

 <p>the low tax borough</p>	<p>London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham</p> <p>CABINET</p> <p>7 APRIL 2014</p>
<p>SCHOOL ORGANISATION AND INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2014</p>	
<p>Report of the Cabinet Member for Education and Cabinet Member for Children's Services – Councillor Georgie Cooney and Cllr. Helen Binmore</p>	
<p>Open Report</p>	
<p>Classification: For decision Key Decision: Yes</p>	
<p>Wards Affected: All</p>	
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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Council has up-dated the School Organisation and Investment Strategy based on projected pupil numbers and opportunities for providing new school places.
- 1.2 This report outlines the recent background to pupil place planning in Hammersmith & Fulham, and seeks Cabinet approval to the development of the Strategy.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That approval be given to the School Organisation and Investment Strategy 2014 contained in Appendix B and the recommendations contained therein.

3. REASONS FOR DECISION

- 3.1. The decision is required in order to endorse the recommendations in the School Organisation and Investment Strategy 2014.

4. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 4.1. The School Organisation Strategy was last updated in December 2012. The Strategy outlined the programme of capital investment projects which are necessary to meet the projected need for additional school places.
- 4.2 The Strategy also contained a series of new policy objectives, in particular with reference to the use of Council owned assets for free schools and academies, and the support of popular schools. This aligns with policies adopted in both RBKC and Westminster.
- 4.3 As referred to in paragraph 8 below, the significant Basic Need grant allocations in recent years have been key to the successful delivery of new school places, so that, on current projections, there will be sufficient primary school places until 2023 (the limit of the projections), and that there will be not be a need for new secondary places until 2019-20. This would appear to be the reason why the Council has not been allocated any Basic Need grant for the two year period 2015-17. However, it is anticipated that the Government will continue to move towards a much more focused approach to new school investment, such as inviting bids under a new round of Targeted Basic Need allocations.
- 4.4 The Council is supportive of new free schools, which are the responsibility of the Department for Education, including the proposed Fulham Boys School (secondary), and is also working with Planning Department colleagues to ensure that the need for new places arising from major developments is fully reflected in the emerging Infrastructure Plan.

5. PROPOSAL AND ISSUES

- 5.1 In order to progress the Strategy, on 17 February 2014 the Education and Children's Services Select Committee considered the impact of major regeneration schemes, such as Earl's Court and White City, and the opportunities offered by the Community Infrastructure Levy based on the emerging Infrastructure Plan.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 Key stakeholders including the Diocesan Authorities, the Education Funding Agency, Tri-Borough forums, and individual schools, will be consulted on the development of the strategy, and on individual proposals.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no legal implications arising directly from these proposals.
- 7.2 Implications verified/completed by: David Walker, Principal Solicitor, Bi-Borough Legal Services, 020 7361 2211

8. FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The Council's allocation of Basic Need grant for providing new school places for the period 2013-15 amounted to £4,245,993. The Council has not been allocated Basic Need grant for the period 2015 to 2017. This reflects the success of the significant investment from previous allocations, and the contribution to delivery of new school places by new free schools.
- 8.2 Any potential future schemes are expected to arise as a result of large regeneration projects. As with the case at Earl's Court, these will be eligible for s106 planning contributions, or the Community Infrastructure Levy.
- 8.3 The Government has yet to announce allocations for maintenance.
- 8.4 Implications verified/completed by: Dave McNamara, Director of Finance, Children's Services, 020 8753 3404

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN PREPARING THIS REPORT**

No.	Description of Background Papers	Name/Ext of holder of file/copy	Department/ Location
1.	School Organisation Strategy 2013 (published)	Ian Heggs 020 7745 6458	CHS

LIST OF APPENDICES:

- A. Other Implications
- B. School Organisation and Investment Strategy 2014

APPENDIX A

Other Implications

1. Business Plan – the Strategy will contribute to the Business Plan
2. Risk Management – Any risks will be identified in subsequent reports
3. Health and Wellbeing, including Health and Safety Implications - none
4. Crime and Disorder - none
5. Staffing - none
6. Human Rights - none
7. Impact on the Environment – none.
8. Energy measure issues - none
9. Sustainability – none
10. Communications – a consultation strategy will be implemented as part of any proposals arising from the strategy