
Report to Education, Sport and Leisure Committee

Date of Meeting: Thursday 19 June 2014

Subject: School Estate Review: 21st Century Learning

Report by: Head of Education

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Education, Sport and Leisure Committee with an update on the progress made in relation to the School Estate Review.
- 1.2 This report presents provides an overview of the key principles which will guide the overall review.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Education, Sport and Leisure Committee note the content of the report and note the key considerations that will guide the review.

3.0 Considerations

- 3.1 Our vision is for schools which signal the high value we place on learning which;
 - 3.1.1 people and communities can enjoy using and can be proud;
 - 3.1.2 are well designed, maintained and managed and which encourage continuous engagement with learning;
 - 3.1.3 are far more than just 'educational establishments' where quality of environment supports an accessible range of services and opportunities and which enrich the communities they serve and the lives of learners and families;
- 3.2 The Service has seconded a Depute Head Teacher to coordinate the Review.
- 3.3 The Review will be guided by the following considerations:
 - 3.3.1 Population projections based on future housing development within the local development plan means that there will be a growing school population.
 - 3.3.2 Schools are at the centre of their communities. The opportunity exists to build greater community partnership and in so doing so enhance and enrich the facilities available to those communities.

- 3.3.3 The creation of a flexible adaptable workforce with key skills and attributes are the foundation for our economic success. To facilitate this, our communities will require access to lifelong learning resources. Schools working in partnership with other agencies can provide the resources to support this process.
- 3.3.4 Spare capacity exists within some areas of the primary school estate. The spare capacity however, is not located in areas where there is a large predicted increase in the school-based population.
- 3.3.5 Some of the existing school estate is not fit for purpose and requires extensive modernisation to allow it to meet the standards required to give our young people the educational experience that they need. This issue has been accelerated by the proposed introduction of:-
 - 3.3.5.1 Free school meals for P 1 to P3
 - 3.3.5.2 Expansion of early learning and childcare for entitled two year old children
- 3.3.6 These initiatives may place particular pressures on some aspects of the school estate in terms of capacity and provision of facilities. This may well have an impact on the ability to deliver aspects of the curriculum e.g. two hours of quality PE.
- 3.3.7 Changes in technology have opened up new opportunities and potential for enhancing and broadening learning.
- 3.3.8 Some of the current catchment arrangements existing within Clackmannanshire are:-
 - 3.3.8.1 Not sustainable in terms of future projects
 - 3.3.8.2 Based on historical arrangements that are outdated
 - 3.3.8.3 Do not offer the best value for money
 - 3.3.8.4 Involve lengthy and unnecessary journeys that extend the school day
- 3.3.9 Key considerations of the Review will include:
 - 3.3.9.1 Access to suitable indoor and outdoor learning and sporting facilities
 - 3.3.9.2 Play areas within a safe environment.
 - 3.3.9.3 A suitable dining area
 - 3.3.9.4 A flexible resource area
 - 3.3.9.5 Suitable library and research facilities
 - 3.3.9.6 Accommodation that supports the active engagement of learners in the learning process.

- 3.3.10 It is planned to undertake a series of engagement events with key stakeholder in the coming months.
- 3.3.11 It is planned to develop the review report over the summer recess and present initial proposals early in the new academic year.

4.0 Sustainability Implications

- 4.1 There are no specific sustainability considerations in relation to this paper. The Review will, however, highlight any sustainability issues.

5.0 Resource Implications

- 5.1 There are no specific financial implications in relation to this report. The Review, however, will highlight any financial implications.

6.0 Exempt Reports

- 6.1 Is this report exempt? No

7.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

(1) **Our Priorities** (Please double click on the check box)

- The area has a positive image and attracts people and businesses
- Our communities are more cohesive and inclusive
- People are better skilled, trained and ready for learning and employment
- Our communities are safer
- Vulnerable people and families are supported
- Substance misuse and its effects are reduced
- Health is improving and health inequalities are reducing
- The environment is protected and enhanced for all
- The Council is effective, efficient and recognised for excellence

(2) **Council Policies** (Please detail)

Not applicable

8.0 Equalities Impact

8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?

No

9.0 Legality

9.1 In adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers.

Yes

10.0 Appendices

None

11.0 Background Papers

11.1 None

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Approved by

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