

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET
9th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Myfanwy Alexander
Portfolio Holder for Learning and Welsh Language

SUBJECT: Schools Asset Management Plan (SAMP) 2018 -2024

REPORT FOR: Decision

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report requests approval of a new Schools Asset Management Plan (SAMP) for implementation from 2018 – 2024. It replaces the previous Schools Asset Management Plan.

The report is supported by the following appendices

- Appendix 1 – Schools Asset Management Plan
- Appendix 2 – Current condition data for schools 2018
- Appendix 3 – Learning, Skills and Economy Scrutiny Committee report

2. Proposal

- 2.1 The SAMP sets out Powys County Council's approach to developing and improving the school estate. This Plan provides a long-term approach for effectively developing and managing the schools estate in Powys, ensuring that it supports the ambition of the Council as outlined in Vision 2025 and the Schools Organisation Policy 2018.

- 2.2 The Council aims to ensure that Powys has the right number of schools in the right place and in the right condition, for the current and future pupil population. It aims to have an educational model which meets the following objectives:

- Provides all learners with the opportunity to achieve their potential;
- Has high quality, resilient leadership and management;
- Has high quality learning environments, with the long term aim that all schools will be assessed as condition A or B;
- Has a greater focus on collaboration and partnership working, in order to enable schools to provide the best possible opportunities for learners;
- Enables schools to operate effectively and efficiently within the funding available;
- Increases demand for Welsh-medium provision and provides access to provision which will enable pupils to become confident Welsh speakers;
- Develops our schools into establishments that are central to community activity;

- Has a high quality ICT infrastructure that will enable all schools to provide enhanced opportunities for learners;
- Provides access to high quality early years provision;
- Provides support for learners with additional learning needs which aligns with the requirements of the new Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act;
- Provides access to high quality post-16 provision in schools, which is attractive to learners, financially sustainable and minimises learner travel.

2.3 The purpose of the SAMP is to support the delivery of the aims outlined above by:

- Providing a framework for the collection and comparison of information about the condition, suitability, sufficiency, sustainability, and health and safety requirements of all schools, defined in accordance with national and local guidelines;
- Identifying priorities and allocate spending on a needs-led basis, linked to and influenced by policies and plans being developed by the Council and the Welsh Government;
- Demonstrating fairness of treatment for schools, and transparency of decision making processes for capital and revenue spending;
- Delivering value-for-money through the cost-effective use of education assets;
- Managing demand for school places more effectively, and remove excessive surplus places;
- Ensuring that all schools premises are a safe environment for all users.

3. Options Considered/Available

The Local Authority is required to implement a Schools Asset Management Plan therefore no other options are available.

4. Preferred Choice and Reasons

Not applicable.

5. Financial Impact

5.1 Implementing the SAMP from 2018 to 2024 will have a financial impact on the authority, but this will be managed and maintained within the existing funding allocations listed below:

- The 21st C Schools Programme is worth approximately for Band A £80million and Band B £113million for a period of 10 years, although this is part-funded by the Welsh Government. A Strategic Outline Plan was agreed by Cabinet in November 2017;
- The Major Improvement Programme, approved by Cabinet in April 2018, included a draft five year programme with forecast costs and indicated in the table 1 below:

Table 1

Financial year	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Total
Estimated costs of programme £m	£2.0m	£5.41m	£6.22m	£2.45m	£1.28m	£17.36m
Approved budget £m	£2.0m	£2.0m	£1.0m	£1.0m	£1.0m	£7.0m
Budget Shortfall £m	£0	£3.41m	£5.22m	£1.45m	£0.28	£10.36m

The existing Central Revenue and Asset Management Revenue budget has an annual allocation totalling £93,300. This must be maintained to respond to minor DDA, safeguarding, health and safety and compliance remedial works under £10,000. The Asset Management Revenue budget must be maintained to ensure the Schools Service can commission property advice from Property and Civil Engineering Professionals.

6. Impact Assessment

6.1 Is an impact assessment required? NO

7. Corporate Improvement Plan

Improving the schools infrastructure is a key priority within Vision 2025.

