

8. TORPHICHEN PRIMARY SCHOOL - EXTENSION

The Education Executive considered the joint report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Education (Development) and the Head of Finance and Estates seeking approval to progress extension proposals for Torphichen Primary School which would facilitate an increase in long term capacity and support the delivery of Curriculum for Excellence.

The report recalled that on 8 December 2015 the Education Executive considered a report outlining projected school rolls. Within the report Torphichen Primary School was identified as potentially having capacity pressures. Officers reviewed the school roll projection figures and an initial feasibility was undertaken on the school accommodation. The report provided details of the outcome of the feasibility carried out and the proposals to extend the existing building via the construction of two additional classrooms to be located either to the east or north of the existing building. Details of the proposed extension were outlined in Appendix 1 to the report. The preferred option would be confirmed following detailed site investigations.

It was also proposed that as part of the project a number of planned improvements would be delivered to the existing building and its accommodation. These would be fully determined following a detailed building condition survey and were likely to include improvements to the general fabric of the building, mechanical and electrical installations and general decoration. The proposed project costs and timescales for the extension and the planned improvements were outlined in the report.

The Head of Education (Development) then responded to questions from members. She confirmed that positive feedback was received following initial consultation with the Parent Council in relation to the proposed extension and school improvements. A question was also raised about the proposals to improve the dining arrangements within the school. Members were advised that the lunch provision within the school would be fit for purpose.

The Education Executive was advised that the proposed extension and planned improvements would ensure Torphichen Primary School would have sufficient capacity for the foreseeable future and remained suitable for effective delivery of the curriculum.

The Education Executive was asked to:

1. Note the findings of the initial feasibility undertaken to consider the extension of the school to increase capacity and support the delivery of the curriculum; and
2. Approve progressing the extension proposals and planned improvements for consideration as part of the General Services Capital Programme 2016/17 to 2017/18.

Decision

1. To approve the terms of the report; and
2. To note that an update report would be submitted to the Education Executive when further information was available following detailed site investigations into the proposed extension and planned improvements.