

Record of officer decision

Decision title:	To approve the expenditure of up to £84k for swimming pool demolition at Ashfield Park Primary School
Date of decision:	24/07/2020
Decision maker:	Assistant Director Education Development and Skills
Authority for delegated decision:	The authority for the specified officer to take this decision is set out in the cabinet report approved 3 April 2020 (https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=6755)
Ward:	Ross West, Ross East, Ross North
Consultation:	<p>Cabinet debated and approved a report on the 2020/21 Local Authority Schools Maintenance Programme on 3 April 2020.</p> <p>Consultation has already been done in respect of the overall programme with the Capital Strategy Consultative Group, comprising a number of head teachers and council officers, who agreed the programme as a constructive way forward for the use of the grant.</p> <p>Political groups were consulted on the programme and no objections or comments were received.</p>
Decision made:	<p>Agreement to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve the swimming pool demolition planned maintenance works at Ashfield Park Primary School, to be undertaken via Balfour Beatty at an initial cost of £67,760 plus associated contingency, professional and statutory fees. A total cost up to the value of £84k • Fund the demolition works from the existing school capital maintenance budget
Reasons for decision:	<p>Ashfield Park Primary School has a swimming pool which is in poor condition and no longer used. It comprises a tank, part above ground/part sunk, and associated pumping, filtration and heating equipment, and is covered with a brick building with a partially glazed roof (corrugated plastic). The building also includes changing facilities.</p> <p>The condition of the building is noted as poor in the most recent survey, with an indication that rectification to rebuild the surrounding structure could cost c. £250k. Additional costs would be associated with getting the boiler back into a serviceable state, introducing heating and upgrading the changing facilities. Bringing the building up to standard would not be cost effective, and would use up about 20% of the council's whole annual maintenance budget.</p> <p>A previous record of officer decision approved some enabling works at the school within a total budget of £20k. These included a pre-</p>

	<p>demolition asbestos survey, ecological survey, tree removal prior to the nesting season and to enable access at the time of demolition and the separation of the gas supply which currently feeds the pool and the mobiles on site.</p> <p>The project was subject to a competitive tendering exercise through Balfour Beatty. Costs received from tenderers were subject to scrutiny by Balfour Beatty quantity surveys prior to the sub-contractor with the most cost effective tender being recommended for appointment.</p> <p>The costs for the works will be covered using £84,000 from the schools capital maintenance budget; £38,500 of which has already been approved for expenditure against this item, the remaining £45,500 will be funded £36,500 from the contingency within the schools capital maintenance budget and £9,000 being the remaining element of approved funding for the enabling works, as the works all equate to maintenance schemes that are the responsibility of the council.</p>
<p>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</p>	<p>The works can be covered within the budget originally allocated for the swimming pool demolition as part of the planned maintenance programme plus some underspend from the enabling works and some funding from the contingency within the schools capital maintenance budget.</p> <p>There is a risk that once on site, further work is identified once the demolition starts that was not previously apparent. A contingency has been allowed to cover unforeseen elements once the demolition commences. Should this contingency be insufficient then 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 risk of these works not being completed means that the health and safety risk associated with the continued existence of the building remains.</p> <p>Repair and restore the pool into working order. This is not an option as bringing the building up to standard would not be cost effective, and would use up about 20% of the council's whole annual maintenance budget.</p>
<p>Details of any declarations of interest made:</p>	<p>None</p>

Signed:

Ceri Morgan
Assistant director education, development and skills

Date: 24 July 2020