

<b>BRIEFING</b>	<b>TO:</b>	<b>Improving Lives Select Commission</b>
	<b>DATE:</b>	29 January 2020
	<b>LEAD OFFICER:</b>	Mary Jarrett Head of Inclusion Services CYPS <a href="mailto:mary.jarrett@rotherham.gov.uk">mary.jarrett@rotherham.gov.uk</a>
	<b>TITLE:</b>	Update on Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Sufficiency Projects
<b>1. Background</b>		
<b>1.1</b>	<p>On 20 May 2019, Cabinet approved a report setting out the Local Authority’s proposals to utilise capital funding to increase the sufficiency of school places for children with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in Rotherham.</p> <p>On 16<sup>th</sup> September Cabinet approved a capital spending programme of £1.186 million to create 111 additional school places in Rotherham starting from 2020, for children with special education needs and disabilities</p> <p>This report provides an update with regard to the progress of these Units.</p>	
<b>2. Key Issues</b>		
<b>2.1</b>	<p>The Dedicated Schools Grant (High Needs Budget) in Rotherham has been under significant pressure since the introduction of the SEND Code of Practice in 2015. There is now increased demand for statutory assessments and for placements within specialist education provision. An increase in places in Rotherham for children with autistic spectrum conditions, moderate learning difficulties and social, emotional and mental health issues will reduce the pressure caused both by the predicted rise in numbers of children with education, health and care plans but also on the pressure to place children in high cost independent specialist provision because of a lack of appropriate local resources.</p>	
<b>2.2</b>	<p>Rotherham’s SEN Sufficiency projections estimate that by September 2020 there will be 2312 children with Education, Health and Care plans in Rotherham rising to 2500 children in 2021.</p>	
<b>2.3</b>	<p>In order to meet the needs of the growing population of children with identified Special Education Needs in Rotherham and to avoid costly out of area placements the Council has approved a Capital Spending programme of £1.186 million pounds which will provide an additional 111 specialist school placements for children with Special Education Needs. These are in addition to the 125 places which were agreed in phase 1.</p>	
<b>2.4</b>	<p>This report identifies that the majority of agreed projects will be delivered within timescales however the flooding next to Canalside Property (Aspire) and issues in relation to planning permissions for the Willow Tree project have caused delays. It is expected that the Canalside property will be ready by October 2020 creating a delay of one month from projected timescales. The Willow Tree project, whilst not expected to</p>	

open before September 2021 has had some unanticipated issues in relation to planning permission as the current property (for proposed extension) is built on Green Belt Land and therefore the future of this project is now uncertain.

### 3. Key Actions and Timelines

3.1

School	Proposal and Timescales
<b>Maltby Hilltop School</b> (Nexus)	<p>SEND Phase 2 Additional Classrooms 6 places Modular Unit £130,000</p> <p>R H Fullwood's have been appointed as contractor and are working with the school to agree the layout and specification.</p> <p>Planning application submitted 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020. RB2020/0131</p> <p>Timescale: will be operational within this academic year.</p>
<b>Kelford School</b> (Nexus)	<p>SEND Phase 2 Remodelling of classroom and provision of external canopy 5 places £65,000</p> <p>Remodelling of classroom will take place during February half term and the canopy over the Easter holidays due to accessibility issues.</p> <p>A planning application is being prepared for the canopy for the end of January 2020</p> <p>Timescale: Completed by June 2020.</p>
<b>Wath Victoria Primary School</b> (JMAT)	<p>SEND Phase 2 Additional classroom 10 places £100,000</p> <p>An architect is currently preparing drawings and specification for the tender to go out in early 2020. Planning application for this work will be made in February 2020.</p> <p>Timescale: Operational from September 2020.</p>

