

CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, CULTURE AND LEISURE SERVICES

**Venue: Town Hall, Moorgate
Street, Rotherham.**

Date: Tuesday, 11 January 2005

Time: 8.30 a.m.

A G E N D A

1. To determine if the following matters are to be considered under the categories suggested in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.
2. To determine any item which the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.
3. Minutes of previous meetings (Pages 1 - 7)
- to receive the minutes
4. Prosecution Policy: Non-Attendance at School (Pages 8 - 10)
- to agree the adoption of the policy
5. Rotherham Learning Grid (Pages 11 - 12)
6. Rolling Out the Archives Project (Pages 13 - 15)
- to approve a grant to achieve the rolling out of the Archives Project
7. Capital Investment in Schools and Future Planning (Pages 16 - 18)
- to note a decision by DFES and to consider an additional allocation to meet half of the funding gap
8. Date and Time of Next Meeting

**CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, CULTURE AND LEISURE SERVICES
TUESDAY, 14TH DECEMBER, 2004**

Present:- Councillor Boyes (in the Chair); Councillors Austen and Littleboy.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors (none).

116. DFES FIVE YEAR STRATEGY: CONSULTATION ON PROPOSALS FOR FOUNDATION SCHOOLS, EXPANDING POPULAR AND SUCCESSFUL SCHOOLS AND ADDING SIXTH FORMS

Consideration was given to a report of the Acting Strategic Leader Resources and Information containing details of the DfES consultation on proposed changes to regulations and guidance in line with the content of its Five Year Strategy, particularly in relation to secondary schools having 'a greater independence'.

The DfES' Five Year Strategy document includes a section (Chapter 4) on Independent Specialist Schools with stated goals of more choice for parents/pupils and independence for schools.

The strategy is proposing a system where there will be (amongst other things):-

- Freedom for all secondary schools to own their land and buildings, manage their assets, employ their staff, improve their governing bodies, and forge partnerships with outside sponsors and educational foundations.
- More places in popular schools

In order to facilitate the above, the DfES is proposing changes to existing regulations and guidance. There will be new regulations, which will amend and add to three existing sets of regulations:

The Education (Change of Category of Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2000 (and subsequent amendments);;

The School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2003;

The Education (School Organisation Proposals) (England) Regulations 1999 (and subsequent amendments);

There will also be changes to the guidance, which the DfES issues (particularly to School Organisation Committees) in respect of school organisation proposals.

The report outlined the proposed changes and raised questions to be considered by the Council in response to the consultation.

There was significant disquiet at the changes proposed and it was agreed the Acting Strategic Leader should reply accordingly.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received.

(2) That a response be made to the DfES consultation, as outlined in Section 7 of the report now submitted.

(3) That the report be forwarded to the School Organisation Committee for information.

117. PROPOSAL TO AMALGAMATE REDSCOPE INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOLS

Further to Minute No. 89 of a meeting of the Cabinet Member, Education, Culture and Leisure Services held on 2nd November 2004, consideration was given to a report of the Manager, School Organisation, Planning and Development which gave details of the outcome of the consultation process.

Meetings have taken place between officers and advisers of the Programme Area and local ward members, the relevant governing bodies, staff and parents. Information given to consultees, together with minutes and notes of meetings was submitted as Appendix A and B.

It is proposed to make a prescribed alteration to Redscope Infant and Junior Schools from April 2005. Redscope Junior School will be closed and there will be a change in the age range of Redscope Infant School from its existing 3-7 years to 3-11 years.

The School would have 420 places (R-Y6) with a nursery of up to 52 places (26 FTE). This would mean an admission number of 60.

The report set out the major theme of the proposal, together with the principal advantages of the amalgamation.

Resolved:- That statutory notices are published on 5th January, 2005 containing the proposals as outlined in Section 1 of Appendix A now submitted.

118. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS REPORT

Consideration was given to a Performance Indicator report for 2004/05, which outlined performance at the end of the second quarter 2004/05 against targets, with comparisons against 2003/04 actuals and 2002/03 All England top quartile authorities.

Appendix B to the report provided an updated summary of information

regarding action being taken to address performance in areas where there is a significant shortfall against targets.

Twenty-four Performance Indicators are currently reported quarterly for Education, Culture and Leisure Services.

