

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Community Participation Committee

Report by the Executive Director of Educational Services

Wednesday 17 September 2008

Subject: Regeneration of the Schools' Estate

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with an update on progress in the regeneration of the schools' estate.

2. Background

- 2.1** At the meeting of the Community Participation Committee held on 23 April 2008, Community Representatives requested that a report on progress on the regeneration of the schools' estate be submitted to every second meeting of the Committee.

3. Main Issues

PPP "Building Our Future" schools

3.1 St Peter the Apostle High School

Phase 1 - Proposed St Peter the Apostle HS school building (on existing football pitches)

- a. Programmed completion date – 17 July 2009. Four weeks behind programme, however BAM is confident that this will not compromise the programmed completion date. Inclement weather and structural steelwork has affected progress. Council currently has incurred no cost liability for delays incurred.
- b. Works currently ongoing: Structural Steelwork, metal roof decking and roof coverings, floor slabs, external windows and cladding, geothermal works (complete), car park, boundary fencing.

Phase 2 - Proposed sports pitches (on existing former Kilbowie Landfill Site)

- a. Programmed completion date – 17 July 2009. Four weeks behind programme. Inclement weather and Planning Condition in relation to

remediation has affected progress. Council currently has incurred no cost liability for delays incurred.

- b. Works currently ongoing: Earthworks to formation level (complete - settlement period has commenced and continues to be monitored on a weekly basis. No significant settlement has been recorded to date), energy centre, car park, relocation of Play Park on Kirkoswald Drive.

Phase 3 - Proposed St Eunan's PS (on existing St Columba's HS location)

- a. Not programmed to commence until August 2009.

3.2 Clydebank High School

- a. Programmed completion date – 15 July 2009. On programme.
- b. Works currently ongoing: Structural Steelwork (complete), metal roof decking and roof coverings, floor slabs, external windows and cladding, geothermal works (complete), car park, boundary fencing.

3.3 Vale of Leven Academy

- a. Programmed completion date – 29 June 2009. On programme.
- b. Works currently ongoing:: Structural Steelwork (complete), metal roof decking and roof coverings, floor slabs, external windows and cladding, geothermal works (complete), car park, boundary fencing, grass pitches (complete), synthetic pitches.

Other Issues

- 3.4** Reviews of proposed room layouts to “specialist areas” are ongoing between BAM, Schools Estate and schools co-ordinators.
- 3.5** The reviewable design data (RDD) process is progressing satisfactorily.
- 3.6** The proposed internal security installations to the buildings have been agreed between BAM and the Authority. BAM is currently liaising with the police to obtain Secure By Design approval. Designs of internal security to the building have been agreed by BAM and the project team. External security measures are still under discussion.
- 3.7** Designs continue to be refined to better meet the needs of the Authority through the processes listed in 3.4 and 3.5 above and, to date, extra capital costs instructed by the Authority are negligible (estimated currently

to be in the region of £60,000) and this will be met from the project's sinking fund. The Unitary Charge has been reduced by approximately £3,800. These amounts are expected to change slightly throughout the build period.

Staffing Issues

- 3.8** The advertisement for the new Head Teacher at St Peter the Apostle High School attracted a comparatively small number of applicants. The post was therefore re-advertised in August. It is planned that the Head Teacher of the new St Peter the Apostle High School will be appointed in September 2008 with a view to the post being filled by October/November. This will allow the new Head Teacher around eight months lead-in time to deal with timetabling, staffing, curricular and other issues relating to the new school and should assist with the amalgamation process.

Forward Planning

- 3.9** Planning for the transfer of materials, apparatus and equipment from the four existing secondary school buildings into the new secondary schools and other establishments has now commenced and a detailed protocol will be established before the end of the current calendar year.

School Fund and Capital Programme

- 3.10** Tenders have been received for the proposed new Bonhill and Goldenhill Primaries and these are currently being analysed by the consultant surveyors and designers. The construction programme is being redrafted, with a targeted site commencement in late October/early November.

Dumbarton Academy

- 3.11** A meeting with the Parent Council took place on 30 June where options were presented for potential sites for the new Dumbarton Academy building. It was generally agreed that the most suitable sites were either at Postie's Park or on the existing school site on Crosslet Road.
- 3.12** Members and Senior officers of the Council will meet with Fiona Hyslop (Cabinet Secretary for Education & Lifelong Learning) on 19 September to discuss, amongst other matters, possible funding options for delivery of a new Dumbarton Academy.

Schools' Regeneration "Phase 2"

- 3.13** Council instructed that separate consultation meetings be held in every school and Early Education and Childcare Centre affected by phase 2. The Schools' Regeneration Phase 2 Member/Officer Working Group

subsequently proposed that a preliminary informal consultation meeting be conducted with parent council, school and church representatives from all schools within the Bellsmyre, Faifley and Haldane/Jamestown areas, to gather views on the possibility of co-location of denominational and non-denominational primary schools in the area.

- 3.14** The preliminary informal consultation meeting took place in Garshake on 28 August. Discussions proved to be very productive with varied responses relating to the pros and cons of co-located schools, refurbishments and new build schools. Questionnaires were completed by attendees and these are being analysed for reporting back to the Schools' Regeneration phase 2 Member/Officer Working Group, where direction will then be given on how to proceed with the next stage of consultation for these areas.
- 3.15** The consultation paper, schools data and blank questionnaire are attached as appendices 1 to 3.
- 3.16** A similar process will be rolled out to all other areas within the Authority.

4. Personnel Issues

- 4.1** There are no personnel issues associated with this report.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1** There are no financial issues associated with this report

6. Risk Analysis

- 6.1** No risk analysis is required at this time.

7. Conclusions

- 7.1** The PPP project is well under way and generally on programme.
- 7.2** Tenders are being analysed for the new Goldenhill and Bonhill primary schools project. The construction programme is being redrawn.
- 7.3** The preliminary informal consultation meeting to consider the pros and cons of co-located schools was productive and responses are currently being analysed. The programme for future consultations will be considered by the Member/Officer Working Group.

8. Recommendation

- 8.1** It is recommended that the Community Participation Committee note the contents of this report.

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Appendices 1 - consultation paper
2 - schools data
3 - blank questionnaire

Background Papers: None

Wards Affected: All wards.