

**CABINET
5 MARCH 2024**

**RELEASE OF CAPITAL FUNDS – HURWORTH SCHOOLS S106 FUNDING AND
BEAUMONT HILL CAPITAL**

**Responsible Cabinet Member -
Councillor Nick Wallis, Children and Young People Portfolio**

**Responsible Director -
James Stroyan, Group Director of People**

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek Member's agreement to:
 - (a) Release S106 funding for Hurworth Primary and Hurworth Secondary School capital works.
 - (b) Release High Needs capital for Beaumont Hill refurbishment

Summary

2. This report seeks Cabinet approval for the release of:
 - (a) £52,808.25 of Section 106 funding to enhance educational facilities in Hurworth Schools.
 - (b) An additional £106,000 of High Needs capital funding to support the redevelopment of Haughton Children's Centre and the refurbishment of the vacated space at Beaumont Hill Academy.
3. All projects will be managed in line with the Corporate Capital Process procedures.

Recommendations

4. It is recommended that Members agree to:
 - (a) Formally release Section 106 funding of £52,808.25 of Section 106 funding to enhance educational facilities in Hurworth Schools.
 - (b) Formally release £106,000 of High Needs capital funding to support the provision of additional places at Beaumont Hill Academy

Reasons

5. The recommendations are supported by the following reasons;
 - (a) Release of the Section 106 funding will allow the Hurworth schools to enhance their educational facilities, targeting capital investment in the areas identified as greatest need.
 - (b) Release of the High Needs capital funding will allow Beaumont Hill academy to refurbish Haughton Children's Centre, including the grounds, and remodel the space vacated by their sixth form pupils to make it more suitable for a secondary curriculum.

**James Stroyan,
Group Director of People**

Background Papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

Paul Richardson 0794 724 7224

S17 Crime and Disorder	Capital investment to improve facilities and provide better building maintenance will contribute to the reduction of crime and disorder.
Health and Wellbeing	Capital investment to improve facilities and provide better building maintenance will contribute to the reduction of crime and disorder.
Carbon Impact and Climate Change	All work undertaken will be designed and constructed with sustainability in mind and aim to reduce the carbon footprint, and re-use energy and environmental resources.
Diversity	This proposal projects have no specific impact on protected groups.
Wards Affected	Schools located in: Hurworth and Haughton and Springfield
Groups Affected	Children and young people of school age (3-16) in Darlington.
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not recommend a change to the budget and policy framework.
Key Decision	This is a not a key decision.
Urgent Decision	For the purpose of the 'call-in' procedure this does not represent an urgent matter.
Council Plan	The Capital Programme is consistent with the Council Plan providing high quality facilities that support modern approaches to education in schools and for lifelong learning.
Efficiency	Defective materials and plant will be replaced with more efficient products e.g. increasing 'u' value on windows, insulation and modern highly efficiency boilers.
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	The proposed projects have no specific impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers.

MAIN REPORT

Section 106 Funding

6. The Council has received a Section 106 contribution from the Miller Homes development (17/01194) of £34,478.25 towards enhancing the education infrastructure at Hurworth Primary and Hurworth Secondary.
7. The Section 106 funding from the Miller Homes development (17/01194) will be split between the two schools based on a proportion of their respective pupil numbers as at the October 2023 census. The Hurworth Secondary share will be £26,012.61 and Hurworth Primary's £8,465.64.
8. In addition, a further Section 106 contribution from the Croft House development (13/01001/FUL) of £18,330.00 has been received to provide additional education facilities at Hurworth Primary.
9. These funds are due to expire late 2024/early 2025, and if unused will have to be returned to their respective developers.

High Needs Capital

10. In January 2024 Cabinet agreed to release £360,000 of High Needs Capital funding for the redevelopment of Haughton Children's Centre as a sixth form centre for Beaumont Hill Academy. These figures were based on estimates provided by external consultants. The original report provided omitted the external works to make the site and grounds wheelchair accessible, this amounts to £48,563. In addition, building contractor quotes have come in higher than the estimates provided. In total, with on-costs and the external works, this amounts to an additional £106,000.
11. Release of the additional funds would bring the total up to £466,000, or £15,533 per place. This still compares very favourably with the average cost of refurbished special school places. The November 2023 EBD OG report on National School Delivery Cost Benchmarking reports that the average for a refurbished special school place is on average between £16,007 and £27,815 per place.
12. Any capital works undertaken using the Section 106 funding will be delivered in consultation with the school's concerned and in line with the school's identified priorities.