In the second quarter it has been possible to project the year-end outturn performance of 21 ECALS indicators, which are then broken down into 31 component parts.

Members' attention is drawn to the "Risk" column, representing the probability of these components meeting their 2004/05 published target.

Where risk is highlighted as "High" action plans to address performance are in place. Appendix B – Performance Indicator Consolidated Action Plan provided a second quarter update against original action plans.

The report outlined a summary of the risk assessments.

A further report about the Programme Area's response to complaints received would be considered early in 2005.

Resolved:- (1) That the performance indicators report be received.

(2) That the Consolidated Action Plan be approved.

119. SCHOOLS PFI PROJECT UPDATE: AUTUMN TERM 2004

Consideration was given to a report of the Strategic Leader Resources and Information containing details of the PFI Project update: for the Autumn Term 2004.

The Schools PFI Project involves a partnership between the Council and Transform Schools (Rotherham) Ltd. The contract includes the rebuilding/refurbishment of 15 schools and their facilities management for a period of 30 years from 1st April 2004.

By December 2006, there will be new schools for Coleridge, Ferham, Kimberworth, Maltby Craggs Infant, Maltby Craggs Junior, Meadowhall and Thornhill Primaries; and Winterhill, Wingfield and Wath Secondaries.

There will be significantly remodelled schools at Clifton, Thrybergh and Wickersley Secondaries; and East Dene and Wath Central Primaries.

Additionally, new key Young Persons' Centres will be provided at Thornhill Primary and Wath Secondary; and significantly refurbished centres at Wingfield, Clifton, Thrybergh and Winterhill Secondary schools.

The appendix describes progress with the Construction Facilities Management and Building Learning Communities, the Not for Profit

Company.

Resolved:- That progress on the Schools PFI Project is noted.

120. STRATEGIC AREA REVIEW OF SOUTH YORKSHIRE 2004 FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONSULTATION RESPONSE

Consideration was given to a report of the Strategic Leader School Improvement containing details of the findings, recommendations and consultation response on the Strategic Area Review of South Yorkshire 2004.

Strategic Area Reviews (StAR) are a key element of the Government strategy for reforming non-higher post-16 education and training. It is the responsibility of the Learning and Skills Council South Yorkshire (LSC SY) to undertake this review in South Yorkshire.

The main purpose of the StAR is to make sure that the mix of education and training provision being supported by LSC SY meets the needs and improves the choices of learners, employers and the wider community.

LSC SY have, over the past year, been working with a number of key partners to examine current non-higher post 16 education and training delivery patterns to identify likely future demand and changes that will need to be made to ensure future delivery best meets the needs identified and improves the choices available.

This work has resulted in the publication of a draft report – Strategic Area Review of South Yorkshire 2004 – a consultation document. The consultation is to be undertaken during November and December 2004 with a closing date of 31st December 2004.

Appendix A to the report draws directly from the StAR consultation report and covers:

1. Specific issues relating to Rotherham;
2. Specific issues relating to the Dearne Valley Partnership
3. General issues having implications for Rotherham not covered in (1) and (2) above

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received.

(2) That the proposed responses to the consultation questions, as contained in Appendix B now submitted, and their submission to LSC as the formal response from Rotherham Council, be agreed.

121. SUMMER 2004 FOUNDATION AND KEY STAGES 1 AND 2 ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Consideration was given to a report of the Acting Principal School

Improvement Adviser which gave details of attainment in Rotherham primary schools in 2004.

The report detailed assessment results in the following areas of the curriculum:-

- Foundation Stage
- Key Stage 1
- Key Stage 2
- 1998-2003 Key Stage 2 Comparisons
- Floor Targets apply to English, mathematics and science

- Key Stage 2 aggregate scores 1998-2004
 - (a) Rotherham performance compared with England and local LEA's
 - (b) Statistical Neighbours LEA's
 - (c) Statistical Neighbour LEA's – aggregate scores

An Improvement Action Plan, addressing the weakest areas of capability, has been compiled arising from the 2004 primary performance data.

A further report about the Key Stage 1 results would be submitted to a future meeting.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received.

(2) That the emerging declining trends in Key Stage 1, be noted with concern, and the improvements in Key Stage 2, most particularly at L4+ be welcomed.

