Briefing notes on Issues included in the Forward Plan Issue 2005/06

SERVICE AREA: Children and Families

Report ref	Report title
	Preston Park Primary School : Tender Results
	(Executive May 2006)

Summary:

The scheme to renew the nursery and reception classrooms at Preston Park School (and to introduce allied improvements and innovation through new build and remodelling) have been the subject of two previous tenders for the construction scheme.

The construction market has been a hard one with tender returns received being in excess of available resources. Indeed in the first procurement exercise (January 2005), tender returns exceeded resources made available for the project on the basis of cost consultants' advice. It was the view of officers that they should still attempt to deliver a scheme which, albeit over and above the replacement of defective accommodation, introduced improvements to the school with additional facilities. Rather than simply reduce the scope of the scheme to the essential element (replacement of like for like) the officers' view was that the scheme should be rescoped and re-tendered.

This second (July 2005) tender process (for the revised scheme) was deemed to be not fully consistent with the requirements of Council Standing Orders. The net result of the discussions with Legal Services (and given that nearly twelve months had lapsed since the original Expressions of Interest were required from potential contractors), was that no appointment was made and the process was started again.

The re-tender is now underway; in order to reduce the risk of a scheme being unaffordable, this time the scheme has been re-packaged in phases (each of them independent of each other and one not required to follow another) so as to ensure that the defective accommodation is prioritised for replacement prior to introducing any new build, space innovation or other remodelling. Planning permission has been obtained for the revised scheme the main elements of which are:

Phase 1 - Construction of new reception classrooms and nursery to replace existing accommodation. Works to include primary hardworks and access ramps to allow full access from road.

Phase 2 - Demolition of existing WC blocks and construction of reception, administration area, toilets and library.

Phase 3 - Remodelling of existing IT classroom & conference room including demolition of wall and installation of new sink.

Phase 4 - External works enhancement, detail paving and benching to centre of ramp, planting to entrance plaza and installation of fabric canopies.

The next intended steps for the scheme are as follows:

- 1. Week Beginning 20.02.06 Consider the results of the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire;
- 2. Week beginning 27.02.06 Issue invitation to tender to a maximum of six contractors;
- 3. May '06 Executive to consider a report on the outcome of tenders;
- 4. July '06 Start on site.

Nature of Decision to be taken/Intended Outcome

The Executive will be requested to consider the outcome of the tender process and to agree a recommendation, subject to tenders received being within the available resources.

Timescale for decision:

See above.

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