

Public Document Pack



**Service Director – Legal, Governance and
Commissioning**

Julie Muscroft

The Democracy Service
Civic Centre 3
High Street
Huddersfield
HD1 2TG

Tel: 01484 221000

Please ask for: Andrea Woodside

Email: andrea.woodside@kirklees.gov.uk

Monday 8 June 2020

Notice of Meeting

Dear Member

Cabinet

A meeting of **Cabinet** will take place remotely at **3.00 pm** on **Tuesday 16 June 2020**.

This meeting will be live webcast. To access the webcast please go to the Council's website at the time of the meeting and follow the instructions on the page.

The items which will be discussed are described in the agenda and there are reports attached which give more details.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Muscroft", on a light-colored background.

Julie Muscroft

Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning

Kirklees Council advocates openness and transparency as part of its democratic processes. Anyone wishing to record (film or audio) the public parts of the meeting should inform the Chair/Clerk of their intentions prior to the meeting.

The Cabinet members are:-

Member

Councillor Shabir Pandor
Councillor Viv Kendrick

Councillor Musarrat Khan
Councillor Naheed Mather
Councillor Peter McBride

Councillor Carole Pattison

Councillor Cathy Scott
Councillor Graham Turner
Councillor Rob Walker

Responsible For:

Leader of the Council
Cabinet Member - Children (Statutory responsibility for Children)

Cabinet Member - Health and Social Care

Cabinet Member - Greener Kirklees

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Regeneration

Cabinet Member for Learning, Aspiration and Communities

Cabinet Member - Housing and Democracy

Cabinet Member - Corporate

Cabinet Member for Culture and Environment

Emergency Cabinet Portfolio Responsibilities During Covid-19

Cllr Shabir Pandor	Leading the immediate response to the pandemic Leading recovery strategy Public Health
Cllr Peter McBride	Immediate support to business Planning the post-pandemic inclusive economy
Cllr Viv Kendrick	Statutory responsibility for children's social care Safeguarding our most vulnerable children throughout the pandemic
Cllr Musarrat Khan	Statutory responsibility for vulnerable adults Responsible for vulnerable adult social care, and safeguarding our most vulnerable adults throughout the pandemic
Cllr Carole Pattison	Working with schools to maintain services Planning for return to school
Cllr Graham Turner	Financial oversight Resources
Cllr Naheed Mather	Council staff, including staff wellbeing
Cllr Cathy Scott	Engaging and supporting voluntary sector capacity for immediate responses to the pandemic Strengthening place-based working for the future (North Kirklees)
Cllr Rob Walker	Engaging and supporting voluntary sector capacity for immediate responses to the pandemic Strengthening place-based working for the future (South Kirklees)

Agenda

Reports or Explanatory Notes Attached

Pages

1: Membership of Cabinet

To receive apologies for absence from Cabinet Members who are unable to attend this meeting.

2: Minutes of Cabinet - 21 May 2020

To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 21 May 2020.

3: Interests

1 - 2

The Councillors will be asked to say if there are any items on the Agenda in which they have disclosable pecuniary interests, which would prevent them from participating in any discussion of the items or participating in any vote upon the items, or any other interests.

4: Admission of the Public

Most debates take place in public. This only changes when there is a need to consider certain issues, for instance, commercially sensitive information or details concerning an individual. You will be told at this point whether there are any items on the Agenda which are to be discussed in private.

5: Deputations/Petitions

The Cabinet will receive petitions or deputations from members of the public.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10 (2), Members of the Public should provide at least 24 hours' notice of submitting a deputation.

6: Questions by Members of the Public (Written Questions)

Due to current Covid-19 restrictions, Members of the Public may submit written questions to the Leader and/or Cabinet Members.

Any questions should be emailed to executive.governance@kirklees.gov.uk no later than 10.00am on Monday 15 June 2020.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11(5), the period allowed for the asking and answering of public questions shall not exceed 15 minutes. A maximum of 4 questions per person may be submitted.

7: Questions by Elected Members (Oral Questions)

Cabinet will receive any questions from Elected Members (via remote access).

In accordance with Executive Procedure Rule 2.3 (2.3.1.6) a period of up to 30 minutes will be allocated.

8: 2020/21 to 2024/25 Council Capital Plan – Proposed Allocation of Capital Funding from the Directorate for Children’s Achieve & Aspire Strategic Priorities and Basic Need Baseline Funding Sections of the Capital Plan

3 - 16

To consider potential schools’ projects, for approval, to be funded from the 2020/21 to 2024/25 Achieve and Aspire Strategic Priorities and Basic Need funding sections of the Council’s Capital Plan.

Wards affected: Almondbury, Dalton, Denby Dale, Dewsbury South, Greenhead

Contact: David Martin, Corporate Landlord / Martin Wilby, Education, Place & Access

Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET

Thursday 21st May 2020

Present: Councillor Shabir Pandor (Chair)
Councillor Viv Kendrick
Councillor Musarrat Khan
Councillor Naheed Mather
Councillor Peter McBride
Councillor Carole Pattison
Councillor Cathy Scott
Councillor Graham Turner
Councillor Rob Walker

Observers: Councillor Cooper
Councillor D Hall
Councillor Lukic
Councillor Marchington
Councillor J Taylor

156 Membership of Cabinet

All Cabinet Members were present.

157 Interests

No interests were declared.

158 Admission of the Public

It was noted that exempt information was provided at Agenda Item 12 (Minute No.167 refers).

159 Questions by Elected Members (Oral Questions)

Cabinet received the following questions from Members of the Council;

Question from Councillor Cooper:

“Given Yorkshire has one of the highest ‘R numbers’ in England will Kirklees be following Government advice to reopen primary schools on 1st June?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Learning, Aspiration and Communities (Councillor Pattison)

Question from Councillor Cooper

“What tangible, practical measures will the Council be able to take swiftly to help cyclists during and after the lockdown?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Greener Kirklees (Councillor Mather)

Question from Councillor Cooper

“Why was tackling Climate Change not recognised as a significant challenge in the Government Review document produced by West Yorkshire Combined Authority in preparation for the potential West Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council.

