

Record of operational decision

Decision title:	Decision to fund up to £62,785 of Section 106 monies for “Education” (Secondary) to appoint design services for the completion of a feasibility Study (6FE Expansion) & CIF Bid at John Masefield High school, Mabel’s Furlong, Ledbury, HR8 2HF.
Date of decision:	12 th December 2024
Decision maker:	Service Director Education, Skills & Learning
Authority for delegated decision:	Economy and Environment scheme of delegation line 71 Corporate Centre Directorate Scheme of Delegation line 159 Cabinet decision dated 02 March 2023 - Section 106 Portfolio of Works – S106 Delivery Proposals. Cabinet Report 02 March 2023
Ward:	Ledbury
Consultation:	Internal consultation with Quentin Mee (Head of Educational Development, HCC), Sarah Buffrey (Schools Organisation and Capital Investment Officer, HCC). External consultation with Rebecca French (School Business Manager - John Masefield High School).
Decision made:	Decision to fund up to £62,785 of Section 106 monies for “Education” (Secondary) to appoint design services for the completion of a feasibility Study (6FE Expansion) & CIF Bid at John Masefield High school, Mabel’s Furlong, Ledbury, HR8 2HF.
Reasons for decision:	<p>John Masefield High School and Sixth Form Centre is a non-selective single academy that serves the market town of Ledbury and its surrounding rural areas. It is the only secondary school in the town and lies within a residential area close to the town centre.</p> <p>Ofsted rated John Masefield High School as Good at its most recent inspection in 2022, sustaining the rating it has held since its conversion to academy status in 2011. Inspectors commented on the “rich and engaging curriculum” and “innovative personal development curriculum”. They also noted that leaders provide strong support for pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).</p> <p>Due to local development, there is a potential need to consider expansion of John Masefield High School to 6 Form Entry. Therefore, design services are required to consider the technical aspects.</p> <p>The scope of work will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake assessment of previously completed feasibility taking note of specific capacity increase recommendations (6FE).

- Assess potential design options and provide recommendations.
- Agreed recommendations to be developed into concept design (RIBA 2).
- Additional assessment to be included element to replace the five blocks of mobile classrooms currently on site with permanent build (CIF Bid).
- To provide cost build up / general programme information for developed options.
- A risk register is to be supplied by the designer as part of the completed design
- To provide overall report and presentation of findings.

The scope of work will reflect the area standards in Building Bulletin 103, Area Guidelines for Schools (BB103) and show how the solutions:

- Support accessibility;
- Maximise use of existing space;
- Show an integrated approach to the use of facilities, for example designs which allow for easy management of external hires to generate additional revenue streams and which align with the council's wider objectives to strengthen communities;
- Reduce ongoing revenue costs;

Following a similar and successful award for the expansion at Aylestone School, Gleeds Management Services Ltd have been procured through the Procure Partnerships Framework.

The scope of works will allow Herefordshire Council to understand specific site constraints and consider expansion design / cost options.

The project will be fully funded from 1 Section 106 legal agreements:

Planning Reference	GT / FIN Code	Contribution £	Expiry Date
P212375/F	FIN2188	£62,785	20/01/2033

There has been no expenditure to date.

The programme of work is due to commence in January 2025.

Responsibility for monitoring the project and managing expenditure within the total spend budget is to be with the S106 Programme Manager.

Equality Considerations

Equality duty

Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

- a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other

	<p>conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;</p> <p>b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;</p> <p>c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.</p> <p>The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services. Our providers will be made aware of their contractual requirements in regards to equality legislation.</p>
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/considerations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost variation – Project has an assigned S106 budget, which it cannot exceed. • Unforeseen events/costs – Potential unknowns or unforeseen costs could lead to overspend. The S106 contribution is finite, any overspend would need to be provided through additional means.
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	<p>Not to fund.</p> <p>This option is not recommended.</p> <p>Alternative projects were considered in conjunction with the school however this project was determined to be the best use of available funds.</p>
Details of any declarations of interest made:	<p>None declared.</p>

Signed..... Date: 11-Dec-2024

Print Name: Liz Farr

Please ensure that signatures are redacted before publishing.