
**21st CENTURY SCHOOLS CARDIFF CITY COUNCIL'S BAND B
PRIORITIES – DRAFT CABINET REPORT**

Purpose of Report

1. To provide Members with the opportunity to consider and review the Draft Cabinet Report (copy attached at **Appendix A**). The report seeks Cabinet approval for the priority scheme to be undertaken as part of Cardiff's Band B 21st century Schools Programme.

Draft Cabinet Report

2. The Welsh Government is committed to removing all "D" condition schools from Wales. Any schools that are classified as "D" category for condition should be automatically prioritised for investment under Band B. All properties across the Cardiff school estate were given a rating from A to D for the following issues, with D being the worst category:
 - Sufficiency of places available;
 - Condition of the school buildings;
 - Suitability of the environment for teaching.
3. The sufficiency ratings for all schools were prepared using the corporate population database and projection methodology used for the planning of school places. The condition and suitability rating were prepared independently, using Welsh Government approved methodology via independent specialist.
4. The report sets out the proposed Band B schemes for Cardiff, namely:
 - Secondary schools - proposed Band B schemes (at paragraph 16 - 21)
 - Special Schools – proposed Band B schemes (paragraph 22 - 41)

- Primary Schools - proposed Band B schemes (at paragraph 42 - 46).
5. The report also sets out how the schemes will maximise investment for community benefit and the indicative cost of programme and funding options.
 6. The Cabinet is recommended to:
 - Approve the prioritised schemes under Band B of the 21st Century Schools Programme.
 - To note the approval in principle of Cardiff Council's Band B Strategic Outline Case by Welsh Government and to authorise the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning to secure Welsh Government approval in principle for the schemes within the programme.
 - To note that a subsequent report to Cabinet will propose arrangements to secure sufficient capacity and appropriate governance in order to deliver the Cardiff Band B 21st Century Schools Programme.

Scope of Scrutiny

7. The scope of this scrutiny is for Members to:
 - Consider and review the contents of the draft cabinet report.
 - Pass on any observations, comments or recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Education, Employment and Skills prior to the consideration of the Draft report by Cabinet.

Way Forward

8. Councillor Sarah Merry (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Education Employment, Skills), and Nick Batchelar (Director of Education and Lifelong Learning), will present the report to the Committee, and will be available to answer any questions Members may have.
9. This report will also enable Members to provide any comments, concerns or recommendations to the Cabinet Member prior to its consideration by Cabinet.

Legal Implications

10. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

Financial Implications

11. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is recommended to:

Review the information contained in the draft Cabinet Report, attached at **Appendix A**, together with information provided at the meeting and provide any recommendations, comments or advice to the Cabinet Member and / or Director of Education and Lifelong Learning prior to the report's consideration by Cabinet.

Davina Fiore

Director of Governance and Legal Services

6 December 2017