

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
Date:	10 November 2021
Title:	Poulner Infant School – Replacement Nursery
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

Contact names:	Steve Clow and Bob Wallbridge		
Tel:	03707 798845 03707 794084	Email:	steve.clow@hants.gov.uk bob.wallbridge@hants.gov.uk

Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this report is to seek spend approval to the project proposals at Poulner Infant School and Nursery to construct a new nursery and remodel existing spaces vacated as a result.

Recommendations

2. That the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services grants spend approval to the project proposals for Poulner Infant School at the total cost of £537,000

Executive Summary

3. Poulner Infant School and Nursery currently provides education for up to 246 children (2 Forms of Entry) aged between 2 and 7 years old. This includes the school run nursery provision.
4. The project comprises of a new, purpose built 26 place nursery to replace an existing setting within the infant school. The accommodation released upon completion is to be used as additional and improved teaching space for the school.
5. The project is included in the Children Services Capital Programme, approved at the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services Decision Day on 16th January 2020 with a budget of £487,000.
- 6.

Following approval of the capital programme in January 2020, the cost of the scheme has increased by £50,000 due to the increased scope of the proposed works. This additional cost will be funded by an increase in the funding as shown in the table below.

7. A Planning application was submitted in September 2021 and a decision is expected in December.

Background

8. Poulner Infant School and Nursery provides education for children aged between 2 and 7 years old. There are currently 246 pupils on roll. The numbers attending the school are not currently planned to increase as a result of these proposals.
9. The project is included in the Children's Services Capital Programme, approved at the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services decision day on January 16, 2020, which outlines the available budget for the project.
10. The Section 106 Agreement for the development at Crow Arch Lane, Ringwood has secured a contribution for educational improvements in the sum of £487,000 and this forms part of the funding for the proposed project, as shown in the table below.
11. The original school is of SCOLA 2 construction, built in 1971. The school has previously been extended with the addition of classrooms, a staffroom and office spaces. In addition, there are several sheds and containers on the site. The current nursery occupies a former classroom constructed around the year 2000 on the southern edge of the existing school.
12. The proposals seek to address shortcomings in the existing accommodation and provide additional and improved teaching space for the school as well as bespoke new accommodation for the existing nursery provision.

Finance

13. Capital Expenditure:
The Capital Expenditure has already been approved in principle; the following table outline the breakdown of its distribution across the project.

Capital Expenditure	Current Estimate	Capital Programme
	£'000	£'000
Buildings	461	461
Fees	76	76
Total	537	537

14. Sources of Funding

Financial Provision for Total Scheme	Buildings £'000	Fees £'000	Total Cost £'000
1. From Own Resources			
a) Capital Programme	43	7	50
2. From Other Resources			
a) Developer Contributions	418	69	487
Total	461	76	537

i. *Building Cost:*

Net Cost - not applicable due to the nature of the works

Gross Cost - £3,064 per sqm

Cost Per Pupil Place = N/A

ii. *Furniture & Equipment:* Included in the above figures is an allocation of £16,400 for the provision of all loose furniture, fittings, equipment and I.T. (inclusive of fees)

iii. *School Balances:*

The school has the following level of balances:

Published revenue balance as at 31 March 2021: £3,270

Devolved capital as at 31 March 2019: £1,336

Revenue Issues:

iv. *Overview of Revenue Implications:*

	(a) Employees £'000	(b) Other £'000	(a+b) *Net Current Expenditure £'000	(c) Capital Charges £'000	(a + b + c) Total Net Expenditure £'000
Revenue Implications Additional + / Reductions	-	-	0	30	30

Details of Site and Existing Infrastructure

15. Poulner Infant School is situated in a suburb of Ringwood in south-west Hampshire and close to the western boundary of New Forest National Park. The site is within the Ringwood North ward of New Forest District Council.

16. The original infant school is of SCOLA 2 construction, built in 1971, the existing building is single storey. Elevations are a mix of traditional masonry with timber cladding and painted metal windows. The nursery occupies an extension that

was built around 2000. This is constructed of a mix of traditional masonry and glass with a roof supported on exposed timber beams. The existing nursery is linked to the original school by a glazed lobby

17. The infant school occupies a site of approximately 1 hectare. It is bounded by a mixture of mature and semi-mature trees and shrubs. There are no significant changes of level nor significant ecological features. The school's western boundary is shared with Poulner Junior School and the northern and eastern boundaries are contained by North Poulner Road and Gorley Road respectively. Gardens of residential properties enclose the school's southern boundary.
18. The existing services infrastructure to the site are sufficient to accommodate the project proposals.