(3) That all schools be encouraged to improve their results, and particularly those not currently meeting the DfES target of 65%.

**CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, CULTURE AND LEISURE SERVICES
TUESDAY, 21ST DECEMBER, 2004**

Present:- Councillor Boyes (in the Chair); Councillors Austen and Littleboy.

122. MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of meetings held on 30th November and 7th December, 2004 were agreed as a correct record.

123. MATTER ARISING - 7TH DECEMBER, 2004

New Public Library Service Standards

The Cabinet Member, Education, Culture and Leisure Services reported verbally that the recent Comprehensive Performance Assessment score for the Programme Area, which will remain unchanged in part until the next inspection, had increased slightly due to the work in processing SEN statements within eighteen weeks and on tackling truancy.

124. STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The minutes of a meeting of the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education held on 25th November, 2004 were received.

125. BUDGET MONITORING REPORT AS AT NOVEMBER, 2004

Consideration was given to the sixth Budget Monitoring Report for the Programme Area in 2004/05, with a current forecast to overspend against budget for the financial year by £397k (0.25%). This position remained unchanged from the previous month.

This relates to budget pressures mainly in Culture and Leisure Services (£330k) and within the Education Services (£67k).

The following budget pressures are under evaluation:-

- Education Transport
- Human Resources (Schools Traded Service)
- Recreation and Sport (Indoor Sports)

The meeting discussed the level of action being pursued in order to recover this position, whilst acknowledging the present position in terms of the level of budgetary cost applied to the Programme Area in the past year and the closure of pools.

The meeting was informed of a recent visit to the Department for Culture,

Media and Sport (DCMS) to seek further advice on the way forward on the next stages of the procurement of the new pools. There would be a report to members in January 2005.

Resolved:- (1) That the forecast outturn for 2004/05 based on actual costs to 30th November and forecast costs to the end of March 2005 be noted.

(2) That a report be submitted to a future meeting containing details of the different options for 2005/06.

126. PETITION - HELP! - SAVE KEPPEL'S COLUMN

Consideration was given to a petition containing 728 signatures regarding a request to save Keppel's Column.

Resolved:- That the Manager, Libraries, Museums and Arts, write to the organiser of the petition to acknowledge receipt, and to inform of the present position in relation to a decision already taken at a meeting of the Cabinet Member, Education, Culture and Leisure Services held on 2nd November, 2004 (Minute No. 94) to prepare a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund towards the total cost of repair and refurbishment. of the column.

(The Chairman authorised consideration of the following item to enable members to be informed and any necessary action taken).

127. TENDER EVALUATION - CATERING CONTRACT

The Manager, Libraries, Museums and Arts gave a verbal update on the recent evaluation process following the submission of tenders.

One tender had been received for Clifton Park Museum café and none for the Arts Centre café.

Resolved:- That a report on proposed options be submitted in January, 2005 when further work has been carried out on points being raised with the Company.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member and Advisers
2.	Date:	11 th January 2004
3.	Title:	Prosecution Policy: non-attendance at school
4.	Programme Area:	ECALS – Inclusion Services

- 5. Summary:** This is a new policy which demonstrates how the Council fulfils its statutory duty to ensure that all pupils attend school and have the opportunity to achieve. The final sanction in cases of non-attendance is prosecution of the parents/carers.

6. Recommendations:

- **The Council adopts the policy**
- **The policy is circulated to all schools and their Governing Bodies with a recommendation to ensure that their procedures conform with this policy.**

7. **Proposals and Details:** Non attendance at school for any reason is an important issue that must be treated seriously. The reasons for a pupil's non-attendance can be complex. Each situation must be assessed and intervention strategies applied to resolve issues. In most cases Prosecution will be pursued as a last resort when intervention strategies have failed. In some cases Prosecution or the issuing of a Fixed Penalty Notice may be an appropriate response to prevent the situation deteriorating.

Under Section 7 of the Education Act 1996 the parent is responsible for making sure that their child of compulsory school age receives efficient full time education. This can be by regular school attendance or education otherwise (Home Based Education provided by the parent or their representative).

If it appears to the Local Education Authority that a child of compulsory school age is not receiving a suitable education either by regular attendance at school or otherwise then under Section 437 of the Education Act 1996 they must begin procedures for issuing a School Attendance Order.

