

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

4 September 2012

**Joint Report of the Strategic Director for Children & Younger Adults and
the Director of Property**

**CAYA Capital Programme 2012/13 – Additional Basic Need Funding –
(Education)**

1. Purpose of Report

To note the receipt of additional 'Basic Need' capital grant funding from the Government and to allocate this funding to four new projects.

2. Information and Analysis

2.1 In April 2012 the Government announced that it was allocating an additional £600m 'basic need' capital grant funding to enable local authorities to provide additional school places. The funding was allocated according to need, based on the annual statistical returns which provide the DfE with information on pupil number projections and school capacities. This Authority's share of the funding is £1,216,140.

2.2 Officers have looked in detail at those schools where pupil numbers are rising and where there is the greatest need to provide additional school places. Feasibility studies have been undertaken at several schools and the following schemes are proposed for funding from this allocation:-

2.3 Buxton, Burbage Primary School

This has been a growth area for several years with a significant amount of new housing in the area. The school has a net capacity of 327 and pupil numbers are projected to rise to 368 by 2015. A two-classroom block with toilets is proposed at a budget cost of £550,000.

2.4 Swanwick Primary School

Pupil numbers have risen rapidly at this school during the last two years. The school has a net capacity of 379 and there are already 393 pupils on roll. Pupil numbers are projected to remain between 390 and 400 for the foreseeable future. One class is located in an old temporary classroom, initially rented and subsequently purchased by the school several years ago, which is nearing the end of its life in terms of future maintenance. It is proposed to replace this single classroom with a high specification double modular classroom unit with toilets at a budget cost of £325,000.

2.5 Walton-on-Trent CE(VC) Primary School

This small school has a net capacity of 81. Pupil numbers are projected to rise to 102 by 2015. A high specification single modular classroom unit with toilets is proposed at a budget cost of £200,000.

2.6 Long Eaton, Brackenfield Special School

Pupil numbers have risen from 62 in 2010 to 70 currently and they are projected to rise to 78 by 2014. The Authority is willing to fund the extra places to help reduce pressure on Bennerley Fields School and Holbrook Centre for Autism, which are both constantly full. This would also help, in the longer term, to address the anticipated future high demand for placements at these schools.

2.7 Brackenfield School only has two primary classrooms, with expected places to be in the mid-twenties. An additional classroom would provide both a short and long-term solution to this problem. Three classes of 8-9 pupils each would be both adequate to meet the immediate needs of these pupils as well as being able to meet an increase in demand for places in future years.

2.8 The School is also at the pre-planning stage of purchasing from its own resources a modular room to be used for therapeutic care and parents' use. It is suggested, therefore, that this project is enlarged to incorporate an additional classroom which would be funded by the Authority. Both facilities would meet immediate needs as well as significantly addressing the school's accommodation issues. The budget cost for the classroom element of this proposal, including appropriate toilet and hygiene facilities, is £250,000. The school's element of the project has been assessed as being £48,000 and the school has agreed to meet that cost.

3. Financial Considerations As indicated above, the capital grant received is £1,216,140. The proposed allocations are summarised as follows:-

Burbage Primary	£550,000
Swanwick Primary	£325,000
Walton-on-Trent CE (VC) Primary	£200,000
Brackenfield School	<u>£250,000</u>
Total	£1,325,000

This exceeds the Basic Need grant funding by £108,860. This shortfall can be met from savings in the 2011/12 CAYA Capital Programme which currently total approximately £400,000.

Each of the three mainstream schools will be required to contribute the equivalent of one year's Devolved Formula Capital allocation in accordance with the Authority's approved policy.

4. **Other Considerations** In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered:- prevention of crime & disorder, equality of opportunity, environmental, health, legal & human rights, human resources, property and transport considerations.
5. **Is it necessary for call-in to be waived?** No
6. **Background Papers** These are held in the CAYA Development Section.
7. **Key Decision** Yes
8. **Officer Recommendation**
 - 8.1 That the additional Government grant funding of £1,216,140 to provide additional school places be noted.
 - 8.2 That approval be granted to the projects listed in the Report being added to the 2012/13 CAYA Capital Programme with the budget costs as indicated.
 - 8.3 That the shortfall in funding of £108,860 be met from savings in the 2011/12 CAYA Capital Programme.
 - 8.3 That the contribution of £48,000 from Brackenfield School be noted.
 - 8.4 That the three mainstream schools each be required to contribute the equivalent of one year's Devolved Formula Capital allocation in accordance with the Authority's approved policy.

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