

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**CABINET
MONDAY 22 APRIL 2002 AT 2.00 PM**

Agenda Item

No.

6

CO-ORDINATED VOLUNTARY AIDED PROGRAMME (LCVAP) 2002/03

Report of the Director Children, Schools and Families

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Executive Member: Robert Gordon

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To present the list of bids for capital works funding in 2002/03 from Voluntary Aided schools.
- 1.2 To seek approval for the projects which have been prioritised for funding from the available Department for Education and Skills (DfES) budgets.

2. Summary

- 2.1 There is £1,233,000 LCVAP funding available for VA schools in Hertfordshire in 2002/03.
- 2.2 There is also a further £627,014 available for Voluntary Aided schools as "Modernisation" grant from the DfES (this includes LEA liabilities and Governors contributions at 10%.) The total available budget is therefore £1,860,014.
- 2.3 Bids have been received from schools and they have been prioritised initially by Diocesan Officers where applicable and then moderated and prioritised with reference to sufficiency and the suitability and condition elements of the Asset Management Plan.
- 2.4 The bids are listed in appendix A showing those which are recommended for approval and those which cannot be funded this year.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 A significant number of schemes can be funded from the available resources and members are asked to agree to the officer recommendations. The schemes must be completed within the financial year. (The funding cannot be carried over to 2003/04).
- 3.2 Cabinet is invited to consider the approval of bids for capital works funding in 2002/03 from Voluntary Aided schools.

4. Background

- 4.1 All voluntary aided schools were invited to bid for funding to carry out capital works from the LCVAP budget. (Schemes up to £400,000 are eligible).
- 4.2 The Church of England and the Roman Catholic bids were prioritised by their diocesan building officers.
- 4.3 Planning managers considered all the bids, including those from Voluntary Aided schools which are not linked to either Diocese, in the light of the information available from the Asset Management Plan and from the forecast information available, particularly in relation to the need for additional places in an area (sufficiency).

5. Present position

- 5.1 There is a “one line” summary of each proposal in the appendix to this report but each bid is available if members wish to consider these in more detail.
- 5.2 Bids have been prioritised on the basis of sufficiency and suitability. Condition bids have been assessed using the data from the condition surveys. (See point 6.1 below).

6. Other funds

- 6.1 There is a further DfES N.D.S. Condition Grant which is ring fenced for Voluntary Aided schools. The programme of work will be based on condition survey priorities but, for this year, any condition bids on file from VA schools will also be taken into account.

7. Funding allocations in future years

- 7.1 In 2003/04 and thereafter capital funding for Voluntary Aided Schools, as for the Community and Foundation sectors, will be driven by the data from the Asset Management Plan.
- 7.2 However, there will need to be a continuing input from Diocesan Officers.