

Meeting:	Cabinet
Date:	21 May 2008
Subject:	Harrow's Vision for Education and the Primary Capital Programme
Key Decision:	Yes
Responsible Officer:	Heather Clements, Director Schools and Children's Development
Portfolio Holder:	Portfolio Holder for Schools and Children's Development
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	Annexe 1 Harrow's Vision for Education Annexe 2 Primary Capital Programme DCSF At a Glance Guide

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report is presented in two Parts. Part A presents Harrow's Vision for Education. Part B provides an outline of the Department of Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) Primary Capital Programme and the proposed principles to identify schools to receive capital funding.

Recommendations: Cabinet is requested to:

Part A Harrow's Vision for Education

1. Agree the Harrow Vision for Education

Part B

2. Agree the general principles for identifying schools to receive capital funding through the DCSF Primary Capital Programme
3. Agree to delegate authority to the Portfolio Holder for and Children's Development to agree the final submission to the DCSF for Primary Capital Programme and the Primary Strategy for Change.

Reason: (For recommendations)

This report is seeking Cabinet approval for the Vision for Education. Realising this vision is central to guiding and influencing all strategies and developments within schools. In particular this vision will be central to

submissions made to the DCSF for strategic funding including Primary Capital Programme and Building Schools for the Future.

The Local Authority is required to prepare a Primary Strategy for Change submission to the DCSF to secure Primary Capital Programme funding. The Strategy for Change will be based on the vision and will include the identification of schools, using the proposed criteria, to receive Primary Capital Programme funding. Funding is available from April 2009 and is subject to DCSF approval. This report will enable the completion of the submission.

Section 2 – Report

Part A Harrow's Vision for Education

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The Harrow Vision for Education will contribute to the Corporate Priority to extend community use of schools while making education in Harrow even better.

2.2 Background

2.2.1 A Vision for Education has been developed to bring together all the key elements that contribute to making schools successful in Harrow. The Vision is relevant to all phases of education in Harrow including Early Years and pre-school provision, special schools, community and voluntary aided schools and partners. It recognises the wide ranging partnerships and their contributions. All developments involving schools will contribute to realising the vision.

2.3 National Drivers

2.3.1 The Vision for Education draws on the key National Drivers listed as follows:

- Champion of Children and Parents (Role of Local Authority – Education and Inspections Act 2006)
- Every Harrow Child Matters
- High Achieving Schools at the Heart of Community Services – Harrow Council vision statement
- The Children's Plan
- Narrowing the Gap

2.4 Harrow's Vision for Education

2.4.1 Harrow's Vision for Education is provided in Annexe 1. The Vision brings together the National and Local policy context. The Vision statement has the potential to transform the way schools in Harrow develop. The Vision articulates what Harrow schools will look like and how this will be achieved. It has two central tenets:

High Achievement

2.4.2 To continue and further improve the performance of pupils, change and innovation are essential. High quality provision from birth to five and progressing to schools that are organised in line with the National Curriculum Key Stages. Challenge and support for underachievement,

and a narrowing of the achievement gaps. A system that is personalised so that all children can succeed.

Schools at the Centre of the Community

2.4.3 For Schools to be at the centre of the community there needs to be a changed approach to the purpose and nature of schools and how services can be provided from the school with mutual benefit for the community and school. These will include arts, recreational and sports facilities as well as information and family support. Services will not necessarily be provided by the school but in partnership with the voluntary and health sectors.

2.4.4 The Vision is very important in terms of developing an investment strategy for both primary and high schools. By relating investment to the Vision for Schools, there should be considerable benefits in both maintaining and improving the environment of the school for teaching and learning and for the wider community.

2.6 Staffing Implications

2.12.1 The Vision for Education includes reference to the Workforce as a highly skilled and motivated workforce able to secure the best possible outcomes for Children and Young People.

2.7 Consultation

2.7.1 A range of consultation and engagement activities has been undertaken with stakeholders to develop the Vision for Education in Harrow. These include comments and responses gathered from Headteachers at their meetings with the Corporate Director and Director of Schools and Children's Development; Governing Body Chairs Forum; Education Consultative Forum; young people through the Youth Advisory Forum and Youth Council; Parents, Diocesan Boards and Voluntary Aided Schools. Opportunities were also made for partners from Health and Early Years Colleagues to comment.