Question from Councillor Cooper

“Is it right that a West Yorkshire Mayor can appoint an unelected Deputy Mayor from the same party, potentially on a salary of around £50k a year just as the Labour Police and Crime Commissioner has?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council.

Question from Councillor Cooper

“Given the investment company that owns Leeds Bradford Airport has called for a half million tonnes increase in its carbon emissions/year to 2050 will you drop your support for airport expansion because of your stated support for the climate emergency?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council.

Question from Councillor D Hall

“Although we’ve said that the issue of widening the access to schools is a complex one, the Government line is that schools need to plan for widening access at some point which at the earliest will be 1 June, would you agree that given the amount of money and time that the Government spends commissioning advice from some of the most eminent and well placed medical people, clinicians and scientists to give us the advice that we need, shouldn’t we listen to them rather than the Leader of the local Green Group?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Learning, Aspiration and Communities (Councillor Pattison)

Question from Councillor Lukic

“Will the Cabinet rule out fining parents if they don’t feel that it’s safe to send their children to school in June?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Learning, Aspiration and Communities (Councillor Pattison)

Question from Councillor Marchington

“With regards to the communication that the Cabinet Member is having with Head Teachers, and no schools being obliged to be open if they haven’t got the capacity to hold children, are any Head Teachers raising issues about capacity in Kirklees Schools?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Learning, Aspiration and Communities (Councillor Pattison)

Question from Councillor Marchington

“Do you feel that if we get feedback from a significant number of schools saying that this isn’t going to work, that we could feed that back to central government?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Learning, Aspiration and Communities (Councillor Pattison)

Question from Councillor Marchington

“With regard to discharge to care homes, what steps are being taken in Kirklees, in particular in regards to elderly residents that have been in hospital with covid whereby discharge back to their care home might not be appropriate? Are we looking at alternative provision and where would be the best place for that person?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care (Councillor Khan)

Question from Councillor Marchington

“We appreciate the hard work that refuse collectors have been putting in, and the reopening of household waste sites. With regards to bins not being emptied due to a change in collection patterns, how is this being monitored to ensure that bins are being collected and how are any missed collections being dealt with?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Culture and Environment (Councillor Walker)

Question from Councillor Marchington

“As lockdown is eased, how can we make sure that people who are homeless but in secure accommodation at the moment are going to be to remain in secure accommodation?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Housing and Democracy (Councillor Scott)

Question from Councillor Marchington

“Changes in travel at the moment mean that people are cycling and walking more, and working from home. We need to start planning now for how we can accommodate cycling and walking to and from places, particularly to and from work, after lockdown. How much planning can we be doing now to make sure that is in place?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Greener Kirklees (Councillor Mather)

Question from Councillor J Taylor

“Putting the Council at the heart of what we do is what the Council is all about. Could you let me know how you intend to let Councillors fully engage in the running of the Council as January was the last opportunity we had to fully engage?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council

Question from Councillor J Taylor

“There has been some controversy about the number of planning decisions that have been brought forward before the virtual planning committee has been up and running and I’ve been pleased with the way that the Council has responded to that in that where a ward member has had concerns regarding the emergency powers being used, there being agreement to put the matter to a virtual meeting, that will be running from the beginning of June. However, it has been brought to my attention by a ward colleague that they had asked for a matter to be referred to committee and that had been agreed and was due to go in April, but the decision has now been taken by officers using delegated powers, despite the Councillor’s request. Can this be looked at, there should have been some dialogue if we were going to issue the decision?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Regeneration (Councillor McBride)

Question from Councillor J Taylor

“One of the issues that we are starting to hear is the potential impact upon the housing market as a result of the pandemic. I read about a possible fall in house prices and potential disruption to the housing market. Is any work being done to look

Cabinet - 21 May 2020

at the impact of this, both upon people who may find themselves in financial difficulties and may be coming to us for housing solutions? Also, more broadly, in terms of the local plan and our ambitions regarding housing growth, and the financial impact if we do see slower housing growth?"

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Housing and Democracy (Councillor Scott)

Question from Councillor J Taylor

"Current negotiations on the trade deal with the EU don't appear to be a meeting of minds, although that could be the negotiating stance on both sides. How confident is the Council that it still has insight of the potential impacts of no deal, or whatever deal may arrive, and is work continuing on this despite the pandemic?"

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council

Question from Councillor J Taylor

With regards to the Dewsbury Town Fund, I know that conversations have been ongoing with the Government regarding town fund bids. Are we any clearer as to what we may need to do in regards to revising our proposals, both in terms of the specific bid itself which had incredibly tight timescales, but also, are we doing some reflection on what this pandemic may do to our broader vision?"

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Regeneration (Councillor McBride)

Question from Councillor J Taylor

"I'm aware that certain types of waste isn't being accepted at the tips and also that residents are unhappy about restrictions on the use of trailers and vans. Are we any clearer as to when we will get back to operating, with social distancing management, to accepting the same range of materials that we were accepting prior to the pandemic?"

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Culture and Environment (Councillor Walker)

160

Questions by Members of the Public (Written Questions)

Cabinet received the following questions from Members of the Public;

Question from Andrew Leader

"The Council has a legal duty to keep public rights of way open for public use and powers to enforce this if necessary. Government advice in Rights of Way Circular (1/09) states that councils should act quickly to investigate reports of obstruction. There are over 50 path obstructions in the Holme Valley reported over a year or more ago which the council has not yet acted on.

Cabinet - 21 May 2020

Can the Cabinet Member responsible outline what the Council's policy/procedure is for removing such obstructions, what timescales the council works to and if members of the public should be kept informed of progress?"

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Culture and Environment (Councillor Walker)

Question from Gideon Richards

"The Council stated there would be sums allocated in the budget for a Kirklees Climate Commission.

Given this was not visible as a budget item and the stresses that the COVID-19 has placed on the council, please could you confirm how much was allocated and is this still available, for what and in which periods do you expect it to be released?"

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Resources (Councillor Turner)

Question from Gideon Richards

"Does the Council have a Green Recovery Programme developed or being developed for easing of lockdown and what does it include?"