<b>Thomas Rotherham College</b> <b>Post 16</b>	<p>SEND Phase 2 Unit for post 16 20 places £150,000</p> <p>Mezzanine floor to the dining area to provide the additional space for 20 places.</p> <p>A Structural Engineer is preparing drawings. And these were agreed on 24<sup>th</sup> January. The tender documents are ready to be issued to the contractors.</p> <p>Contractor appointed: William Birch &amp; Sons</p> <p>Provisional structural work on site Easter 2020 and Spring Bank holiday.</p> <p>Work will begin on-site 22/6/2020 – 2/10/2020 (15 Weeks). As agreed with the College.</p> <p>Timescale: Completion by 2/10/2020</p>
<b>Milton School</b> (Interaction and Communication Academy Trust Limited)	<p>SEND Phase 1 and 2 Classrooms 20 Places £400,000</p> <p>Planning submission made: 24/1/2020</p> <p>Planning approval is therefore due on 20/3/2020</p> <p>Building Regulations. Approval will therefore be made on 20/3/2020</p> <p>Tender period 6/3/2020: 3/4/2020</p> <p>Onsite: 11/5/2020 – 28/8/2020 (16 Weeks)</p> <p>Timescale: Completion: 28/8/2020</p>
<b>Wales High School</b> (Wales Academy Trust)	<p>SEND Phase 1 and 2 Classrooms 20 Places £400,000</p> <p>Planning submission made: 24/1/2020</p> <p>Planning approval is therefore due on: 20/3/2020</p> <p>Therefore Building Regulations. Approval is due on: 6/3/2020</p> <p>Tender period: 7/2/2020 – 6/3/2020</p> <p>Onsite: 13/4/2020 – 28/8/2020 (20 Weeks)</p> <p>Timescale: Completion: 28/8/2020</p>

<b>Brinsworth Academy</b> (Learner Engagement and Achievement Partnership Multi-Academy Trust)	SEND Phase 2 Classrooms 15 Places £250,000  Provision of modular unit. Surveyor is currently preparing drawings for modular unit for pre-application to the planning department.  This is planned for completion in September 2020.
<b>Waverley Junior Academy</b> (ACET)	SEND Phase 1 Standalone building part of new school development. 10 Places – Section 106 funding  Building in progress due to be completed within timescales for school opening in September 2020.
<b>Thrybergh Primary School</b> (Wickersley Partnership Trust)	SEND Phase 2 10 Places Use of Rainbow Children Centre building £41,000  Work to be procured by Wickersley Partnership Trust  Currently with RMBC legal team preparing land transfer and legal agreement for the expenditure of the £41,000* This will need to be adjusted for the £20,000 expenditure to the Rainbow Children's Centre roof.  Also with Trust to change the school age range via Department for Education.  Operational from Easter 2020.
<b>Aspire</b>	SEND Phase 1 and Phase 2 15 Places Phase 1 10 Places Phase 2 £75,000  Phase 1 completed August 2019 £49,000  Phase 2 Waiting for brief, delayed move to Canalside Property due to Flooding. Flood clearance work (including clearing contaminated land) due to be completed by October 2020.

	<p><b>Rockingham Caretakers House</b> (Willow Tree Academy Trust)</p>	<p>SEND Phase 2 10 Places £70,000</p> <p>Work to be procured by Willow Tree Trust</p> <p>Currently with RMBC legal team preparing legal agreement for the expenditure of the £70,000</p> <p>Operational from September 2021.</p> <p>Building project is being managed by the Trust. Legal agreements are therefore being prepared Michael Lennox in RMBC Legal.</p> <p>Initial response to planning application has confirmed that the Caretakers House is built on green belt land. The Trust are working with building and legal consultants to explore the ramifications of this. This presents a significant risk to delivery and should the project be undeliverable in this property RMBC will work with the Willow Tree trust to explore alternatives.</p>
<p>During academic year 2019/20 RMBC Special Education Needs Panel have worked to identify children and young people who would benefit from placement at these new provisions in accordance with the SEN Code of Practice 2015. It is anticipated that these Units will be fully utilised by academic year 2020/21.</p>		
<b>4. Recommendations</b>		
<b>4.1</b>	That the progress in relation to developing the new SEN Sufficiency projects is noted.	