2.8 Equalities Impacts

2.8.1 The Vision for Education makes specific reference to the need to address underachievement in specific groups and to meet the diverse needs of the community.

2.9 Community Safety

2.9.1 The Vision will contribute to Community Safety by increasing the focus of the school at the heart of community and increasing access to services and opportunities on school sites

2.10 Legal comments

2.10.1 There are no immediate Legal Implications to this report. The Education and Inspections Act 2006 provides a framework to make changes to schools.

2.11. Financial Implications

2.11.2 There are no direct financial implications related to this Vision. Its implementation will be depended on available resources including

revenue and capital budgets, and grants from Government Departments for example Primary Capital Programme.

2.12. Performance Issues

2.12.1 Delivering School Re-organisation so that Harrow Schools are in line with the national agenda is Council Improvement Plan project IP7D and contributes to a range of performance indicators, in particular the following from the new National Indicator Set. NI 72 – 109 ‘Enjoy and Achieve’ indicators covering Key Stage achievement and progression, narrowing the gap for lower performing and vulnerable groups, attendance, behaviour, special educational needs.

2.12.2 Whilst Harrow’s performance is currently above national and statistical neighbours averages at all Key Stages, Harrow’s targets, which are set annually for the DCSF, are highly challenging. The table below presents Harrow’s performance against its targets and the national averages.

Harrow's 2006-07 Results

KS1	Actual	Target	National
Reading L2+	84.7%	Not set	84%
Writing L2+	81.0%	Not set	80%
Maths L2+	90.5%	Not set	90%
Science L2+	88.2%	Not set	89%
KS2	Actual	Target	National
English L4+	82%	85%	80%
Maths L4+	79%	85%	77%
Science L4+	88%	Not set	88%
KS3	Actual	Target	National
English L5+	79%	82%	74%
Maths L5+	79%	80%	76%
Science L5+	75%	78%	73%
GCSE	Actual	Target	National
% 5+ A*-C	68.0%	67.5%	62.0%
% 5+ A*-C incl E&M	56.1%	Not set	46.8%

Part B DCSF Primary Capital Programme

2.13 Introduction

2.13.1 The funding from the Primary Capital Programme funding will contribute to the Corporate Priority to extend community use of schools while making education in Harrow even better.

2.14 Background

2.14.1 The Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) launched the Every Child Matters: Primary Capital Programme in December 2007. This programme is a long term strategic capital programme for primary schools lasting for 14 years. All local authorities will receive funding from 2009 subject to approval of their Primary Strategy for Change submission. The aim of the programme is to rebuild, remodel or refurbish about 50% of all primary schools. Primary Capital Programme DCSF At a Glance Guide is in Annexe 2.

2.14.2 Harrow is in the process of preparing its Primary Strategy for Change in accordance with DCSF guidance. A Borough wide approach is being adopted that includes primary and high schools, special schools and community and voluntary aided. The main focus has been on the development of a Vision for Education in Harrow.

2.14.3 For the Primary Capital Programme the local authority is also required to apply local criteria to select those schools that will be included in the Programme during the first four years. Principles are presented in this report.

2.15 National Drivers

2.15. The Primary Capital programme in Harrow will need to meet the following Drivers

- Champion of Children and Parents (Role of Local Authority – Education and Inspections Act 2006)
- Every Harrow Child Matters
- High Achieving Schools at the Heart of Community Services – Harrow Council vision statement
- The Children’s Plan
- Narrowing the Gap

2.16 Principles for Guiding the Development of Criteria for Allocating Primary Capital Programme Funding

2.16.1 Through the Primary Capital Programme the Government has set local authorities the target of investing in 50% of schools. There is the Government assumption that all local authorities should take deprivation into account in determining long term aims and investment priorities. The Government has set Harrow a target for the 5% of schools in the worst physical condition to be rebuilt/taken out of use and 45% improved.