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Greener Kirklees (Councillor Mather)

Question from Gideon Richards

"What measures are the Council taking to capitalise on the historic low emissions level as we come out of lockdown? If these include walking and cycling, when will these schemes be unveiled to the public and will it include a town bike cycle scheme? Do I need to get my bike out after shielding?"

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Greener Kirklees (Councillor Mather)

Question from Gideon Richards

"The Huddersfield Blueprint consultation was finalised just before the lockdown and the devastation of the Pandemic. Given it is heavily based on a culture and events offering, will there be a review of the Blueprint for robustness against second wave or another Pandemic impacting the town?"

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Greener Kirklees (Councillor Mather)

161 Ad Hoc Scrutiny Report - Future arrangements for the Council's Residential Housing Stock

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received a representation from Councillor Marchington).

Cabinet received a report which presented the findings of the Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel – Future Arrangements for the Council's residential housing stock. It was noted that the Panel had met between December 2019 and February 2020, and the findings report arising from the investigation, including its recommendations, was presented by the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, Councillor Smaje.

Cabinet were advised that, in light of the findings of the Hackitt Review and changing risk and regulatory landscape, the Panel gave consideration to the best options for the Council in its capacity as landlord, in order to achieve the right balance between risk to the Council and outcomes for local residents.

RESOLVED - That (i) the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel (Future Arrangements for the Council's Residential Housing Stock) and (ii) the responses as set out within the Action Plan at Appendix 3 of the report, be received and noted.

162 COVID-19 - Impact upon Council finances

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received representations from Councillors Marchington and J Taylor).

Cabinet received a report which set out an update on the impact of Covid 19 upon the Council's finances, broader local government sectoral impact, national government financial support to date, and emerging actions that had been taken or would be required.

The report advised that the Government had allocated £3.2bn covid funding to date to the local government sector nationally, and that Kirklees would receive £24.3m. Cabinet noted that all local authorities were now submitting monthly financial returns to help the government assess both emerging monthly impacts and full year forecasts. It was advised that the impact of funding allocations to date would adjust the cost impact upon the Council to between £9.4m and £40.4m. The report indicated that the Council was taking early measures to release further revenue resources to financial resilience reserves in light of the predicted global economic recession and longer term impact upon the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy, which would be the subject of a separate report to Cabinet setting out in more detail specific measures being taken as part of the closure of accounts process for 2019/2020.

RESOLVED - That the report be received and noted.

163 Devolution Deal for West Yorkshire - Review, Scheme and Consultation

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received representations from Councillors D Hall and Marchington).

Cabinet received a report which sought endorsement of the Governance Review and approval that a public consultation exercise be undertaken on the draft scheme by Constituent Councils and the Combined Authority. The report acknowledged that the West Yorkshire 'minded to' Devolution Deal was announced as part of the budget on 11 March 2020, and that, subject to consultation and statutory process, this would ultimately lead to the adoption of a Mayoral Combined Authority model with additional functions, and would require an Order from the Secretary of State.

Cabinet noted that, subsequent to the budget announcement, the Combined Authority and each Constituent Council had (i) endorsed the 'minded to' Deal agreed (ii) agreed to be party to a Review of the Combined Authority's constitutional arrangements and of the functions carried out by the Combined Authority over the Combined Authority's area (as set out at para.2 of the considered report) and pursuant to S111 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (iii) authorised the Combined Authority's Managing Director, in consultation with the Chief Executive of each Constituent Council, to carry out the Review on behalf of the each Constituent Council and the Combined Authority (iv) authorised the Combined Authority's Managing Director, in consultation with the Chief Executive of each Constituent Council, and on behalf of each Constituent Council and the Combined Authority to prepare a draft Scheme for consideration by the Constituent Councils and the Combined Authority, subject to the outcome of the Review. Subsequent to these approvals, Cabinet were asked to give consideration to (i) the outcome of the statutory Review, which had been undertaken jointly by the Constituent Councils and the Combined Authority (ii) whether an Order of the Secretary of State would likely improve statutory functions and (iii) the draft Scheme.

The report advised that, subject to the authorisation, of the Combined Authority and each Constituent Council, it was proposed that a consultation and engagement exercise with partners and stakeholders was undertaken on the draft Scheme, and that a report detailing the outcome of the consultation would be considered in August 2020, prior to the submission of the responses to the Secretary of State.

The considered report and appendices set out information on (i) the process for enacting the deal (ii) the Governance Review (iii) preparing a draft scheme and (iv) the consultation process.

RESOLVED -

- 1) That the Governance Review at Appendix 1 of the considered report be noted, and that its conclusions be endorsed, including that an Order under S104 and S105 in relation to the changes to the constitutional arrangements considered in the Review, and the delegation of additional functions to the Combined Authority, would be likely to improve the exercise of statutory functions in relation to the Combined Authority's area.
- 2) That the draft scheme for the establishment of the Mayoral Combined Authority, as attached at Appendix 2 of the considered report, be noted.

Cabinet - 21 May 2020

- 3) That a public consultation exercise be undertaken on the proposals contained within the Scheme, as attached at Appendix 3 of the considered report.
- 4) That it be agreed that (i) engagement with the Combined Authority with other constituent Councils should progress as set out within the report, pursuant to (1) to (3) above and (ii) the Managing Director of the Combined Authority shall, in consultation with the Chief Executive and Leader of this Council, be authorised to take any steps to finalise the Scheme and progress the public consultation exercise.
- 5) That the updated timetable and next steps, as set out at Appendix 4 of the considered report (subject to approval by the Constituent Councils and Combined Authority) be noted, including the submission of a summary of the consultation responses to the Secretary of State in August/September 2020 and subsequently consent to any draft Order in September 2020 so that a mayoral combined authority model and associated changes may be adopted and implemented by May 2021, as set out in the Deal.
- 6) That this decision shall be exempt from call-in on the grounds of urgency, as detailed at para 3.6 of the considered report, with the agreement of the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.

164 2020/2021 Road Surfacing Programme - Large Schemes over £250k
(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received a representation from Councillor J Taylor).

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought approval of a programme of road surfacing schemes for 2020/2021. Cabinet were advised of the following road resurfacing works which were proposed within the Highways Capital Plan; A62 Leeds Road, B6432 Firth Street, A62 Castlegate, Mill Street East, Highlands Avenue/Highcroft Crescent and A6024 Woodhead Road, Holme Moss and the report provided an overview of the works in respect of each. It was noted that the schemes would be discussed with utility providers and that delays and disruption would be minimised where possible.

