



BSF Delivery Timetable

The BSF Programme remains on track. We are now almost through the initial tender period and the three short-listed bidders have completed design meetings at the two sample schools as well as many other meetings with Authority officers and advisers. Tender proposals are due to be received on 12 January 2009.

Bidder interim presentations

Seven schools were represented at the Interim Presentations on 3 and 4 November. Each short-listed bidder gave progress reports on their proposals for the sample schemes (Hollingworth and Siddal Moor), ICT, Partnering, Furniture and Equipment, and their approach to sustainability. It's fair to say that each bidder had some good elements in their proposals, but there were also other areas where proposals were less clearly defined and in need of more detailed discussion/development. Since then discussions have focused on the areas identified as being 'less strong than other areas'. Can I remind those present of the need to maintain commercial confidentiality in relation to the different ideas presented.

BSF preparations

Rochdale is viewed nationally as a model authority in making preparations for BSF i.e. the pre-engagement process. To this end John Bollington was recently asked to speak at the annual BSF Conference organised by Partnerships for Schools. John has also spent a day working with PFS and the Innovation Unit to develop good practice in terms of the future delivery of the BSF Programme nationally.

What happens next in Rochdale

Once initial bids are received in January, these will undergo a rigorous evaluation process involving Authority officers, external advisers and Headteachers. We also want to start discussions with the two schools listed as Phase One – non samples (Matthew Moss and Cardinal Langley). If we are to start the remodelling works in these schools by July 2010 planning work needs to start by January 2009.

Primary Capital Programme – latest news

Rochdale has received 'approval with modifications to the Strategy for Change'. This means that we can go ahead with our procurement and planning for the first year's projects. These are due to commence in the summer of 2009 and we are underway with the consultation, planning and design to deliver the education vision that schools are developing at the moment. The modifications to the Strategy for Change are to ensure that the strategy developed with schools will deliver education fit for the 21st century; ensure strong links with the Government's Children's plan; RMBC Children & Young People's Plan, and the 'Aiming High' objectives for Rochdale and all its partner agencies.

There will be a great deal of work undertaken with the School Improvement Team and each stakeholder group to allow us to submit the modified strategy before the end of March 09 to allow speedy feedback from the DCFS and to obtain final approvals. Meanwhile the School Organisation Team are supporting the stakeholder groups to complete a 'design brief', which can then slot into a procurement programme for work to commence in the summer 2009. We anticipate that a four year rolling programme will enable us to deliver all the new facilities within the first tranche of the PCP.

Good news for St Anne's Academy

The St Anne's Academy project is progressing well. The planning application was approved on 19 November and the Final Business



Approaching the front entrance – an artists impression

Case was submitted the following day to Partnership for Schools. It is hoped that approval for the £17 million project will be received mid December. The project is on track and it is anticipated that the official signing of the Development Agreement as well as the Design & Build Contract will be the 12 December. The Project Team are aiming to have Willmott Dixon on site by 5th Jan 2009.



Artists impression of the rear elevation



Have a wonderful festive season and may you all enjoy a prosperous 2009
From the School Organisation Team

Please Welcome.....

Yasin Khan

New Schools Programme Manager

Yasin is a graduate with a Bachelor of Arts Combined Honours Degree, in Business & Human Resource Management. He has also successfully passed the Managing Strategic Programmes Foundation Examination & has a postgraduate Qualification in Housing Management.



Yasin has worked in the Housing and Regeneration field for last the twelve years. Yasin's new role is to manage the St Anne's Academy new build project, as well as taking responsibility for other BSF projects.

He joins the team from Regeneration where he worked on the Oldham/Rochdale Housing Market Renewal Pathfinder Programme. Prior to this, Yasin worked as a Senior Development Officer, working on the multi-million pound decent standards Partnering Programme with RBH. In his spare time Yasin continues with his youth work & likes to travel. Whilst at University Yasin spent over six months living and working in Pennsylvania USA. Most recently he took two groups of young people on an International Residential in Germany & Portugal. Yasin is married with three children & enjoys a busy social life.

A sample scheme experience of Building Schools for the Future

Siddal Moor

Since arriving at Siddal Moor in January, I have had the privilege of working on the transformational Building Schools for the Future project in partnership with the Local Authority and Clive Rotheram, Deputy Head of the school. This has been time consuming and challenging but most of all, absolutely fascinating.

I took over the vision of my predecessor and worked with Clive, Local Authority officers, Governors, staff and students to develop a set of ambitions that I hope will benefit our staff, students and the wider community for many years to come.

We are now at the stage where the culmination of our work has been placed before architects and builders and they have been challenged to bring our vision to life. I will have spent 12 days this term in discussion with architects in order to refine this vision and make it work in a practical, structured and stimulating built sense. The three different options that have been placed before us, all have individual merits and drawbacks, but they are all incredibly fascinating and the process is one of the most challenging and interesting I've ever been involved with.

If you have £15 million pounds to spend, spend it on refurbishing a school. It's an amazing and challenging task.

Steve Britton, Head of Siddal Moor - 21/11/08

Hollingworth share their experience in the next bulletin.

Feedback

Bidders will formally present their bid proposals to Secondary School Heads/Chair of Governors/other stakeholders on 14 and 15 January 2009. We would be very interested to receive feedback on the approach taken for the interim presentations, so that we can see what lessons can be learnt for future presentations. Any comments to John.Bollington@rochdale.gov.uk.

Bowlee Park Community Primary School

Since work began at Easter, excellent progress has been made on the new Bowlee Park Community School. Despite the very wet summer, a committed project team have kept work running to schedule. In addition to a fabulous new



Excited Bowlee Park pupils visit their new school for the first time

interior and a stylish revamp to the outside of the building, exciting designs have been developed for the new play area that will be located at the front of the building. This will give an attractive and welcoming feel to the school and provide the children with fantastic new facilities including an area for ball games, a climbing frame, a stage, a shaded area, plenty of green space to enjoy and lots of opportunities for planting and growing flowers, fruit and vegetables.

Chris Windle the Headteacher said.....

"We are really looking forward to going into our new building in January! We have been working very closely with the local authority and Jackson and Jackson and have met regularly to ensure that the building will be finished for the end of December.

The quality of the refurbishment is second to none and we are so pleased with the results. We have a building fit for the 21st century which will be a fantastic environment for our children and staff. What a great start to 2009 - We can't wait to settle in!"



Ms Windle, Tom Eastwood (Impact Partnership) and the contractors prepare for a tour of the new building



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