

Education Children and Families Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 11 December 2018

Liberton High School – Update on remedial works

Item number	7.2
Report number	
Executive/routine	Executive
Wards	16, Liberton/Gilmerton
Council Commitments	

Executive Summary

This report addresses a motion approved at Council, on 20 September 2018, by providing an update on the remedial works at Liberton High School.

Liberton High School – Update on remedial works

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 That Committee:-
 - 1.1.1 Notes the progress and ongoing repair and maintenance works at Liberton High School; and
 - 1.1.2 Notes that the Wave 4 Infrastructure Investment Programme has committed the Council to develop a masterplan for a replacement Liberton High School with the first actions now being planned.

2. Background

- 2.1 On 20 September 2018, the Council approved a motion that stated:-
 - 1) Notes serious concerns over the Liberton High School remedial works which were to be completed over the summer break which have not been completed in line with the deadlines set out to both the Parent Council and the Education, Children and Families Committee.
 - 2) Calls for an action plan and strategic timetable be drawn up urgently for the required works to reassure parents, children and teachers at Liberton High School that the safety in our school is of utmost importance.
 - 3) Requests that a report to update members on the remedial works is brought to the next Education, Children and Families Committee.
- 2.2 This report seeks to address the above motion.

3. Main report

- 3.1 Capital and revenue based remedial works to Council property is now a 12-month rolling programme albeit there is a desire to complete as much work as possible during holiday periods when vacant possession is obtained.
- 3.2 In April 2018, a list of repairs was agreed with Liberton High School management team. This list contained many items, which were all revenue based repairs and maintenance, and comprised actions ranging from replacement door handles and light covers to more substantive work such as floor and suspended ceiling replacement.

- 3.3 At that time, the list referred to above was, and continues to be, a 'live' document changing on a weekly basis, with many items deleted, i.e., complete, and a significant volume of items added as and when identified. For the purposes of this report, it is assumed that point 1 of the motion is referring to the list as at the time before the summer recess.
- 3.4 The works planned for the summer were not completed in their entirety. The principal reason for this related to health and safety concerns.
- 3.5 Since the summer recess, all the works on the schedule have now been completed with a significant volume undertaken in the October break. However, since that time more works have been added, and in some cases completed. Further works planned and programmed as explained below: -
- **Revenue based repairs and maintenance works** – as indicated above this work is an ongoing programme. The next phase will involve significant areas of redecoration which will be agreed with the school management. In addition, an improved security upgrade programme has been agreed with the school and parent council. This will involve additional fencing around the school and the introduction of improved secure access arrangements.
 - **Planned preventive maintenance** – the school is now on a full annual programme of planned preventive maintenance.
 - **Planned capital works** – asset management works planned for Liberton include replacement handrails, 3 new suites of toilets in the main building and science block and the final phase of mechanical and electric improvements.
- 3.6 Moving forward, consultation and communication with the school on repairs and maintenance is carried out by a senior officer and a single contractor has been appointed to liaise and co-ordinate all works. In practice, this arrangement is working well and feedback from the school has been positive.
- 3.7 On 11 October 2018, the Finance and Resources Committee approved a report on Wave 4 Infrastructure Investment Programme, which was subsequently ratified by Council on 25 October 2018. This report committed the Council to develop a masterplan for a replacement Liberton High School with the first actions now being planned, which include a stakeholder workshop involving elected members and the wider school community.

4. Measures of success

- 4.1 To achieve a safe, low risk environment and fit for purpose teaching environment.
- 4.2 The reduction on backlog maintenance across the estate.
- 4.3 To put in place a planned preventive maintenance regime for all property.

5. Financial impact

- 5.1 In financial year 2017/18, £158,085 (revenue) was spent on repairs and maintenance on Liberton High School. To date, in this financial year, £72,583 has been spent but this is expected to rise considerably by the end of the financial year.
- 5.2 Since February 2017, £2.135m (capital) has been spent on electrical services improvements, windows, mechanical services and resurfacing the access road and car park.

6. Risk, policy, compliance, and governance impact

- 6.1 There are health and safety and service delivery risks of not addressing backlog maintenance. This risk has been mitigated by proposals in this report the introduction of a planned preventive maintenance regime.

7. Equalities impact

- 7.1 There are no direct equality impacts arising from this report.

8. Sustainability impact

- 8.1 There are no direct sustainability impacts arising from this report.

9. Consultation and engagement

- 9.1 Weekly consultation and engagement has taken place with the school management who, in turn, have updated the parent council.

10. Background reading/external references

- 10.1 None.

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11. Appendices

None.