8. Local Member(s)

All learners across the Council are affected by the policy, therefore all local members have an interest.

9. Other Front Line Services

Does the recommendation impact on other services run by the Council or on behalf of the Council? Yes

Catering Services: agrees with the recommendations made within the SAMP in particular 4.3.2 (Repair & Maintenance of Kitchen Equipment Scheme) and 5.3.5 iii (Environmental Health legislation – Structural requirements in the kitchen). The catering service will continue to liaise with the school's capital and property manager, regarding school kitchen health & safety and environmental health legislative requirements.

10. Communications

Have Communications seen a copy of this report? Yes

Communications comment: “The report is of public interest and requires use of news release and appropriate social media to publicise the decision

11. Support Services (Legal, Finance, Corporate Property, HR, ICT, Business Services)

11.1 Legal: The recommendations can be supported from a legal point of view

11.2 The Capital Accountant can confirm that the funding detailed in section 5.1 of the report is in place and included within the Councils Capital Programme.

11.3 Corporate Property: “The Professional Lead, Strategic Property notes the contents of the plan. The property team will continue to support schools services in relation to their estate.”

12. Scrutiny

Has this report been scrutinised? Yes – 14th September 2018. Comments are attached at Appendix 3. The recommendations were:

Scrutiny recommendation	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the capacity figures included in Appendix A of the report are checked for accuracy 	<p>The capacity figures have been checked for accuracy against the Council’s Schools Places submission to Welsh Government. However, schools were requested to confirm their capacity information before the summer holidays, and once this information is checked, it will be incorporated into the Schools Asset Database.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the Schools Asset Management Plan reflects the viability of schools in the short to medium term to ensure that resources are spent most appropriately 	<p>The Schools Asset Management Plan is closely aligned with the Council’s School Organisation Policy 2018, which includes a Delivery Plan outlining actions that are being taken to develop the schools infrastructure. The SAMP includes clear links to this Policy.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That funding is prioritised within that available for schools’ maintenance for those matters which are of a safeguarding concern 	<p>Section 5.2 of the SAMP outlines the criteria for scoring priorities for spend. These include A scoring methodology is applied which allows projects to be prioritised. The methodology considers the following key categories/factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health & Safety issues including:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legislative compliance; - Environmental Health issues (kitchen environmental health reports); - DDA compliance; - Property safeguarding issues.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the Schools Asset Database is promptly completed within a defined timeframe to be set out within the report 	<p>Appendix A of the SAMP includes the following action for 2018/19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review, revise and update the Schools Asset Database with property and building asset changes and updated survey information by January 2019.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the scoring methodology referred to in section 4.2 of the report as approved by Cabinet in 2015 is attached as an Appendix to the 2018-2024 plan 	<p>Attached at Appendix D</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the Schools Asset Database is kept up to date on an annual basis to ensure that there is confidence that the Major Improvements Plan and Maintenance Plan for the estate are targeting resources to those areas most in need 	<p>Section 5.1 states that the Schools Asset Database will be reviewed every year.</p>

13. Data Protection

13.1 If the proposal involves the processing of personal data then the Data Protection Officer must be consulted and their comments set out below.

14. Statutory Officers

14.1 The Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer) commented as follows : “ I note the legal comments and have nothing to add to the report.”

14.2 The Head of Financial Services (Deputy Section 151 Officer) notes the comments from the Capital Accountant.

15. Members' Interests

The Monitoring Officer is not aware of any specific interests that may arise in relation to this report. If Members have an interest they should declare it at the start of the meeting and complete the relevant notification form.

Recommendation:	Reason for recommendation
To approve the Schools Asset Management Plan 2018 – 2024	To provide a comprehensive and coherent framework to ensure that the Powys school estate is continually improved, resulting in a more efficient and effective infrastructure.

Relevant Policy (ies):	Corporate Asset Management Plan Schools Organisation Policy 2018 Schools Asset Management Plan		
Within Policy:	Y	Within Budget:	Y

Relevant Local Member(s):	All
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Person(s) To Implement Decision:	Marianne Evans/David Thompson
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	9 th October 2018

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