

## **MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL**

### **REPORT FOR RESOLUTION**

**COMMITTEE:** Resource and Governance Overview & Scrutiny Committee

**DATE:** 6 June 2008

**SUBJECT:** Sure Start Children's Centre Capital Programme - Draft

**REPORT OF:** Director of Children's Services

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#### **PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

This report gives an update on progress with the Children's Centres Capital programme.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That Resource & Governance Overview & Scrutiny note the report and the summary of next steps identified.

#### **FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES FOR THE REVENUE BUDGET**

The nature of the financial consequences from the revenue budget will be determined as planning from phase 3 is undertaken.

#### **FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES FOR THE CAPITAL BUDGET**

The nature of the financial consequences for the capital budget is outlined in the report.

#### **CONTACT OFFICERS:**

John Edwards

#### **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

None

#### **WARDS AFFECTED**

All

#### **IMPLICATIONS FOR:**

The commissioning and provision across the city of early years provision is aimed at improving outcomes for children and young people and their families. These outcomes include the opportunities for children in the future, and parents and families now, to achieve economic wellbeing, addressing the

risks of poverty and increasing opportunities for employment. Across all aspects of the service, equal opportunities are paramount and covered in many areas by legislation or local policy. Environmental impacts of the service relate largely to travel issues, and will be addressed as planning from phase 3 is undertaken.

Anti-Poverty	Equal Opportunities	Environment	Employment
Yes	Yes	Yes	No

## 1. Background

Sure Start is the government's framework for bringing together early education, childcare, health and family support and encompasses targeted services in disadvantaged areas and universal services for all children aged 0 to 16, parenting support, links with Job Centre Plus and out of school provision. It is a key part of the government's ambition to tackle child poverty and increase opportunity for all. Sure Start provides childcare to enable parents to access work and training opportunities and aims to tackle educational and health inequalities by supporting children's healthy development and early education.

Since April 2003 Manchester City Council has been working with key stakeholders across the city, including direct involvement with many children and parents, to develop an ambitious and much welcomed Sure Start Children's Centre (SSCC) programme. There has been a wide range of consultation and publicity events throughout the planning process for all the proposed SSCC's. We have a detailed Capital Programme in place to deliver the local programme.

The development of the local proposals has been led by Children's Services Early Years and Play with the involvement of Ward Co-ordinators, Regeneration Managers and key partners.

As a minimum standard, the process of developing the proposals for each district has

- consulted and involved partners in the process
- utilised maps of existing provision and data from the audit of local provision to identify gaps – including where possible developing SSCCs on school sites.

utilised District demographic and statistical profiles to identify need, drawing additionally on local consultation results where available.

## 2. Phase 1

The Phase 1 Sure Start Capital programme of work delivered 12 new Sure Start Children's Centres across the City during 2005/7, with a total budget of £9.3M (this includes MCC DDA & AMP contribution of £400K). The government target was to deliver 1090 new childcare places in a network of

children's centres in the city by 2006. The delivery was achieved through collaboratively working with Children's Services and Strategic Partners to ensure the facilities provided reflect the individual range of specific needs in each ward. In order to meet the target set for Manchester, the following centres were delivered to contribute towards meeting the target:

	<b>Children's Centre</b>	<b>Ward</b>
1.	Claremont (New build)	Moss Side
2.	Blackley (New build)	Higher Blackley
3.	Sandilands (New build)	Brooklands
4.	Wilbraham (New build)	Fallowfield
5.	Burnage (Refurb)	Burnage
6.	Cheetham (New build)	Cheetham
7.	Newton Heath (New build)	Miles Platting & Newton Heath
8.	St Clements (New build)	Bradford
9.	Woodhouse Park (New build)	Woodhouse Park
10.	Pioneer Street (Refurb)	Ancoats and Clayton
11.	Old Moat CC (Extension/Refurb)	Old Moat
12.	Baguley Hall (New build)	Baguley

### 3. Phase 2

The delivery of the Phase 2 programme of works commenced in April 2006, with all centres completed by May 2008. The DCSF's target for Manchester was 10 SSCCs, plus extended schools in the wards that fall in the top 30% levels of deprivation. Thirteen Children's Centres were delivered with a total budget of £8.7M (DCSF Capital Grant), plus additional funding secured from MCC DDA & AMP Programme of £548K.

The following Centres were delivered in Phase 2:

	<b>Children's Centre</b>	<b>Ward</b>
1.	Crumpsall (New build)	Crumpsall
2.	Charlestown (New build)	Charlestown
3.	St James (New build)	Gorton North
4.	St Margaret's (New build)	Whalley Range
5.	Woodville (Refurb)	Cheetham
6.	Chorlton Park (New build)	Chorlton Park
7.	St Mark's (New build)	Miles Platting & Newton Heath
8.	Broadhurst Pk (New build)	Moston
9.	Sale Road CC (Extension/refurb)	Northenden
10.	Barlow Hall (Refurb)	Chorlton Park
11.	Medlock (Sure Start integrated within school)	Ardwick
12.	Broome Ave (Extension/refurb)	Levenshulme

13.	Moss Side (Refurb)	Moss Side

#### **4. Phase 3**

In October 2007 the government announced funding allocation for phase 3 SSCCs. Manchester has been allocated, over 3 years, £1.9M to deliver Sure Start centres across the City. This budget includes a “maintenance” allocation to be utilised to upgrade, repair or maintain buildings so that they remain fit for purpose to deliver services.

Also in addition a new Quality and Access Capital Grant allocation of £6.6M has been made to Manchester for improving the quality of and access to the learning environment across Local Authority and Private, Voluntary and Independent early years settings.

The first and second phase of SSCC programme concentrated on providing children’s centres in some of the most disadvantaged areas; for phase 3 Local authorities are not expected to deliver major new build centres, but focus mainly on delivering services around existing provision, with low level capital investment to refurbish, remodel, enhance or extend existing premises.

The Capital programme planning for Phase 3 has commenced, involving full strategic partners, i.e. Regeneration Team, Children’s Services (including Education Services and Extended Schools), to identify the appropriate strategic priorities for Manchester.

The existing Programme Board for SSCC and Extended Schools has been restructured to include the Quality and Access Grant, and will oversee the delivery of the Capital Programme over a three year period 2008-2011. The Board consists of representation from Health, Children’s Services (including Education Services, Extended Schools and Early Years), Capital Programme, Valuation and Property, and Finance.

The Head of Sure Start and Sure Start Capital Programme Manager and Head of Extended Schools will report to the Board.

District Strategy Meetings have taken place in recent weeks, involving key stakeholders, in order to begin an options appraisal process and produce a list of priority areas across the city which will form a 3-year programme, and this will be reported as appropriate to the Sure Start Programme Board, Children’s Services Senior Management Team, the Executive Member for Children and Young People and CYPOS.

The assessment criteria used for Phase 1 & 2 will also be followed for the choice of Phase 3 locations. This includes the integration, where possible, of Sure Start plans with other Children’s Services (including Building Schools for the Future, Primary Capital Programme and Extended Schools) and Regeneration Plans. All capital projects will have a robust business case and

will be subject to the Council's Gateway process, which includes VAT assessment at Gateway 5, prior to the work being instructed.

**4. Recommendations**

That progress on Phases 1 and 2 and the process for Phase 3 are noted.