RESOLVED - That approval be given to the large scheme road surfacing programme.

165 The Huddersfield Blueprint – Land Assembly
(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received a representation from Councillor D Hall).

Cabinet received a report which requested that consideration be given to the options available to the Council for the acquisition of property to help deliver regeneration in one of six key areas in the Huddersfield Blueprint. Cabinet were advised that the property acquisition, which was detailed within the exempt appendix to the report would help meet the blueprint objectives and deliver regeneration in one of its six key areas (Station Gateway, St Peter's, Kingsgate and King Street, the Civic Quarter and the Piazza/Queensgate).

(Cabinet gave consideration to the exempt information at Agenda Item 12 (Minute No. 167 refers) prior to the determination of this item).

RESOLVED –

- 1) That approval be given to the acquisition of the property as illustrated within the exempt location plan and site plan red line boundary, for up to a purchase price as detailed within exempt Appendix A (para. 3.6.3).
- 2) That approval be given to the required capital finding for the property acquisition and the planning consultancy from the Strategic Acquisition Fund in the Council's approved Capital Plan for 2020/21, if external funding is either delayed or not forthcoming.
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Economy and Infrastructure) and Service Director (Legal, Governance and Commissioning) to negotiate and agree terms for the acquisition of the property as identified within the exempt appendix subject to contract, clean and marketable title free from any encumbrances, structural/condition surveys of the property, and vacant possession.
- 4) That authority be delegated to the Service Director (Legal, Governance and Commissioning) to enter into and execute any agreements or instruments relating to the acquisition of the property identified in the exempt appendix.
- 5) That authority be delegated to the Service Director (Economy and Skills) to undertake the strategic and operational management of the property following acquisition, alongside the Service Director (Legal, Governance and Commissioning)
- 6) That authority be delegated to the Service Director (Economy and Skills) to apply for planning permission and any other statutory consents that may be required to develop that property in line with the feasibility report within the exempt appendix.

166 Exclusion of the Public

RESOLVED – That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following item of business, on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

167 The Huddersfield Blueprint - Land Assembly

(Exempt information relating to Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, namely that the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information and providing greater openness and transparency in the Council's decision making).

Cabinet gave consideration to the exempt information prior to the determination of Agenda Item 10 (Minute No. 165 refers).

KIRKLEES COUNCIL			
COUNCIL/CABINET/COMMITTEE MEETINGS ETC			
DECLARATION OF INTERESTS			
Name of Councillor			
Item in which you have an interest	Type of interest (eg a disclosable pecuniary interest or an "Other Interest")	Does the nature of the interest require you to withdraw from the meeting while the item in which you have an interest is under consideration? [Y/N]	Brief description of your interest

Signed: Dated:

NOTES

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your disclosable pecuniary interests under the new national rules. Any reference to spouse or civil partner includes any person with whom you are living as husband or wife, or as if they were your civil partner.

Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain, which you, or your spouse or civil partner, undertakes.

Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your council or authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses.

Any contract which is made between you, or your spouse or your civil partner (or a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest) and your council or authority -

- under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
- which has not been fully discharged.

Any beneficial interest in land which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, have and which is within the area of your council or authority.

Any licence (alone or jointly with others) which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, holds to occupy land in the area of your council or authority for a month or longer.

Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) - the landlord is your council or authority; and the tenant is a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest.

Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -

(a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and

(b) either -

the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or

if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.



Name of meeting: Cabinet
Date: 16th June 2020
Title of report: 2020/21 to 2024/25 Council Capital Plan – Proposed allocation of capital funding from the Directorate for Children’s Achieve and Aspire Strategic Priorities and Basic Need funding sections of the Capital Plan.

Purpose of report:

This report will identify potential schools’ projects, for Member approval, to be funded from the 2020/21 to 2024/25 Achieve and Aspire Strategic Priorities and Basic Need funding sections of the Council’s Capital Plan

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	Yes - this will result in capital expenditure significantly in excess of £250K
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council’s Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)?</u>	Key Decision - Yes Public Report
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Yes
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	Mel Meggs - 4 June 2020
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	Eamonn Croston - 3 June 2020
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Julie Muscroft - 4 June 2020
Cabinet member portfolio	Cllr Viv Kendrick - Children (Statutory Responsibility for Children) Cllr Carole Pattison - Learning, Aspiration & Communities Cllr Graham Turner - Corporate

Electoral wards affected: Almondbury/Dalton/Denby Dale/
Dewsbury South/Greenhead

Ward councillors consulted: Yes

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? There are no GDPR implications arising from this report.

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report will provide information relating to specific individual school related capital projects identified to be funded from the Directorate for Children's Services Achieve and Aspire Section of the Council's Five Year Capital Plan, which was approved by Council on 12th February 2020.
- 1.2 Members will be asked to consider and approve the projects identified in the report, along with the highlighted capital allocation for each scheme.

2. Information required to take a decision

(i) Brambles Primary Academy – Temporary Modular Accommodation for September 2020 Intake

- 2.1 Members will be aware of the enforced delays to the start of construction of the new build Brambles Primary Academy on Clare Hill playing fields due to protracted legal challenges from a small group of residents. These issues continue to be worked through the appropriate legal and planning processes to resolution though some delay is now being experienced due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic which is impacting on Court and Government decision making.
- 2.2 Work on the new school has now begun in the meantime with the creation of a temporary car park currently on site through the Council's Highways Service. The new build school has been retendered, with submissions currently being evaluated with a view to contract award in July/August and a start on site in September 2020. The completed school would be available for occupation from September 2021.
- 2.3 It is important to note that whilst the new build school has been delayed, Brambles Primary Academy itself opened as a new school in September 2018 in temporary modular accommodation within the grounds of Highfields Adult Day Centre. Additional modular accommodation was added in 2019 and regrettably the ongoing delay means that further temporary accommodation will need to be provided for the September 2020 intake. Hopefully, this will be the last occasion on which this needs to occur.
- 2.4 It is proposed that existing surplus modular accommodation from Oak CE (VC) Primary School will be transferred to the current temporary Brambles Primary Academy site at Highfields. This sizeable building will be fully refurbished in order to provide classroom, dining, curriculum support space and toilets for the school. Due to the increased pupil numbers on site an improved catering kitchen will be provided to ensure that the increased demand can be met and that the quality of the provision is equivalent to other schools. New external play areas will be formed with appropriate decking and canopies for the age group concerned.
- 2.5 The modular contract has been tendered and the lowest contractor has confirmed that the required timetable can be met and that works will be carried out in compliance with the current Government requirements in respect of Covid-19. Clearance of the classrooms and initial enabling works by the PPP Provider at Oak CE (VC) Primary will be completed by mid-June thereby enabling the transfer of the accommodation to Highfields for refurbishment before the start of the new academic year in

