


<p style="text-align: center;">London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CABINET</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4 JULY 2016</p>	
<p>CAPITAL INVESTMENT TO SUPPORT TARGETED CHILDCARE FOR TWO YEAR OLDS</p>	
<p>Report of the Cabinet Member for Children and Education: Councillor Sue Macmillan</p>	
<p>Open Report</p>	
<p>Classification - For Decision</p> <p>Key Decision: Yes</p>	
<p>Wards Affected: Wormholt and White City, Fulham Reach</p>	
<p>Accountable Director: Clare Chamberlain, (Interim) Executive Director for Children's Services</p>	
<p>Report Author: Mike Potter, Head of Commissioning, Children's Services</p>	<p>Contact Details: Tel: 020 7641 2165 E-mail: mpotter@westminster.gov.uk</p>

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. Targeted 2 Year old places were introduced as a pilot in 2009, and funded through the Department for Education's (DfE) General Sure Start Grant. This extended into a national programme from September 2013, with revised criteria to ensure that at least 20% of the most disadvantaged children were eligible for a free place. From September 2014, the inclusion of low income families increased eligibility to cover 40% of the most deprived families with a two year old (2yo) child. There is a local target to achieve at least 70% capacity of total places required. As of Spring 2016 the achieved level was 61%.
- 1.2. Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) capital funding is available to invest in local settings, in order to create the additional spaces to meet the level of local demand required. Feasibility studies have been completed to determine the relevance of the proposals, to extend current early years education facilities at Melcombe and Randolph Beresford schools. The proposals have been assessed by the Childcare Programme Board in terms of quality and value for money, and are deemed essential to meeting demand in the defined localities.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. That approval be given to the investment of up to £980,000 of Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) to create an additional 126, 15-hour places at Randolph Beresford and Melcombe schools from autumn 2016.

3. REASONS FOR DECISION

- 3.1. The Council has a statutory responsibility to ensure that families have access to sufficient places to meet local demand for Nursery provision. This proposal will enable the Council increase the capacity for 2 year old provision in Wormholt & White City and Fulham Reach wards by an additional 126 places to meet the demand as indicated by the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) list.
- 3.2. The additional provision in these two settings will also contribute to the Council's wider strategic plan for integrated childcare within Children's Centres in the borough, which provide a holistic framework of support to families.

4. PROPOSAL AND ISSUES

- 4.1. Randolph Beresford is a Nursery School and Children's Centre based on the White City Estate and is in Wormholt and White City ward. The school is rated "Outstanding" by Ofsted. The school currently draws its nursery children overwhelmingly from the ward in which it is situated. From the DWP list, there are currently 110 families with children who are entitled to the 2yo offer in this particular ward yet only 40 places are available. There is therefore a shortfall of 70 places. Currently 77 (66%) of the nursery year intake at Randolph Beresford qualify for free school meals.
- 4.2. The school currently has 120 full time places for 3 and 4 year old children. The new space being created as a result of this capital investment will create up to 35 additional full time equivalent (FTE) places (70 part-time places) for 2 year olds. This will significantly increase service provision across the borough and address the potential shortfall of places in this particular locality.
- 4.3. Randolph Beresford School also has the potential, within the council's Children's Centre strategy, to remain a key site for the provision of integrated Early Years services, Family Support and Early Help services serving the north of the borough.
- 4.4. Melcombe Primary School is situated in Fulham Reach ward. The school draws its nursery children mainly from the ward in which it is situated. The number of eligible families in this ward on the current DWP list is 15. However there is clear unmet demand for 2 year old places in the areas of Fulham Broadway and Hammersmith Broadway with the number of eligible families in those areas being 38 and 45 respectively. There are currently only 30 children making use of the provision across these two wards and both the Council and the Head of

the Children's Centre at Melcombe are confident of sufficient demand through the identification of eligible children which the Centre has conducted.

- 4.5. The School is rated "Outstanding" by Ofsted and the Children's Centre is rated as "Good". It has a 60-place Nursery and 26 places in Reception. There is a high proportion of children with English as an Additional Language on the school roll and 11 of the current nursery children (22%) qualify for free school meals.
- 4.6. The School also hosts a Children's Centre on the school site and has a close working relationship with the Head of the Centre who forms part of the school leadership team. The school has recently established the provision of extended school childcare from 8am to 6pm in partnership with a private provider, which includes provision for its nursery age children.
- 4.7. Melcombe School also has the potential, within the council's Children's Centre strategy, to remain a key site for the provision of integrated Early Years services, Family Support and Early Help services serving the south of the Borough.
- 4.8. Both these proposals have been evaluated by the Childcare Programme Board as favourable settings for capital investment, based on an analysis of local demand and cost effectiveness.

Randolph Beresford Nursery School

- 4.9. The investment at Randolph Beresford Nursery School will create a new play Room adjoining the existing Nursery area, relocate the current staff room into the extension building additional children's toilets and hand basins and require some refurbishment to the outside play space.
- 4.10. The total capital investment for the scheme is in the region of £262,300, but agreement is sought at this stage for a budget of up to £300,000. This will be funded through DSG funding as agreed through with Schools Forum. This figure is based on a feasibility study completed by 3BM with a breakdown of costs as attached.