2.16.2 Harrow has developed a set of principles as follows to guide investment. These are listed as follows:

- No schools in Harrow will be taken out of use to address surplus place issues.
- No schools in Harrow could be rebuilt with valid justification based on the condition of the buildings.
- Local deprivation must be a major consideration in line with the Government’s policy
- Investment to support changes in demography – roll projections, pupils yield from Housing Developments and impacts generated from the Local Development Framework.
- Investment must support the Harrow Vision for Schools
- Removal of temporary accommodation if no longer required or creating appropriate permanent buildings.

2.16.3 The following factors are proposed as criteria.

Deprivation:

- Free School Meals eligibility
- ACORN scores

- Tax Credit data on parental income

Building Issue and Demographics:

- Asset Management Plan Data:
 - Condition
 - Sufficiency – provision of school places to meet changes in pupil population
 - Suitability – including Temporary Classrooms/Accommodation
- Investment over 3 years DCSF, Grants excluding Devolved Formula Capital

Other Factors:

- Potential to join-up funding streams to meet a wider range of corporate priorities and address issues of under-provision. For example, DCSF Basic Need funding, support for the change in Age of Transfer, Children’s Centres, Extended Schools, co-location of services

2.16.4 A site development review has been undertaken on all primary school sites and the Asset Management Plan (AMP) data has been up-dated. In addition, the pupil roll projections using 2008 PLASC data have been completed. This information will be used to identify the priorities in relation to the Building Issues and Demographics.

2.16.5 It is proposed that Cabinet consider and agree the proposed principles and criteria, and that in consultation with the Portfolio Holder and Schools the schools for the first 4 years of investment are identified.

2.17 Staffing Implications

2.17.1 The Primary Capital Programme will improve the teaching and learning environment for staff in schools. It is expected that for some schools there will be specific investment in staffing accommodation.

2.18 Consultation

2.18.1 The School Organisation Stakeholder Reference Group has considered the criteria. Headteachers, Chairs of Governors and representatives from the Diocesan Boards have also had the opportunity to comment on the proposals.

2.8 Equalities Impacts

2.8.2 The Primary Capital Programme will secure investment for schools in Harrow that are in the poorest condition and serve the more deprived areas of the Borough. In planning the investment on a school basis consideration will be given to the needs of pupils and community use to ensure full accessibility.

2.9 Community Safety

2.9.2 The Primary Capital Programme will contribute to Community Safety by:

- Increasing the focus of the school at the heart of community by increasing access to services and opportunities on school sites
- Address school specific site access and security needs

2.10 Legal comments

2.10.2 There are no immediate Legal Implications to this report. The Education and Inspections Act 2006 provides a framework to make changes to schools.

2.11. Financial Implications

2.11.3 Harrow has been allocated approximately £3.3m in 2009-10 and £5.7m in 2010-2011. The total allocation through the Primary Capital Programme across 14 years is approximately £45m.

2.12. Performance Issues

2.12.1 Delivering School Re-organisation so that Harrow Schools are in line with the national agenda is Council Improvement Plan project IP7D and contributes to a range of performance indicators, in particular the following from the new National Indicator Set. NI 72 – 109 'Enjoy and Achieve' indicators covering Key Stage achievement and progression, narrowing the gap for lower performing and vulnerable groups, attendance, behaviour, special educational needs.

2.12.2 Whilst Harrow's performance is currently above national and statistical neighbours averages at all Key Stages, Harrow's targets, which are set annually for the DCSF, are highly challenging. Harrow has not made as much improvement in these KPIs over recent years as statistical neighbours. This is an indication of the pressures on these targets due to a changing demography, as stated in the main JAR Report published in March 2007 "Although once perceived as a white elderly borough, Harrow is now very ethnically diverse....Black and minority ethnic communities now make up well over 50% of the borough's population...There are a growing number of settlers from the African continent, especially from Somalia."

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Bharat Jashapara	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: 7.4.08		
Name: Helen White	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Monitoring Officer
Date: 22.4.08		

Section 4 – Performance Officer Clearance

Name: David Harrington	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the* Divisional Director (Strategy and Improvement)
Date: 21.4.08		

*Delete the words “on behalf of the” if the report is cleared directly by Tom Whiting.

Section 5 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Johanna Morgan, Service Manager, Partnerships and Well-Being,
Adults and Housing Directorate 020 8736 6841

Background Papers: None