September. The total budget requirement is £402K, which will be funded from the Achieve and Aspire Strategic Priorities section of the Council's Capital Plan for the provision of the new Brambles Primary Academy.

- 2.6 Members should note that all modular accommodation being used at Brambles Academy Primary will be re-allocated to other maintained schools in Kirklees to replace existing temporary classrooms that are coming to the end of their economic life. New equipment and furniture provided for the temporary provision will also be recycled for use in the new build school where appropriate.
- 2.7 Members are requested to note the update provided in relation to the new build school and are requested to confirm the provision of further modular accommodation for the school in order to ensure that the September 2020 intake of up to 60 pupils can be housed in appropriate accommodation at a cost to the existing budget provision of £402K.

(ii) King James's Development to Increase Capacity
(Linked to Almondbury Community School Secondary Phase Closure)

- 2.8 At a meeting on 16th July 2019 Cabinet received a detailed report on the outcomes of the proposal to change the age range at Almondbury Community School. A decision was taken to change the age range of Almondbury Community School from 3 to 16 years to 3 to 11 years with effect from September 2020 and officers were instructed to work with local schools to ensure an effective transition to the new educational arrangements identified in the report.
- 2.9 It was acknowledged in the report that it would be necessary for the Council to work closely with King James's School in Almondbury to create 30 additional planned places from September 2020. This would translate overtime to an additional 150 secondary places at the school - i.e. 5-year groups with an additional 30 places – which represents an increase in the school's number on roll from 900 to 1050.
- 2.10 In order to achieve an expansion of 150 places there was an acceptance that capital investment would be required on the King James's site in order to deliver sufficient suitable accommodation to meet the curriculum needs of the expanded school population. Working closely with the Senior Management and Governors at the school a detailed feasibility study has been undertaken to assess the impact of the additional 150 places on the school and to identify the revised accommodation needs.
- 2.11 It is not possible for the additional places to be accommodated within the existing buildings therefore a new build is required. Due to the nature of the site and its continuous development over the decades, potential new opportunities to expand the school to cater for the additional intake are limited to a small number of locations. An option appraisal has demonstrated that the most appropriate location is the area where the school's existing temporary classroom accommodation is situated.
- 2.12 The existing temporary accommodation at the school consists of two double modular buildings providing four classrooms, which were installed as an interim measure around 12 years ago to cope with increased pupil numbers at the school. The modulares are now reaching the end of their economic life and need to be replaced with new build. The additional 150 pupils require five general teaching classrooms whilst one further classroom is required due to the loss of an existing teaching space

due to an expansion of dining needed to ensure that there is sufficient space for lunchtimes. In total this means that a ten classroom block with associated support spaces, toilets and ancillary space will need to be provided.

2.13 In addition to the new build teaching block, improvements will be required to the existing accommodation in order to alleviate pressures in a number of curriculum and well-being areas that will be created by increasing the number of pupils on site from 900 to 1050. Following discussions between the school, Children's Services and the Council's Capital Development and Delivery team the following improvements have been identified:

- Expansion of the undersized dining facilities into an adjacent classroom (which is replaced in the new build block) and an associated outdoor area;
- Provision of additional science facilities to enable the full curriculum to be delivered;
- Improvements to internal and external circulation

Design proposals to address these issues are currently being developed by our external architectural consultants.

2.14 The new building will be designed to be highly efficient from an energy perspective but given the Council's Climate Emergency declaration and the drive to comply with the new requirements of Part 25b of the Building Regulations, the installation of Photovoltaics (PVs) has been included in the design.

2.15 Detailed design works is currently occurring and this has indicated a budget requirement of £5.25m for the construction of the new block and the improvements to the existing accommodation. Although King James's is an Academy school, the Council will design, procure and project manage the works required at the school, working closely with the school's Senior Management team and Governors. Subject to Member approval of the project and budget, a planning application will be submitted in late June / early July and the project will be tendered during the summer for a start on site during autumn 2020. The new build accommodation and internal improvements should be ready for the new cohort of pupils in September 2021.

2.16 Members are requested to consider and approve the capital works proposed for King James's School in order to provide sufficient and suitable accommodation for 150 additional pupils at an indicative capital cost of £5.25m.

(iii) Almondbury Community School – Primary Provision in the Greenside Building (Linked to Almondbury Community School Secondary Phase Closure)

2.17 As part of the decision to lower the age range of Almondbury Community School from age 3-16 to 3-11, which was taken by Cabinet on 16th July 2019, it was acknowledged that it would be necessary for the Council to undertake some modest capital investment in the existing Key Stage (KS) 1 building to ensure that it was fit for purpose as a primary school. This is because the current KS1 building on Fernside Avenue, commonly referred to as the Greenside Building, will need to accommodate KS2 pupils as part of its conversion to a One Form Entry (1FE) 210 place primary school.