Melcombe Primary School

- 4.11. The feasibility report for this site considered two options. The recommended option creates a new building housing the under-twos playroom and immediate support services in the space which exists on site between the current Children's Centre and the school-keeper's house, with adaptation of the spaces within the school-keeper's house for relocation of support facilities. This would place the provision at some distance from the nursery but have the advantage of being within close proximity of the Children's Centre. This option requires a capital investment of £680,000 and this includes refurbishment of the current Children's Centre.

- 4.12. The Director of Finance has confirmed budget availability for both schemes, subject to a repurposing of revenue funds for capital use, which is acceptable under DfE grant regulations.

5. OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

Randolph Beresford Nursery School

- 5.1. Randolph Beresford is in an area with both high levels of demand and significant levels of deprivation with 66% of nursery-age children entitled to free school meals.
- 5.2. The setting already possesses the standard environment in terms of access to outside space, provision of suitable toilet and changing facilities and proximity to nursery provision to ensure ease of transition for children.
- 5.3. 3BM have visited and measured the new space which is 127 m². This area will accommodate 35 FTE spaces providing placements for up to 70 children under the 15-hour, 2 year old provision. This will fully deliver the additional capacity required to meet demand in that ward. The investment cost pro-rata equates to an investment of £4,285 per child by the Council.
- 5.4. The only other potential provision in that locality that could offer the same volume of places would be through Ark Swift. However the added value of the Randolph Beresford setting is that through this investment and its current childcare infrastructure, the setting can contribute toward the wider strategic plan for that part of the borough.

Melcombe Primary School

- 5.5. 3BM have visited and assessed the feasibility of the proposed space. The recommended option will allow for 28 FTE places providing for 56 children.
- 5.6. Developing a targeted 2 year old provision at the School will provide opportunities to support children and families from an early stage. Proximity to the onsite Children's Centre is of primary importance as these are vulnerable children who will benefit from the integrated wrap-around support provided. This location will maximise the opportunity for engaging with. The Children's Centre will offer additional support to those families through Family Support, Pathways to Employment and early learning opportunities, all crucial to enable children and families to be school ready and meet their full potential.
- 5.7. Furthermore, this proposal has the added value of increasing the capacity of the Children's Centre, which will enable the provision to benefit a greater number of families in the area.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1. No formal consultation is required on these proposals. The two headteachers have consulted with their governing bodies during the preparation of the proposals.

7. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1. An Equality Impact Assessment is not required for these capital works. However, these developments will bring benefits to communities in deprived areas of the borough.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1. There are no legal implications likely to arise from the approval of the increased capacity in both Schools because by so doing, the Council will be complying with its statutory duty to ensure access to such provision within the borough.
- 8.2. As the value of the proposed building works is below the European Union (EU) threshold for the application of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015, there is no need to run a regulated procurement but the publication requirements for below threshold procurements should be complied with. Further the provisions of the Council's Contract Standing Orders, particularly Table 11.2, prescribing the use of the 3BM contract for works to educational buildings below the EU threshold should be followed when awarding the works contract.
- 8.3. Implications verified/completed by: (Tolu Akinosun, Senior Solicitor (Contracts), Tel: 020 8753 2136)

9. FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1. The capital investment for both schemes will be met in full from a combination of the remaining balance of the 2yo capital grant and the DSG. As the 2yo capital grant has not been able to fund all of the capital works required to offer additional places, the DfE has approved the use of the DSG to top-up the funds available.
- 9.2. The additional 2yo places that will be generated by these projects will be funded by the DSG.
- 9.3. Implications verified/completed by: Tim Raven, Business Partner, 020 7641 6094.

11. IMPLICATIONS FOR BUSINESS

- 11.1 The location of the settings for investment , have been considered in relation to other services for 2yos in the locality. It is considered that due to the current under capacity in these areas, the creation of additional spaces from this

proposal will not have a detrimental effect on existing childcare businesses in this area.

12. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 12.1 The Children's Services department will continue to be responsible for the management of risks relating to this project. 3BM will be required to project manage risk and report to the department where significant risks emerge or are recognised at any stage of the process. Market Testing risk, delivering highest quality services are the best possible value to the local taxpayer is recognised on the council's Shared Services Risk Register, risk 4.
- 12.2 Implications verified by: Michael Sloniowski, Shared Services Risk Manager, telephone 020 8753 2587

13. COMMERCIAL AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1 There are no immediate procurement implications arising from this report.
- 13.2 Should the investment for the two schools be approved, the financial value of the required works is below the EU threshold of £4,104,394 that would require a regulated competition under the Public Contracts Regulations. Furthermore, should either the Council or Melcombe school and/or Randolph Beresford school wish to commission 3BM to project manage the procurement and/or the construction of the works at the schools, this is provided under the Official Journal of the EU notice placed by the Council when creating 3BM.
- 13.3 If Hammersmith & Fulham Council acts as the contracting authority for the works, under changes to the Council's Contracts Standing Orders that come into effect after 4th July the strategy for the procurement of these works will need to be approved by full Cabinet before it commences.
- 13.2 Implications completed by John Francis, Interim Head of H&F Procurement (job-share) 020 8753 2582.

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.	None		

LIST OF APPENDICES: None