Scope of the Project

19. The proposed works at the infant school comprises of the construction of a new purpose-built nursery. This will replace a 26-place nursery that already exists within the infant school site. The space liberated will be returned to teaching space for the use of the infant school. The purpose-built building will be stand-alone located in the grounds of the infant school.

The Proposed Building

20. The proposed new building will comprise:
 - Secure entrance lobby with reception desk
 - Learning and play space
 - Combined administration office/ meeting room/ consultation room
 - Pupil toilets with pupil changing space
 - Accessible toilet for staff and visitors
 - Kitchen, storage, and plant room
21. The proposed nursery building is expected to be of a framed construction with a mix of insulated render panels and glazing to the façade.

External Works

22. The proposed external works comprise:
 - Secure and segregated pedestrian entrance courtyard with provision for bicycle and scooter storage
 - Secure outdoor play space with hard and soft landscaping
 - Canopy structure for rain protection and shading to outdoor play area
23. As there is no increase in staff or pupils, the project will not provide additional car parking on the school site.

24. The vehicular entrance to the infant school will remain unchanged but it is proposed that a new opening be formed in the school's eastern boundary to provide a secure and dedicated pedestrian entrance to the nursery setting.

Planning

25. A planning application was submitted in September 2021

Construction Management

26. The school site will remain in use during the construction period and local management arrangements will be put in place to manage the health and safety impact for all school users. The contractor will access the school site via a temporary entrance formed of Gorley Road. Contractor access and working areas will be segregated from the school users.
27. No deliveries or movements of vehicles will take place at the start or end of the school day, in order to avoid traffic conflict when pupils are arriving at or departing from the school.
28. The works will be procured through an open competitive tender and are anticipated to commence on site in the spring of 2022 with the new building completing in the autumn of 2022.

Building Management

29. The existing building management arrangements will remain in place.

Professional Resources

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 30. Architectural – | Culture, Communities & Business Services |
| Landscape – | Culture, Communities & Business Services |
| Mechanical & Electrical- | Culture, Communities & Business Services |
| Structural Engineering - | Culture, Communities & Business Services |
| Quantity Surveying - | Culture, Communities & Business Services |
| Principal Designer - | Culture, Communities & Business Services |
| Drainage Engineering - | Economy, Transport and Environment |

Consultation and Equalities

31. The following have been consulted during the development of this project and feedback can be seen in overview in Appendix A:

Headteacher
School Governors
Children's Services
Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
Local County Councillor
Fire Officer
Access Officer
HCC Regulatory Planning & Transport Teams

Risk & Impact Issues

Fire Risk Assessment

32. With respect to fire safety and property protection, the proposals have been risk assessed in line with the agreed Property Services procedures and confirmed that the provision of sprinklers is not required in this instance.
33. The proposals will meet the requirements of the Building Regulations (BB100 Fire Safety in Schools), including enhancements beyond minimum provision, and are consistent with current fire safety legislation, the partnership arrangement with Hampshire Fire and Rescue Services, and are in line with the County Council's policy to manage corporate risk.

Health and Safety

34. Design risk assessments, pre-construction health & safety information and Health & Safety File will be produced and initiated in accordance with the Construction design and Management Regulations for the proposed scheme.

Climate Change

35. Hampshire County Council utilises two decision-making tools to assess the carbon emissions and resilience of its projects and decisions. These tools provide a clear, robust, and transparent way of assessing how projects, policies and initiatives contribute towards the County Council's climate change targets of being carbon neutral and resilient to the impacts of a 2°C temperature rise by 2050. This process ensures that climate change considerations are built into everything the Authority does.
36. The Adaptation Project Screening Tool identifies that in extreme circumstances, strong winds, storm events and heat waves arising from Climate Change in the future, could have the potential to affect the use of the building, but generally the scheme is considered to have low vulnerability to climate change.
37. The project will incorporate the following features to reduce energy consumption and mitigate the impact of climate change:
 - A highly insulated building envelope for the extension including high performance windows, doors, and roof lights
 - Provision of good levels of day lighting to all teaching areas to reduce the need for artificial lighting and energy use.
 - Provision of an air source heat pump to provide carbon emission-free heating and hot water
 - Natural ventilation to main spaces with night-time cooling strategy.
 - Solar controlled glass will be installed to south facing windows to assist in the control of solar gain.
 - Strategic placement of extended roof canopies above large glazing areas to avoid summertime overheating.

