

Record of officer decision

Decision title:	To approve the expenditure of up to £17k for playground improvement works at Clifford Primary School from healthy schools capital funding
Date of decision:	12 July 2019
Decision maker:	Assistant Director Education Development & Skills
Authority for delegated decision:	The authority for the specified officer to take the decision is set out in the Herefordshire Council's Constitution – Children & Families Scheme of Delegation – paragraph 63: To ensure the school estate is not subject to decay which could put the health and safety of children at risk under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 Section 22, as amended by Education Act 2002 and Education and Inspections Act 2006.
Ward:	Golden Valley North
Consultation:	<p>Consultation has already been done in respect of the overall programme with the Capital Strategy Consultative Group, comprising a number of headteachers and council officers, who agreed the programme as a constructive way forward for the use of the grant.</p> <p>The head teacher and governors of the school have all been involved in, and consulted upon, the plans.</p>
Decision made:	<p>Agreement to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To approve playground improvement works at Clifford Primary School, to be undertaken via Balfour Beatty Living Places, at an initial cost of £13,194 plus associated contingency, professional and statutory fees. A total cost up to the value of £17,000 • Fund the works from the existing healthy schools capital budget
Reasons for decision:	<p>Clifford Primary School has been identified as a school with a poor quality playground that is inhibiting children from reaching their full potential whilst at play. Re-surfacing the playground will ensure that all children are able to make the most of their active play time and meets the criteria of the healthy schools grant.</p> <p>Five schools have been identified as recipients of the capital funding. As part of the consultation it was agreed that the funding would, as far as possible, be equitably split between the five schools. The costs received lie within the split of funding agreed.</p>

<p>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</p>	<p>The works can be covered within the agreed split of funding for the school from within the healthy schools capital budget.</p> <p>There is a risk that once on site, further work is identified if the condition of the underlying playground surface is found to be poor. A contingency has been allowed to cover unforeseen elements once the existing surface has been removed. Should this contingency be insufficient than a further officer decision will be required.</p>
<p>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</p>	<p>Do nothing. This is not recommended as the playground is in poor condition, poses a potential health and safety risk to the occupants of the school and does not enable children to reach their full play potential.</p> <p>Undertake a different set of works at this or another school. The works put forward have been consulted upon and agreed as the most appropriate and necessary to meet the conditions of the grant.</p>
<p>Details of any declarations of interest made:</p>	<p>None</p>

Signed

Date: 12/07/2019