Rotherham Education Welfare Service has a Partnership/Service Level Agreement with schools which sets out how and when referrals should be made to the Service. It also has a clear Enforcement Process for the prosecution of parents.

8. **Finance:** There are no financial implications as the implementation of this policy is through the current resources of the Education Welfare Service.

9. **Risks and Uncertainties:**

- It is good practice for the Education Authority to have a prosecution policy and procedures in order to implement Section 437 and Section 444(1) (a) A and B of the Education Act 1996 to begin procedures for issuing a School Attendance Order.
- Attendance policy and practice will contribute to the inspection of schools by Ofsted.
- Attendance policy, practice and support in Rotherham will contribute to judgements in an LEA inspection by Ofsted: attendance; welfare, child protection; social inclusion
- Attendance policy, practice and support contributes to D20/01 (Inclusion), D23/01 (Developing children and young people's services), 28/01 (Equalities), 29/01 (Human Rights) in the Education Culture and Leisure Services Programme Area Risk Register

10. **Policy and Performance Implications:** This policy addresses the Council's priority to invest in people, to "Provide an excellent environment for people to fulfil their potential by enhancing people's skills, confidence, and aspirations to fully participate in and benefit from the regeneration"

This policy focuses on ensuring that Rotherham pupils at risk of non attendance at school for a variety of reasons are identified and systems in place to ensure that each is able to access and receive a suitable education. This will enhance the life chances of some of the vulnerable children and young people in the borough.

- 11. Background Papers and Consultation:** Education Act 1996 Section 437 and Section 444(1) (a) A and B

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ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1. **Meeting:** Cabinet members and advisors, Education, Culture and Leisure Services
2. **Date of meeting:** 10 January 2005
3. **Title:** Rotherham Learning Grid progress update
4. **Originating Officer:** RBT
5. **Issue:** 1.0

6. Summary:

The project completed 92 of the 104 circuits by the 17/12.

There are now 94 circuits completed.

See below for details of the outstanding progress.

7. Clearance/consultation:

Regular updates to be requested as required.

Programme Board meetings have been taking place throughout the lifecycle of the project. A final project closure meeting is to be held at the end of January.

8. Timing:

Reports and Programme Board Meeting monthly

9. Background:

For the past 3 years, Rotherham secondary schools have had their curriculum network connected to the Internet. All the schools were satisfied with the service although there were concerns regarding virus protection and sustainability. A key issue with the previous service was the bandwidth to the Internet which was insufficient to support current and expected future growth.

For the past 18 months approximately, 23 primary schools have also been connected to the Internet through BT (Metro VPN), funded by the National Grid for Learning (NGfL) budget (Broadband). This was valuable to the primary schools but expensive to maintain (approx £8k pa) and so a viable, cost-effective alternative was sought for all schools, with the LEA's support.

The government has set a target date of September 2005 for all primary schools to be provided with 2Mb Internet access and all secondary schools to be provided with 10Mb Internet access.

The Rotherham Learning Grid (RLG) project was established to meet these objectives.

The project will ultimately deliver a network infrastructure providing a 10Mb connection, to 104 primary schools, into the council's central-backbone network, and a server farm providing a standard resilient e-mail solution, including: filtering and monitoring functionality; a secure network authentication solution; a cached 10Mbps Internet connection that is filtered using URL blocking and monitoring; an area for schools to locate their web-sites; and an anti-virus solution.

10. Argument:

The progress to date is:

- 94 of the 104 circuits required are completed.
- There are 4 scheduled for completion this week.

- There will be 6 remaining to be completed.
 - Maltby Craggs – requested to be delayed by the LEA. Due for completion by the end of March.
 - Laughton Primary – RMBC damaged the BT duct. Needs road closure to repair; remedial work to be commenced on 17/01/05. Due for completion by the end of the second week of February.
 - St Gerard's Primary and Thrybergh Primary – asbestos found in ducting. Due for completion by end January.
 - Thrybergh Fullerton – fibre installed and found to be damaged. Awaiting repair. Due for completion by end January.
 - Maltby Manor Infants – fibre blockages. Awaiting unblocking. Due for completion by the second week of February.
- 60% of LAN configurations have been completed. NB: this work is carried out FOC by RBT's Schools Connect team (approx. £1000 of work per school).
- The network has been configured to allow all the secondaries to migrate off the RM solution. Documentation has been provided to the schools to explain the work that is required by them to convert across to the RLG. RBT has provided documentation explaining what is required and has offered to assist where required.
- The project is on budget.
- Additional services have been secured for the project, namely Espresso software will be available across the Learning Grid.

