

TITLE OF REPORT: Use of Early Years Block Revenue Underspend for Capital

Purpose of the Report

1. To request Schools Forum permission to change the character of the accommodation to be purchased for additional 2 year old places at Emmaville Primary School.

Background

2. This report builds on those previously brought to Schools Forum in March and June 2016. It was stated in the March report that there was £258,000 remaining of the Early Years underspend. The June report granted £11,000 to Care with Cuddles as a start-up grant, and £205,000 to be used to purchase additional accommodation for 2 year old places at Emmaville Primary School.
3. At the time of writing the June report, the only affordable option was thought to be the purchase of a demountable. Following work over the summer and a strategic review of the school site it has become apparent that traditional one classroom new build extension without the re-provision of outside space would cost in the region of £220,000. It is anticipated that the re-provision of outside space will form part of another phase of development on the Emmaville site.

Proposal

4. That Schools Forum allow the agreed £205,000 for the demountable at Emmaville to be allocated to the provision of a one classroom new build extension, together with an additional £15,000 from the Early Years underspend to enable a traditional new build extension to be built at the school.

Recommended Options

5. It is recommended that Schools Forum:-
 - Approves the re-direction of £205,000 from the provision of a demountable to the construction of a one classroom new build extension.

- Approves the allocation of an additional £15,000 towards the construction cost of the one classroom new build extension.

For the following reasons

- To ensure the Council meets its statutory duty to provide sufficient places for funded two year olds.
- To enable approval to be sought from the Secretary of State to approve an application for the use of Early Years Block revenue underspend for capital purposes

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