

# EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

## PUBLIC

**Title:** Education Facilities

**Paper Number:** 10/18

**Date:** 24 January 2018

**Responsible Director:** Acting Director of Education

**Report Author:** Acting Director of Education

**Portfolio Holder:** MLA Stacy Bragger

**Reason for paper:** This paper is submitted to Executive Council:  
For policy decision

**Publication:** Yes

**Previous papers:** None

**List of Documents:** None

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### 1. Recommendations

Honourable Members are recommended to:

- (a) approve funding to explore possibilities for Educational Facilities

### 2. Additional Budgetary Implications

	2017/18	Annual Recurring
Operating budget	£100,000	£0

### 3. Executive Summary

- 3.1 Responding to the considerable pressure on the Education Department facilities this request for £100,000 will allow a feasibility study to be commissioned to review the medium & long term education requirements, outline design options for an integrated education campus, asset plan for surplus sites and create the business case.

### 4. Background and Links to Islands Plan and Directorate Business Plans

4.1 The Islands Plan 2014-18 aims include:

To address the organisational and capacity issues within our education system, with the goal of providing schools that will enable the Islands to deliver a quality education to all children, with sufficient capacity for growth **and the appropriate facilities to ensure a quality education for all.**

This Legislative Assembly have indicated that ensuring appropriate education facilities remain a priority for the new Government.

4.2 The National Infrastructure Plan states that the educational facilities are adequate; however this determination considered neither the quality of current education facilities, nor expected medium or long term growth pressures. The Education Department has identified that the current facilities do not provide sufficient capacity for growth and improvement. It is therefore critical to review the medium & long term education requirements which will create pressure on the current Educational facilities. In broad terms, the issues include:

- **Growing school roll at IJS&CE**
  - IJS&CE spread over 3 sites in central Stanley (loss of teaching time transitioning between sites; safeguarding concerns; need to over-staff sites to ensure correct ratios of adults to children are maintained whether the education need is present or not; necessary to duplicate equipment and resources across the sites)
- **Growing roll at FICS**
  - Insufficient capacity for teaching technical subjects, or subjects with specialist equipment, in FICS i.e. science labs, computer suites, music
  - Science labs are too small to accommodate size of cohorts moving into the school
  - Humanities, PE, Maths and Spanish are at capacity and an increasing school roll will very quickly result in no classroom space to accommodate greater numbers of students
  - No space at FICS to re-fit or convert to accommodate greater numbers
  - IT facilities are inadequate to allow students to study or be assessed in current IT courses, this places Falkland students at a significant disadvantage compared to peers in the UK
  - The sports hall is not of sufficient size to accommodate a large year group
  - If the sports hall is in use there is no availability for other uses i.e. exam sessions; assemblies; exhibitions; displays; community events; or for use by IJS&CE
- **Safeguarding**
  - It is currently not possible to control access to either school site adequately in order to safeguard the students and staff
- **Quality of environment**
  - The playground areas do not allow students a quality environment for physical development, sport development or for play
- **Wrap around care**
  - There is no space to develop wraparound care within either school i.e. no space to widen provision to include school meals

- **Stanley House**
  - The boarding facilities at Stanley House are vastly out of date; the buildings are inefficient in terms of energy use; and require significant investment in order to be fit for purpose and to meet minimum acceptable standards, such as the UK National Minimum Standards for Boarding.
- **Traffic safety and parking**
  - IJS&CE is in the middle of the central area of Stanley, parking as well as traffic to and from the school at peak times creates significant congestion.

4.3 It is proposed that a project board be formed to track the progress of the feasibility study. It is suggested that the board comprise of the Director of Education; Headteachers of both schools; Director of Public Works; and the Director of Development and Commercial Services.

## **5. Options and Reasons for Recommending Relevant Option**

Honourable Members are recommended to:

### Option 1 – recommended

5.1 Approve the allocation of £100,000 to fund a feasibility study into the development of Education facilities.

Reasons for recommending this option:

- a) To take action to address the current and future pressures on FIG Educational facilities

### Option 2 – not recommended

5.2 Decline the request for funding for a feasibility study

Reasons for not recommending this option:

- b) Will limit FIG's ability understand the best options and take action to address the current and future pressures on FIG Educational facilities

## **6. Resource Implications**

### 6.1 Financial Implications

Allocation of £100,000 in addition to current budget

### 6.2 Human Resource Implications

There are no direct HR implications arising from this report as it is intended that the feasibility work will be outsourced using the normal tendering process.

### 6.3 Other Resource Implications

None at this stage

## **7. Legal Implications**

7.1 There are no legal implications at this stage.

## **8. Environmental & Sustainability Implications**

- 8.1 There are no environmental and sustainability implications of the feasibility work, but the work itself will identify any environmental and sustainability implications of any future developments recommended.

## **9. Significant Risks**

- 9.1 If the recommendations of this paper are not approved, there is a significant risk that the Education Department will not be able to continue to deliver in the current facilities. The limitations of the facilities mean that continued growth and improvement in this Department will also be limited.
- 9.2 There are significant risks to children and staff members in terms of safeguarding, if the need for improvements / upgrades to the facilities is not addressed.

## **10. Consultation**

Consultation has been carried out with:

- 10.1 The Honourable MLA Bragger; Chief Executive; Director of Public Works; Director of Development and Commercial Services

## **11. Communication**

- 11.1 4-8 weeks to develop the project brief and to implement a procurement process to select and appoint suitable consultants to undertake the feasibility report.
- 11.2 Report back in August to Executive Council on progress and next steps.