11. Risks and uncertainties:

Risk: the secondaries do not carry out the work to enable the RM solution which the RLG is replacing to be terminated

12. Finance:

The cost to RMBC for this three-year managed service is £3.1m.

13. Sustainability:

14. Wards affected:

All

15. References:

16. Presentation:

All Rotherham schools will get Broadband 9 months ahead of government targets. Primary schools will receive 5 times the minimum required speed.

17. Recommendations:

Progress is noted.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	ECALS Cabinet Member and Advisers
2.	Date:	11th January 2005
3.	Title:	Rolling out the Archives – All Wards
4.	Programme Area:	ECALS

5. **Summary:** The Rolling out the Archives project has been developed to address outstanding issues of preservation and access to archives held by RMBC, and a bid is being prepared for submission to the Heritage Lottery fund for a grant towards the total project costs; evidence of the Council's support for the project is required.

6. **Recommendation:**

That the bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a grant to achieve the Rolling out the Archives project be approved.

7. **Proposals and Details:** The Rolling out the Archives project will kick-start work in three key areas for the Archives and Local Studies Service which have become immobilised through lack of resources. The Service aims to collect manuscript and printed records of all aspects of life within Rotherham Metropolitan Borough from the earliest times to the present day and to make these available for study by customers of all ages.

At present, owing to limitations in resources over a number of years, a substantial backlog of uncatalogued and inaccessible material has built up, stored in largely unsuitable conditions. The holdings of the service are little known and consequently have a low level of usage compared to their potential usage by our existing and new customers.

The inspection during 2003 by the Historical Manuscripts Commission (now The National Archives) compared Rotherham Archives & Local Studies Service with the requirements of the National Archives Standard for Places of Deposit for Public Records. Some of the recommendations of this report have already been implemented, but it also clearly identifies areas of further necessary improvement. At present Rotherham's Place of Deposit status has been approved until the end of 2006, but it will be withdrawn after this time if the recommendations of the inspection report are not met in full. Withdrawal of PoD status will have a significant impact on the Service, and on the standing of RMBC with the Department for Constitutional Affairs (as PoD status is designated by the Lord Chancellor).

Attention is drawn particularly to the following issues:

- ❖ The storage conditions pose a threat of deterioration to unique and irreplaceable collections in the care of RMBC.
 - ❖ The present nature of the storage makes it difficult to store collections in an efficient manner, to the detriment of effective retrieval for public consultation.
 - ❖ The low proportion of collections that have been catalogued is an obstruction to learning as it hinders access to the information contained in the archives by customers.
 - ❖ The potential to reach a wider audience through developmental work (eg. with schools and community groups) and through online learning materials.
8. **Finance:** The cost of the Rolling out the Archives project is estimated at £240,000 (including contingency). Approximately 20% of the total project cost will cover the long-term preservation of the holdings, 35% will encourage more people to be involved with their documentary heritage, and 45% will ensure that all can learn about and have access to their documentary heritage.

Application will be made to HLF for 90% of the total project cost; the remainder will come from RMBC's match-funding, chiefly in in-kind contributions.

9. **Risks and Uncertainties:** There is a risk that the bid for an HLF grant will be unsuccessful; however following consultation with the HLF development team there is a good chance of an award.
10. **Policy and Performance Agenda Implications:** The Rolling out the Archives project will be a contribution to the following priorities of the community strategy: education and training opportunities to build skills and capabilities; culture, leisure and recreation activities open to all; local needs met locally; social inclusion and equity; partnership and participative approach.

Approximately a fifth of our customers visiting the Service in person, and just under half of our customers using the enquiry services, come from outside the Borough (including overseas). This contributes to regeneration, transforming the image of the Borough and addressing negative views, and also generates tourist income in the local economy. The anticipated increase in customers enabled by Rolling out the Archives will increase this contribution.