- 2.18 Following the cabinet decision, officers have been working closely with the Almondbury Community School primary lead and the Academy sponsor, Impact Education Multi Academy Trust (MAT), to identify the changes required to the Greenside site to enable it to accommodate 210 KS 1 and 2 pupils. In addition, consideration has been given to the consequences of housing a temporary but significant bulge in pupil numbers, mainly in KS2 (Years 4, 5 & 6). The provision of modular accommodation has been explored and discounted in conjunction with Impact Education MAT, with the agreed focus being on capital investment within the Greenside building for the long term benefit of the pupils.
- 2.19 As Almondbury Community School is part of the Council's Grouped Schools Public Private Partnership 1 contract (PPP1) with Kirklees Schools Services Limited (KSSL), an external architectural company has been procured through KSSL to design a package of works for the Greenside site. The proposed works include:
- additional age-appropriate toilets where necessary plus upgraded toilets to accommodate older year groups using the building;
 - moving the nursery from the rear of the building to the front of the building to assist with nursery drop off/pick up and to enhance safeguarding;
 - adaptation of the main hall (on a temporary basis) into a teaching space to accommodate the 'bulge' pupil numbers;
 - an additional canopy around the Reception / Nursery area of school to contribute to outdoor learning where possible;
 - opening up corridor and store-room space to enhance flow around the building and maximise the size of classrooms.

KSSL will manage the design, procurement and delivery of the works through the contractual variations process. It is estimated that the package of works including all furniture, equipment and professional fees will be around £250K, with completion of all works by the start of the new academic year in early September 2020.

- 2.20 The intention of the proposed works is to support and improve the environment for teaching and learning and will provide better safeguarding of the current site. Impact Education MAT believe that implementation of the proposals will strategically place Almondbury Community School (Primary) in a better position to accommodate all primary year groups during and after the current classroom capacity deficits, whilst at the same time investing in the future of the building/site.
- 2.21 In addition to internal building works, it is also acknowledged that the conversion to a primary school will result in a curriculum that will require more external provision e.g. additional physical games / PE for KS2 pupils. In support of this, there is a proposal to increase the current external red line boundary for Greenside into the adjoining playing fields that are part of the wider Almondbury Community School. The proposed increased boundary will allow for greater outdoor space and future development of teaching/sporting and outdoor play facilities. It also has the potential to increase car parking capacity for staff and visitors in the future.
- 2.22 All of the internal and external changes required will be delivered by KSSL through the PPP1 contract variations process. Alterations to the red line boundary will be implemented through the wider deed of variation legal process that will be implemented by the contract provider to reflect the overall changes to the buildings and wider site as a result of the longer-term changes to Almondbury Community

School. It is anticipated that a capital cost of around £25K will be incurred as part of the closedown and securing of the vacated secondary provision.

- 2.23 Members are requested to consider and approve the capital proposals arising from securing suitable accommodation for a 210 place primary school in the Greenside building and the costs incurred in the closedown of the vacated secondary school buildings. In total a budget provision of £275K is requested.

(iv) Netherhall Learning Campus High School

(Linked to Almondbury Community School Secondary Phase Closure)

- 2.24 The decision to close the secondary school phase of Almondbury Community School will have an impact on other secondary schools that are located on the fringes of the Almondbury Community school catchment area, some to a lesser extent than others. Whilst the majority of pupils will transfer to King James's School, it is estimated that approximately 50 pupils will either have already transferred or will transfer to Netherhall Learning Campus High School.
- 2.25 Netherhall Learning Campus can accommodate the additional pupils from Almondbury using existing accommodation, however it has been identified that the increased pupil numbers will impact on parts of the school that are already pressurised by the existing pupil cohorts. The main areas of concern are pressures around dining at lunchtimes, internal and external circulation around school and the layout of certain areas of the building that do not make maximise use of existing teaching space.
- 2.26 Working with the Senior Management of the school, a package of works has been identified to tackle the issues raised. These include:
- The provision of a dining pod and improvements to an external area for associated seating;
 - Remodelling of accommodation to provide enhanced teaching and staff facilities;
 - The re-location of a Nurture area;
 - Improvements to internal and external circulation through changes to doors, entrances / exits and a magnetic hold back system, which will also improve Safeguarding provision.

The works will be programmed for summer 2020 subject to Cabinet approval.

- 2.27 This school is part of the Council's Grouped Schools PPP1 Contract with KSSL, hence the PPP1 Provider will manage the design, procurement and delivery of the works through the contractual variations process. It is estimated that the package of works including all furniture, equipment and professional fees will be £200K.
- 2.28 Once completed the school will have sufficient suitable accommodation to increase its Published Admission Number permanently by a minimum of 15 places subject to the usual admissions consultation process. Members are requested to approve the proposed works and budget allocation of £200K.

(v) **SEND Schools - Potential Sites Masterplan**

2.29 The Council's Capital Plan, which was approved by Council on 12th February 2020, contains a funding envelope of £28m to address the need for a significant expansion of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) places across Kirklees as identified by a High Needs Strategic Review which was recently undertaken by the Council's Children's Services.

2.30 This review demonstrated clear evidence that extensive capital investment is required in the Kirklees SEND education system to provide a significant increase in specialist school places for learners with:

- Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) issues– Between 54 -69 additional places over the next four years;
- Alternative Provision (AP) – 120 new places;
- Complex Communication and Interaction Needs (CCIN) and Autism – Between 37- 67 additional places over the next four years.

In addition around 36 additional post 16 places in total will be required for pupils with SEMH and CCIN needs.

2.31 In order to explore how best to deliver the SEND expansion of specialist school places required over the period 2020-2023, Officers commissioned through a tender process an external architectural practise to undertake an option appraisal of four sites within the borough – two existing special school sites and two potential new sites - to test and develop a number of options for the provision of the additional places required.

2.32 A high level master plan report is due for completion at end of June 2020 which will identify a number of options for consideration by officers and members, with a view to progressing one or more preferred options into a detailed appraisal around individual sites that will consider the suitability and deliverability of each proposal. The expectation is that the first new build school arising from this study could start on site in around 18 months subject to a full report on the SEND proposals being brought to Cabinet for consideration during autumn 2020.

2.33 The Council's Capital Plan includes a budget of £511K for development of projects arising from the Kirklees High Needs Strategic Review. The initial cost of the masterplan has been £35K plus internal project management fees on a time charge basis to manage the commission. The detailed option appraisal(s) that represents the next stage of the process over the next 3-6 months has an indicative budget of £150K to be funded from the stated development budget in the capital plan.

2.34 Members are requested to note progress on the SEND Masterplan and authorise the identified expenditure to develop initial proposals arising from the masterplan further with a view to returning to Cabinet with a detailed report in autumn 2020.

