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| <b>Award of Contract for the extension and remodelling of existing buildings to accommodate the expansion of Orton Wistow Primary School</b> |
| <b>Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University</b>   |
| <b>October 2013</b>  |
| <b>Deadline date: September 2013</b>   |

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| Cabinet portfolio holders:   | <i>Cllr Holdich, Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University</i>  |
| Responsible Director:  | <i>Sue Westcott, Executive Director Children's Services</i>   |
| Is this a Key Decision?  | YES<br>If yes has it been included on the Forward Plan : Yes<br>Unique Key decision Reference from Forward Plan :<br>KEY/08AUG13/03 |
| Is this decision eligible for call-in?                                   | YES   |
| Does this Public report have any annex that contains exempt information? | NO  |

### R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S

The Cabinet Member, in consultation with Cllr Seaton, Cabinet Member for Resources and the Executive Director - Children's Services ; Executive Director – Strategic Resources and Head of Legal Services, is requested to :

1. Authorise the construction of an extension and remodelling of existing buildings to accommodate the expansion of Orton Wistow Primary School which shall also include funding for Information and Communications Technology (ICT), all site surveys and project management and technical advisers fees, subject to the school governors obtaining consent pursuant to s77 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1988.
2. Authorise the Executive Director of Children's Services to award the construction contract within the approved budget to the contractor representing the best value for money following a tender process.

Cllr Seaton, Cabinet Member for Resources, comments that:  
 He is happy with the decision.

#### 1. SUMMARY OF MAIN ISSUES

- 1.1 This report seeks the Cabinet Member's approval to the recommendations to enable Orton Wistow Primary School to be expanded from one and a half forms of entry (45 pupils per year group) to two forms of entry (60 pupils per year group).

- 1.2 The new extension will consist of a single storey block containing four classrooms, group rooms and toilets, which will accommodate pupils from Year 5 and Year 6.

## 2. PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide background information and seek the Cabinet Member's approval in relation to the recommendations.
- 2.2 This decision is proposed in accordance with the delegations for the Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University exercising delegated authority under paragraph 3.3.8 (a) of Part 3 of the constitution in accordance with the terms of his portfolio at paragraph 3.7(b).

## 3. TIMESCALE

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| Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan? | <b>NO</b> | If Yes, date for relevant Cabinet Meeting |  |
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## 4. DETAILS OF DECISION REQUIRED

- 4.1 The Council commissioned Enterprise Peterborough to develop a proposal for an extension scheme to be designed by Enterprise Peterborough and procured via the Council's Contract Regulations. This proposal was accepted by the Children Services Capital Projects Board on 13 June 2013 including the Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University.
- 4.2 A budget of £1,200,000 has been set for the works. Of this, £711,290.47 is from a Section 106 contribution from the development on the East of England Showground. The balance of the funding is allocated against the Primary Capital Programme within the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) (2013/14 – 2016/17).
- 4.3 Orton Wistow has increased its admission number to 60 with effect from September 2013 by using existing accommodation. The expansion is required to be open by September 2014 to accommodate this larger cohort in Year 1 and a second Reception cohort of 60.
- 4.4 The planning application for the school was submitted on 9 August 2013.
- 4.5 The proposed scheme will:
- Provide a new single storey block to accommodate four classrooms for use by Year 5 and 6 pupils
  - Provide group rooms and toilets for the pupils in the new classrooms
  - Provide additional hard play and games courts
  - Provide minor internal re-arrangements to allow the school to adapt to its increased numbers
- 4.6 The contract will be procured in accordance with the Council's Contract Regulations and once this process is complete a tender report will be compiled detailing the process and the outcome of the procurement exercise. The report will be sent to the Executive Director of Children's Services to approve the award of contract to the successful bidder.

## 5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The headteacher and representatives of the Orton Wistow Primary School Governing Body have been fully involved in the development of the specification and design for the new school site. Pupils at the school have also attended design workshops.
- 5.2 Information on the proposed scheme was posted on the Peterborough City Council and Orton Wistow Primary School websites on 8 July 2013.

- 5.3 A public exhibition was held on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2013 at the school where the designs for the expansion were on display for the public, parents, pupils and staff. The exhibition was well attended and the proposals very positively received. The Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University, the Ward Councillors and local community were invited to the exhibition.
- 5.4 Key stakeholder departments within the Council are fully briefed on the proposals. These include the Planning Department, Strategic Finance and Legal Services.
- 5.5 The extension is being built on existing school fields therefore consent is required from the Department for Education pursuant to section 77 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. As Orton Wistow is a foundation school and owns its land, the school governors are responsible for ensuring that this consent is obtained. Officers will work with them to ensure that no action is taken without this consent.

## **6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES**

- 6.1 Approval to award the construction contract to the bidder representing the best value for money following a tender process to be conducted by Enterprise Peterborough acting on behalf of Peterborough City Council.

## **7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS AND ANY RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 7.1 The Local Authority has a statutory duty to provide school places. There are significant pressures across the city, currently these pressures are particularly severe for the younger age groups and will increase year on year as pupils move through the education system.
- 7.2 Orton Wistow was previously extended in 2008 when four classrooms were built to replace existing mobiles. At this time the hall and kitchen were extended, a courtyard covered over to create a library and other improvement works undertaken. The extension was designed to facilitate a further extension, which is now required.
- 7.3 Orton Wistow is a popular and successful school and was rated as good at the most recent Ofsted inspection in December 2011. It currently has an admission number of 45 and accommodates 315 pupils. The new extension would increase the admission number to 60 and the capacity to 420.
- 7.4 Demographic forecasts show that Orton Wistow will fill to its increased capacity. It is the catchment school for the East of England Showground development where approximately 330 dwellings are planned.
- 7.5 Orton Wistow has been put forward for expansion because of the development of the East of England Showground which has provided Section 106 funding and will lead to increased pupil numbers in the area. Other factors include that it is a popular and successful school with a Governing Body that is in favour of expansion and that the previous extension to the school was built to facilitate further expansion.

## **8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

The following options were considered and rejected:

- 8.1 Not to carry out the works. This option was rejected because demographic pressures in the city require more school places to be provided. Orton Wistow has increased its admission number to 60 with effect from September 2013 by using existing accommodation. The expansion is required to be open by September 2014 to accommodate this larger cohort in Year 1 and a second Reception cohort of 60.
- 8.2 To expand another primary school in the area. This option was rejected because the Section 106 contribution from the East of England Showground development is to be spent

at Orton Wistow, the catchment school. Other projects are being developed to increase capacity at other schools, including working with the Education Funding Agency to replace St John's Church School, Orton Goldhay, with a new two form entry school.

## **9. IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 The legal and financial implications of this Cabinet Member Decision Notice are set out in the main body of the report.
- 9.2 Legal and Procurement – works will be procured through a tendering process in accordance with Peterborough City Council contract regulations. The Council's legal powers in respect of these proposals are set out in section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000, section 14 of the Education Act 1886, section 22 of the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998 and section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 to enable investment in certain educational services and facilities.
- 9.3 Environmental - The specification for the works in the new build will include a sustainable approach to ensure that the building envelope exceeds current building regulations in terms of air quality, air tightness and energy efficiency. It will also incorporate renewable technologies to achieve the 10% improvement in Part L2A Buildings Regulations.

## **10. DECLARATIONS / CONFLICTS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS GRANTED**

None.

## **11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985) and The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

School Organisation Plan 2013-2017.