11. **Background Papers and Consultation:** The report has been approved by the [Acting Executive Director of ECALS] and the Strategic Leader CL&LL.

Contact Name:

Sarah Wickham, Principal Officer Archives & Local Studies Service, x3612, sarah.wickham@rotherham.gov.uk

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member and Advisers Education, Culture and Leisure Services
2.	Date:	11 th January 2005
3.	Title:	Capital Investment in Schools and Future Planning
4.	Programme Area:	Education, Culture and Leisure Services

5. **Summary:** The DFES has written to all Councils informing them of the details of their capital allocations until 2007/08; and to advise Councils in which phase Rotherham will be placed for Building Schools for the Future (BSF). From 2005/06 Rotherham will receive just over £4m per annum to tackle sufficiency, condition and suitability improvements in its community schools. Additionally schools will receive £3m to £4m per annum devolved formula capital grant. Voluntary Aided Schools receive a smaller central allocation, of over £200,000 per year. Rotherham will also join the BSF programme by 2011. This would cover the renewal/refurbishment of all secondary schools in the Borough.

The decision on Rotherham's late inclusion in the BSF programme means that there will need to be greater investment in simply maintaining the secondary schools in a reasonably safe, warm and dry condition.

With approximately £35m worth of work for all schools to be planned for over the next 3 years, there is an overall funding gap of around £12m.

6. **Recommendations:** It is recommended that the DFES decision is noted and that the Council considers an additional allocation of £6m (£2m per annum) from 2005/06 to 2007/08 to meet half of the funding gap. This will contribute to the condition and suitability needs of secondary and primary schools throughout the Borough.

- 7. Proposals and Details:** The Council receives its annual capital allocation from the DFES in 2 principal tranches of funding. One is directed to the Council itself and the other to the schools through devolved formula capital grant.

Every school identifies its premises priorities with the assistance of a building manager from Economic and Development Services. These priorities are then costed for each school in its individual asset management plan. Totals for all schools for each year from 2005/06 are:

	05/06	06/07	07/08	Total
Primary	11.0	7.2	5.9	24.1
Secondary	6.2	2.4	2.3	10.9
Total	17.2	9.6	8.2	35.0

Investment from the DFES is:

	05/06	06/07	07/08	Total
Council	4.1	4.1	4.2	12.4
Schools	3.2	3.4	3.5	10.1
Total	7.3	7.5	7.7	22.5

This leaves a gap of £12.5m over the 3 year period.

To a significant extent the gap has been caused because of the Council's later inclusion in the BSF programme, resulting in expenditure to maintain the secondary schools in a reasonable condition. This is a prerequisite for raising standards of children's achievement as this can only happen in a safe, warm and dry infrastructure. Additionally the DFES did not allocate the Council Targeted Capital Funding, which would have meant new buildings for Herringthorpe Infant and Junior schools and Anston Brook Primary. Alternative plans must now be made with these schools to tackle the health and safety issues still presenting.

It is proposed that an additional allocation of £6m (£2m per annum) over the next 3 years would make the investment gap manageable. Building Managers and LEA Officers will work with schools in order to manage the premises priorities in a sensible manner.

It would enable essential condition and suitability work to be carried out in schools throughout the Borough in both a strategic and planned way.

It should be noted that the majority of work at Special Schools is being carried with the aid of £5m Targeted Capital Funding awarded by the DFES, previously.

- 8. Finance:** The financial details are described in section 7.

9. **Risks and Uncertainties:** The principal risk is that essential condition and suitability work is not completed in a planned way because of insufficient funding. Standards of achievement may decrease because pupils are not learning in a safe, dry and warm environment. The principal uncertainty is exactly when the Council will be allowed to begin its BSF programme. Currently it would be before 2011 at the latest.
10. **Policy and Performance Agenda Implications:** The funding from the DFES and any additional funding approved by the Council would contribute significantly to the proposed Corporate priority of Rotherham Learning. There are also major contributions to the other proposed priorities, not least Rotherham Proud, as we would be able to feel proud of these essential buildings at the heart of our community.
- In terms of an ongoing planned maintenance programme, the whole school estate becomes more sustainable.
11. **Background Papers and Consultation:** The DFES letter of 29th November 2004 from David Milliband.

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