(vi) **Proposal for Post-16 Provision at Ravenshall Special School**

2.35 Ravenshall School caters for pupils with complex learning difficulties combined with other Special Educational Needs (SEN) such as Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD).

A number of students have more complex learning needs including sensory and physical impairments and specific learning difficulties.

- 2.36 Since the introduction of the Children and Families Act 2014, there has been a national increase in the number of children and young people with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) – the increase in Kirklees has been 25%. Additionally, EHCP plans can now be in place until the young person reaches 25 years of age, thereby seeing a further increase in demand at post 16.
- 2.37 The majority of young people with SEN attend Kirklees College (approximately 560) whilst small numbers attend New College and Greenhead. There is an urgent need to ensure that we have sufficient choice and breadth of provision within Kirklees for these learners to attend. For those learners who require a more intensive, bespoke offer, there are post-16 provisions at Woodley Special School (Complex Communication and Interaction Needs), Castle Hill Academy and Fairfield Special School (Profound, and Multiple Learning Difficulties - PMLD), and Ravenshall Special School (Complex Needs). Some learners with Social Emotional and Mental Health Difficulties (SEMHD) attend post 16 provisions at our Alternative Providers – Brian Jackson College and Employability Solutions whilst Pivot Academy is considering the establishment of a post 16 offer.
- 2.38 As demand for post-16 places have increased since the change to legislation, our data has identified the need for a further post-16 provision for learners who need a similar curriculum to the one offered at Ravenshall, with an emphasis on independence training and life skills, and who may require slightly longer here before they can access mainstream providers like Kirklees College.
- 2.39 A specification for the additional provision was drawn up in partnership with our six special school head teachers, who have been proactive in working with the Local Authority. Two schools expressed an interest in hosting this provision and a site search was initiated with a requirement that any successful site had to be near to one of the schools in order to prevent the need for extensive travel between buildings. The former Thornhill Lees Library and Information Centre was identified as being available and within a short distance away from Ravenshall School.
- 2.40 During the academic year 2019-20, Castle Hill and Ravenshall have been working together to provide an interim post-16 provision for this year's cohort while an appropriate building is made ready for the start of academic year 2020/21. Neither school has sufficient space for the existing cohort and so they are working together to ensure a smooth transition from September 2020 into new premises – planning a curriculum, jointly delivering and visiting each other so that the two cohorts become familiar with each other. This arrangement can only last for this academic year as in the next academic year there will be a further cohort to accommodate and additional pressure on the two PMLD schools for placements. It is therefore essential that the additional provision in new premises is up and running for the start of the 2020/21 academic term in early September 2020.
- 2.41 A scheme has been developed in conjunction with Ravenshall School to refurbish and remodel the former Thornhill Lees Library Information Centre accommodation for post 16 provision as it is an appropriate size and location for the needs of the learners. The building is also occupied by the Thornhill Community Centre and appropriate

adjustments to the lease arrangements have been agreed and are being progressed through Legal Services.

- 2.42 The proposed works include the creation of age appropriate teaching spaces, separated by a high quality acoustic screen to provide flexibility of learning styles, a commercial-style catering kitchen to help provide life skills and engagement with the community, a sensory learning space for use in home management life skills lessons plus toilets, staff accommodation and a separate school entrance to ensure robust safeguarding procedures can be implemented.
- 2.43 Following a negotiation process, it is proposed that the Council's KHN Property Services undertake the works starting in June for completion during the summer holidays. The cost of the project including all works, furniture, equipment and professional fees is £151K. Funding will be provided from the Achieve & Aspire One Off projects allocation of £511K for projects arising from the Kirklees SEN High Level review of future needs.
- 2.44 Members are requested to consider and approve the location of the new post 16 provision for Ravenshall School within refurbished accommodation at the former Thornhill Lees LIC at a capital cost of £151K.

(vii) Scissett Middle School

- 2.45 The 2018 Kirklees School Place Planning Document identified the need for 'a modest expansion of middle school places' in the Denby Dale, Kirkburton and Shelley school planning area. Scissett Middle School has the classroom space to increase its Published Admission Number from 195 to 200 per year group which would result in an additional 15 pupil places subject to the usual admissions consultation process. However, the school already has dining pressures which are linked to limited indoor Physical Education facilities and a shortage of usable outdoor hard surfaces for wet weather use.
- 2.46 To address these challenges and facilitate the increase in places the Council's Landscape Architects Service have worked with the school to identify works to extend an outside play area, make improvements to an existing Multi Use Games Area to allow increased all weather use, install external canopies and provide outdoor dining furniture. This has been estimated at a total cost of £210K including all professional fees and contingencies.
- 2.47 If approved, the Council would fund the proposed works using Section 106 Developer contributions allocated to providing additional school places within the vicinity of the developments. The current evidence indicates that there are no other additional places needed in the area at this time and further section 106 contributions are expected to help address future needs should they arise.
- 2.48 Members are requested to consider and approve the use of Section 106 contributions to deliver additional school places at Scissett Middle School at a cost of £210K.

3 Implications for the Council

3.1 Working with People

Should the proposals be approved, officers will work in close partnership with the schools and staff to ensure the delivery of excellent facilities that will help secure the outcomes for children both now and in the future.

3.2 Working with Partners

In preparing the proposals for King James's, Almondbury Community School (Primary), Netherhall Learning Campus High School, Brambles Primary Academy and Scissett Middle, Children's Services and Capital Delivery officers have worked closely with the Senior Management of each school and their respective Academy representatives to agree a package of works for each school. For example, at Almondbury Community School (Primary) Impact Education Trust has worked closely with Senior Managers at the school and Council Officers to develop and agree the scope of the building improvements. The package of works at Ravenshall School has been drawn up and agreed with the Head teacher of the school.

The SEN Masterplan has been produced in collaboration with Special School representatives who have played an active part in the tender process for the selection of the architectural practise and who have been consulted by the successful practise during the development of the initial phase 1 masterplan document.

3.3 Place Based Working

Schools are at the centre of their communities, delivering essential educational, health and well-being activities for children, parents and the wider community. The proposals in this report will deliver high quality school places to meet the needs of local pupils and will ensure that learners with SEND have access to a range of specialist provision across a variety of settings.