- Energy efficient lighting and heating controls
- The use of timber from sustainable sources
- A site waste management plan will be developed to ensure that during construction the principles of minimising waste are maintained.

38. The project is important for meeting Hampshire County Councils' strategic priorities, including economic growth and contributing towards strong, resilient, and inclusive communities

REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	Yes
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy, and independent lives:	Yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	Yes
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	Yes

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

Document

Location

None

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

1. Equality Duty

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation).
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

Please see Appendix B for the Equalities Impact Assessment Page

FEEDBACK FROM CONSULTEES:**OTHER EXECUTIVE MEMBERS:**

Executive Member & Portfolio	Reason for Consultation	Date Consulted	Response:
Executive Lead Member for Children's Services.	Portfolio Holder		

OTHER FORMAL CONSULTEES:

Member/ Councillor	Reason for Consultation	Date Consulted	Response:
Councillor Michael Thierry	Local Member for Poulner briefed on proposals.	15/10/21	Supports the Proposals



Equality Impact Assessment

What is an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) and why does the County Council do them?

The [Public Sector Equality Duty](#) (PSED) is an obligation within the [Equality Act 2010](#) ("the Act"), which asks public authorities, like Hampshire County Council, to give 'due regard' to equality considerations, in particular to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

This includes assessing the impact of policies and practices on individuals and communities with a protected characteristic, as defined in the Act and some other specific groups. The County Council uses EIAs to ensure it has paid 'due regard' to equalities considerations when there are changes to a service or policy, a new project or certain decisions.

EIA author	Position & Department	Contact
Gemma Bowry	Strategic Development Officer Children's Services	gemma.bowry@hants.gov.uk Tel:

Title:	Poulner Infant School - Replacement Nursery
Related EIAs:	None

EIA for Savings Programme:	No
Service affected	Nursery provision onsite at Poulner Infant School
Description of the service/policy/project/project phase	Replacement of the existing onsite nursery at Poulner Infant School.
New/changed service/policy/project	Hampshire County Council is proposing to provide a new, purpose built 26 place nursery to replace an existing setting within the grounds of Poulner infant school. The accommodation released upon completion is to be used as additional and improved teaching space for the school.

Engagement
A formal consultation took place between the school's head teacher and the governing body.

Equalities considerations - Impact Assessment

Age

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	There will be a neutral impact for both public and staff in relation to this characteristic.
Mitigation	

Disability

Impact on public	Positive
Impact on staff	Positive
Rationale	The proposals will provide additional and improved teaching space for the school as well as bespoke new accommodation for the existing nursery provision. The accommodation will be fully accessible, meeting current building regulations and internal standards put in place by the specialist access team within Hampshire County Councils Property Services department.
Mitigation	

Gender Reassignment

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	There will be a neutral impact for both public and staff in relation to this characteristic.
Mitigation	

Pregnancy and Maternity

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral

Rationale	There will be a neutral impact for both public and staff in relation to this characteristic.
Mitigation	

Race

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	There will be a neutral impact for both public and staff in relation to this characteristic.
Mitigation	

Religion or Belief

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	There will be a neutral impact for both public and staff in relation to this characteristic.
Mitigation	

Sex

--	--

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	There will be a neutral impact for both public and staff in relation to this characteristic.
Mitigation	

Sexual Orientation

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	There will be a neutral impact for both public and staff in relation to this characteristic.
Mitigation	

Marriage and Civil Partnership

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	There will be a neutral impact for both public and staff in relation to this characteristic.
Mitigation	

Poverty

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	There will be a neutral impact for both public and staff in relation to this characteristic.
Mitigation	

Rurality

Impact on public	Positive
Impact on staff	Positive
Rationale	A pressure on early years services has been identified within the area of Ringwood in the New Forest. The new nursery provision will contribute towards relieving this pressure.
Mitigation	

Geographical Impact:New Forest

Equality Statement

Additional information:

None

Overview Statement:

Assessment to show that due regard has been given and that there is no requirement for a full EIA:

EIA reference number: 00154

Date of production of EIA for publication: 01/11/2021