

Summary of recommendations and executive responses [The development of a schools capital investment strategy]

On 30 September 2015, the General overview and scrutiny committee considered the item: [The development of a schools capital investment strategy](#)

The following was recommended to the executive in relation to the strategy principles:

Recommendation No. 1	Include reference to the need to be responsive to anticipated growth and reductions in communities, including the key role of local schools in the sustainability of growth villages in Core Strategy policies RA1 and RA2;			
Executive Response	The anticipated growth set out in the core strategy through plans for the city, market towns and rural areas has been referenced for each school. The assumptions about yield of pupil places from the housing developments is complicated by low movement rates of families and the fact that on average 50% of parents do not send their child to their local school.			
Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
Ensure anticipated housing growth is shown in school summaries	HoS	Jan 2016	All schools referenced	On target

Recommendation No. 2	(Within principle 8) take school journey distance, mode and time into account, not only in terms of environmental and transportation impacts but also the effect of journey times on pupils, with schools encouraged to keep school travel plans up-to-date;			
Executive Response	Travel arrangements are a key principle and discussion about over the interpretation is helpful. The Local Authority can encourage and promote to schools the importance of having up to date travel plans but there is not statutory basis to enforce. The travel times for children are regularly reviewed and the council would not normally be expecting children to have to spend more than an hour travelling to or from school.			
Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
Revise principle wording to better reflect the discussion	HoS	Jan 16	Clearer principle	On target

Recommendation No. 3	recognise what schools can and should offer, outside school hours, to local communities – such as libraries, information hubs, meeting venues, open space etc.;			
Executive Response	The wider experience for children and young people is really important. Many schools are developing additional services, including expanding range of after school activities and clubs including breakfast clubs. It is important information about the wider offer is available. The planned development of the WISH website will address this.			

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
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Recommendation No. 4	provide assurance that the authority would provide backing and support for academies to make bids for central funding to improve infrastructure;			
Executive Response	Agreed. Academy leases are generally for 125 years. The academy must make repairs and can bid to a central funding pot. The local authority will support where it is in line with the agreed strategic approach.			

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
Give support to academy bids where it is in line with agreed strategy	DCS	As required	More academy bids are successful	

Recommendation No. 5	include consideration of county boundary transitions, including dialogue with adjoining authorities to ensure that provision was not considered in isolation;			
Executive Response	The local authority recognises the importance of linking with neighbouring local authorities as it develops the strategy. Currently the authority brings in many more children than go out to other authority schools.			

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
Discuss principles and proposals with neighbouring authorities	HoS			

Recommendation No. 6	clarify how the authority would assure itself that 'There would be an appropriate number of faith places' (principle 3);			
Executive Response	This is an important issues and will involve detailed discussions with the diocese and archdiocese.			

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
Discuss and agree with appropriate representatives	HoS	Jan 16	Agreed statement	

Recommendation No. 7	revise principle 11 e. to ‘Participatory budgeting as a means of enabling local communities to assist in supporting a local school’.			
Executive Response	This clarification is helpful and may need additional explanation to assist with clarity of meaning			
Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
Revise principles	HoS	Jan 16	Included in principles	