3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

The new build accommodation being provided will be constructed using modern, energy efficient materials and equipment that will contribute to an ever reducing carbon footprint for the Council and conform to the requirements of Part 25b of the Building Regulations. Where applicable, opportunities will be taken to install green technologies such as PVs at King James's.

3.5 Improving outcomes for children

The proposals in this report are intended to improve outcomes for children by providing access to high quality facilities that enable the full breadth of the curriculum offer to be delivered thereby ensuring that young people have the widest opportunities to fulfil their aspirations and ambitions.

3.6 Financial implications

The modular accommodation for Brambles Primary Academy will be funded from the existing capital provision within the Council's Capital Plan for the new build school.

The proposals for King James's High, Almondbury Community School (Primary) and Netherhall Learning Campus High School will be funded from existing multi-year council capital plan resources and will be formally incorporated into the forthcoming Council 2019/20 financial outturn and rollover report which will include a re-fresh of the Council's multi-year capital plans.

The SEN Masterplan and works for Ravenshall Special School will be funded from the existing capital allocation for developing and implementing proposals arising from the High Needs Strategic Review of SEND provision.

The package of improvements for Scissett Middle School will be funded from Section 106 contributions relating to developments in the vicinity.

4 Consultees and their opinions

The Almondbury Community School Secondary phase closure was subject to extensive public and Member consultation as detailed in the cabinet report "Future Options for Almondbury Community School – Final Decision Report" considered by Cabinet on 16th July 2019.

The High Needs Strategic Review was also subject to extensive public and Member consultation as detailed in the cabinet report "Summary of findings from the Special Educational Needs and/or Disability (SEND) High Needs Strategic Review" which was considered by Cabinet on 20th February 2018.

The new school for Brambles Primary Academy was subject to local member consultant and two planning applications – outline and full – during 2017 and 2018 and the provision of the modular accommodation has also been subject to the planning process during 2018, 2019 and 2020.

Local Ward Members have been informed of the proposed development of a post 16 provision for Ravenshall Special School in the former Library and Information Centre at Thornhill Lees and the proposals for Scissett Middle School, with no objections received.

5 Next steps and timelines

Subject to approval of the proposed schemes, officers from the Economy and Skills Service will ensure that the projects concerned are developed, designed, procured and implemented in accordance with the Council's Financial and Contracts Procedure Rules.

6 Officer recommendations and reasons

Members are requested to:

- (a) Consider and approve the proposed capital allocation of £402K for the provision of modular accommodation for Brambles Primary Academy to ensure that there is sufficient space for the September 2020 intake;

- (b) Consider and approve the proposed capital allocation of £5.25m for the implementation of new build and remodelling works at King James's School to enable the provision of 150 additional secondary school places;
- (c) Consider and approve the proposed capital allocation of £275K for the implementation of a package of works required to ensure that the Greenside Building at Almondbury Community School (Primary) is fit for purpose for a 210 place primary school;
- (d) Consider and approve the proposed capital allocations of £200K for the implementation of a package of works to enable the existing accommodation at Netherhall Learning Campus High School to be adapted to accommodate increased pupil numbers and implement a PAN increase of 15 places;
- (e) Consider and approve the proposed capital allocations of £151K for the conversion of the former Thornhill Lees Library and Information Centre to a post 16 centre for Ravenshall Special School;
- (f) Note the progress and expenditure incurred to date on the development of an SEN Masterplan to deliver additional specialist SEND places across the system in Kirklees and approve the expenditure of £150K of further development funds to enable the masterplan to move into a phase 2 study;
- (g) Consider and approve the proposed use of Section 106 funds to implement a package of works at Scissett Middle School at a cost of £210K to enable its PAN to increase from 195 to 200.

By approving these proposals the Local Authority will meet its statutory need to provide high quality school places for all pupils and will improve outcomes for learners with SEND.

7 Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations

We are delighted to support the proposals in this report which bring significant investment in our local education system, supporting our schools for the benefit of Kirklees children and their families.

Investment in local provision for children with Special Educational Need and Disabilities (SEND) is sorely needed and this proposal for post 16 provision is small but important in our overall ambition for high quality local SEND provision in Kirklees.

There are a number of schemes included in this report relating to schools in South Huddersfield which collectively provide a once in a generation opportunity for investment to ensure there is a choice for parents of high-quality fit for purpose education provision.

Our absolute priority in bringing forward these proposals for Almondbury Community School was to help children and young people fulfil their potential. We want all children to have the best start in life and to benefit from excellent standards of care and education, both now and in the future.

We said we would work with King James's School to create additional places and we said we would invest in the Greenside (Key Stage 1) building at Almondbury Community School and the proposals in this report deliver on these promises.

We said that no children would be left without an alternative pathway for continuing their education and we have continued to work with the strong family of schools in the area to offer a school place which matches parents' preferences. On top of the investment already made at Newsome High School, the proposals for King James's School and Netherhall Learning Campus will enhance the facilities available for local pupils now and for generations to come.

So we are happy to recommend that Cabinet considers and approves the officer's recommendation set out at Section 6 of this report.

8 Contact officers

David Martin – Head of Service for Corporate Landlord & Capital – Economy and Skills - Tel: 01484 221000 – Email: david.martin@kirklees.gov.uk

Martin Wilby – Senior Strategic Manager – Education, Places and Access – Tel: 01484 221000 – martin.wilby@kirklees.gov.uk

9 Background Papers and History of Decisions

20 February 2018 - Cabinet Report – Summary of findings from the Special Educational Needs and/or Disability (SEND) High Needs Strategic Review.

16th July 2019 – Cabinet report - Future Options for Almondbury Community School – Final Decision Report.

12th February 2020 - Council – Approval of Five Year Council Capital Plan.

10 Service Directors responsible

Angela Blake – Service Director – Economy & Skills - Tel: 01484 221000 – Email: angela.blake@kirklees.gov.uk

Jo-Anne Sanders – Service Director – Learning and Early Support - Tel: 01484 221000 – Email: jo-anne.sanders@kirklees.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank