 2006
Subject:	Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate
Responsible Officer:	Lorraine O'Reilly Executive Director People First
Contact Officer:	Geoff Wingrove Director of Strategy, People First
Status:	Public

### **Section 1: Summary**

This report informs members of the School Organisation Committee of the invitation from the London West Learning and Skills Council (LSC) to bid for capital funding for 1000 post 16 places at Harrow High Schools. The 14-19 Advisory Group established the Post 16 Collegiate Core Group, with representatives from the Schools and Colleges, to develop the Collegiate and prepare the bid. Details of the LSC invitation and capital bidding process are included in the report with an outline of the proposed Collegiate and its impact on High School sites.

The Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate will be the coordinating body for Sixth Form students within the Borough. If approved, each High School will have their age ranges increased in due course to allow for the provision of Sixth Form education on the School site.

The School Organisation Committee is being informed of the proposals in its capacity as the place planning body. This provides the opportunity for the School Organisation Committee to express a view to Cabinet about the proposals.

## **Decision Required**

Members of the School Organisation Committee are requested to:

- 1 Note the detail of the London West Invitation and proposal
- 2 Comment on the Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate proposals and the impact on High Schools

## **Reason for report**

The Collegiate is effectively a coordinating body, and each school will have its own set of proposals and provision. This will change the age range of the High Schools from 12-16 to 12-18. This change will be subject to the publication of Statutory Notices, some of which may be determined by the School Organisation Committee. An indicative timetable for the Statutory process is included for information in Annexe A.

## **Benefits**

The Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate will secure increased choices for Harrow pupils and Learners across the 14-19 curriculum. The Collegiate will develop existing partnerships between schools, colleges and other providers in Harrow, including the Skills Centre opened in September 2005, Pathfinder and Increased Flexibilities Government Initiatives, and the Central Consortium commencing in September 2006, to address post 16 Learner needs and provide vocational and academic courses with progression routes.

A successful Capital bid to the LSC will provide investment on all school sites and the Skills Centre that will complement developments within the Colleges.

## **Cost of Proposals**

The estimated capital cost to deliver the Collegiate on the school sites and for the Skills Centre is still to be finalised, and is likely to be of the order of £25m. This will be bid for from the LSC.

## **Risks**

Capital investment is required on all School sites and the Skills Centre to provide the Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate. If the bid to the LSC is unsuccessful then Harrow will not be able to provide a full range of curriculum pathways for 14-19 Learners. This would be detrimental to meeting Learner needs and them realising their potential. Harrow would not be meeting the Government's Policy on 14-19 provision, implementing the LSC's Action Plan arising from the Strategic Area Review or delivering the Harrow 14-19 Strategy.

## **Implications if recommendations rejected**

It is proposed that the Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate is established from September 2007. At this stage SOC are requested to consider and comment on the proposals. As outlined in Section 2, to establish the Sixth Form provision at the High Schools, Statutory Notices will need to be published. These may be determined by SOC.

In addition, in the invitation to Harrow, the LSC have requested that SOC have been briefed about the proposals. It is not appropriate at this stage for SOC to make commitments to specific proposals. However, comments of a general nature would be helpful to assist the development of the Collegiate model.

## **Section 2: Report**

### Brief History

A considerable amount of work has been undertaken on the 14-19 provision and the development of the Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate. This is detailed in Annexe A.

### Options considered

A range of options to increase opportunities for 14-19 Learners have been considered. The two main options that have been considered by the 14-19 Advisory Group are an Academy model and non Academy model. The non-Academy option is the preferred option for Harrow. The Collegiate model has the potential to build on the partnerships between the Colleges and Schools and existing practices for example, the Pathfinder and Increased Flexibility Initiatives, the Skills Centre and the Central Consortium.

### Consultation

The Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate model has been developed by 14-19 providers including Schools and Colleges in Harrow. As part of the Statutory Notice process, consultation will be undertaken with interested parties.

### Financial Implications

As part of the work to establish the Collegiate, the revenue costs are being modelled to ensure that increased opportunities for 14-19 learners provide value for money and are sustainable.

A bid is being submitted to the LSC for 16-19 Capital Funding. The Feasibility Study will inform the capital bid, but it is estimated that this will be approximately £25m.

### Legal Implications

There are no direct implications at this time as no decisions are being sought.

However, to enable post 16 learners on School sites, a prescribed route will need to be followed for each school to increase the age range from 12-16 to 12-18.

This will include the publication of Statutory Notices in accordance with the timeframes in Annex A.

A proposal will return to the School Organisation Committee for a decision if objections are received.

### Equalities Impact

The Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate together with the 16-19 Capital Fund bid, will enable comprehensive and inclusive provision in Harrow. This includes provision for levels 1 and 2, and provision for those Not in Employment Education or Training.

### Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Considerations

The Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate will achieve inclusive and comprehensive 14-19 provision that will ensure that the Council is fulfilling its statutory obligation to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area.

### **Section 3: Supporting Information/ Background Documents**

Cabinet report 15 July 2003

Cabinet report 16 March 2004

Learning and Skills Council Consultation Guidance (published August 2005)  
16-19 Capital Fund – 2006-07 Onwards (published August 2005)

16-19 Capital Fund Guidance: 2006-07 Onwards (published 15 December 2005)

LWLSC Outline Specification for Expanding Post 16 Provision in the London Borough of Harrow dated 15 November 2005, and the cover letter from Peter Pledger, Executive Director LWLSC

Any person wishing to inspect the background papers should telephone 020 8420 9270