

# **Capital Strategy Group**

**Wednesday 29 April 2009**

**Regal House, first floor**

---

**Present:** Cllr M Eady (Chair), Cllr D Marlow, Beverly Butler, Paul Bettles, Claire Briggs, John Russell, Elaine England, Christine Brett, Ron Percival, Niki Crookdake

**Apologies:** Cllr B King, Jo Longhurst

## **Minutes**

## **Action**

### **1. Introductions/Apologies**

Cllr King and Jo Longhurst gave their apologies.

Cllr Eady formally welcomed the new Governor representative, Niki Crookdake to the group and each member introduced themselves.

### **2. Declarations of interest**

None

### **3. Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 21 January 2009 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

### **4. Matters arising**

The lead testing for all schools has been commissioned, however the Building Development Team are waiting for the works to be assigned to an appropriate officer. A programme will be requested from Corporate Property to give an indication on timescales for this.

CB/BB

Cllr Eady gave an overview of the meeting that took place with Jim Knight, Schools Minister, 2 MP's, Gillian Norton and Nick Whitfield. Unfortunately there was no additional funding forthcoming as a result of this meeting.

A bid has been submitted for funding through the co-location fund.

It was reported to the group that there is a shortage of school places particularly in the London region. The following article has been written by the London Council's.

<http://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/localgovernmentfinance/publications/dothemaths.htm>

Hampton Junior School – the letter sent by the school dated 25 February was circulated to the group. The school confirmed the requirements for the funding an additional room for meetings and small group teaching space. The group agreed to allocate £30,000 for these works following the withdrawal of the hall extension funding.

LCVAP – Christine Brett requested to know where the LCVAP minutes are available. C. Briggs to send a link to internet pages. Also the LCVAP programme for 2009/2010 was attached to the March Cabinet Report.

CB

### **5. School Premises Development Plans**

A copy of the draft letter and pro-forma for the proposed School Premises Development Plans were circulated to the group.

A few pilots will be carried out initially to test the process.

For VA schools, Diocese Surveyors will need to be included in the meetings.

EE requested guidance on how to complete the forms when this is rolled out.

Under potential funding sources – this will require schools to confirm allocations of devolved formula capital to put towards individual projects.

## **6. Updates**

### **Primary Strategy for Change**

#### **Expansions**

- Holy Trinity – the planning application was validated on 14 April. Completion of the project is due in October 2010.
- St. Mary's and St. Peter's – planning application to be submitted on 26 June 2009 and due for completion in September 2011.
- Orleans Infants, St. Stephen's and Chase Bridge have undertaken options appraisals and it is estimated any works will be completed by August 2012.
- Stanley Schools – there are currently transition group meetings taking place for amalgamation and expansion of the schools.

The overall programme budget is £32M. However, it is still overall at an early stage in the designs and cost estimate processes.

#### **Bulge Classes**

Due to the demand for places in certain areas of the borough, bulge classes are required at the following schools in September 2009:

- St. Elizabeth's
- Chase Bridge
- Orleans Infants School
- Holy Trinity
- St. Mary's and St. Peter's
- Lowther (extra ten places required)

EE requested this information be sent to the Primary Heads forum to update all Headteachers. MP to attend the next forum on 11 June to provide an update.

Cllr Eady also thanked those schools who have recently taken on extra classes and for those who will be this year.

### **Teddington School – BSF One-School Pathfinder**

Photographs were circulated to the group to show the progress being made on the new school. The only delays that have been experienced has been with the statutory services.

The Local Authorities expression of interest to be brought forward in the main BSF programme was unsuccessful. We are still 70<sup>th</sup> out of 70!.

### **Kitchen Funding**

The LA were due to hear back from the DCSF in March however an e-mail received on 24 April stated that the decision is still with Ministers. We are estimating a response may be received towards the end of June.

JR advised that TCF (Targeted Capital Funding) has been cancelled until further notice by the DCSF, therefore there will be no opportunities to bid for funding under this stream in the near future.

**7. Any other business**

PB – The comprehensive SEN review has been looking at the provision across the Borough. Any proposals that come out of this review will be consulted on and will be brought to the Capital Strategy Group as part of this.

BB – The Building Development Team are recruiting two additional members for the team. A Deputy Building Development Manager and someone to manage the Academy programme. There are currently lots of programmes underway and subsequent projects leading on from this i.e. BSF (Building Schools for the Future – secondary programme, Primary Capital Programme, Academies, SEN review, Children's Centres amongst others).

Cllr Marlow requested a list of acronyms. This will be provided before the next meeting. CB

**8. Date of next meeting**

**Monday 6 July 2009, 4.30pm, Room 7, York House**

**Wednesday 7 October 2009, 5pm, Terrace Room, York House**