

Item 3**TITLE OF REPORT: Use of DSG Reserves**

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to inform Schools Forum of the use of Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Reserves to provide funding for security at the old Ravensworth School site whilst works are undertaken.

Background

2. Ravensworth Terrace Primary School moved into their new school at the beginning of the autumn term. In September 2017 Gateshead Cabinet approved an alternative use for the old Ravensworth Terrace primary school site for educational purposes. In order for the building to be handed over to the Behaviour Support Service (BSS) some works are required to be carried out.
3. During this transition phase it will not be possible to charge Ravensworth Terrace Primary School as they are not occupying the site, it is not possible to charge BSS as they have not yet taken on or moved into the site. Property Services cannot pick up the charges as the property cannot be declared surplus as it has an intended education use in the near future.
4. It is difficult to calculate the estimated costs of the security as this will depend on any incidents and the number of call outs if any. The Fire Brigade have been informed of the status of the building and are content with the arrangements being put in place. The security arrangements are anticipated to end at the start of the spring term and with all these caveats in mind an amount of £5,000 has been allocated from DSG reserves for the security of the site during this interim period.

Process

5. Information was received from colleagues in Council Housing, Design and Technical Services. Educationgateshead and finance colleagues were consulted on the proposal and the Director of Learning and Schools approved the allocation.

Proposal

6. It is proposed that Schools Forum notes the use of £5,000 of DSG reserves for interim security at the old Ravensworth Terrace site.

Recommendations

7. It is recommended that School Forum notes the funding provided for interim security at the old Ravensworth Terrace site.

For the following reasons:

- To provide funding for security to prevent vandalism and provide routine checks to the old Ravensworth Terrace site
 - To enable work to be carried out on the old Ravensworth Terrace site prior to the handover of the site to BSS.
-

CONTACT: Carole Smith ext. 2747