

CARLISLE
CITY COUNCIL



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REPORT TO EXECUTIVE

PORTFOLIO AREA: COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Date of Meeting: 3RD MARCH 2003

Public

Key Decision: No

Recorded in Forward Plan:

No

Inside Policy Framework

Title: GRANT - WILLIAM HOWARD SPECIALIST SCHOOL STATUS
Report of: HEAD OF ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
Report reference: ECD.05/03

Summary:

The report comprises of a request from William Howard School for financial assistance in support of their application to gain 'specialist school' status in science.

Recommendations:

Members are requested to consider the request and approve a grant of £3,000

Contact Officer: Rob Burns

Ext: 7352

Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers: None

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND OPTIONS

- 1.1 Attached is a letter requesting the Council's support, both financially and for the principle, of William Howard School's bid to achieve specialist school status in science.
- 1.2 The Council has in recent years supported similar bids from St Aidan's School (Sports Status) and James Rennie (Arts Status).
- 1.3 If members are minded to approve the request to pump prime the bid, £3,000 could be available from a similar projected underspend on Community Support Section salaries.

2. CONSULTATION

- 2.1 Consultation to Date.
- 2.2 Consultation proposed.

3. STAFFING/RESOURCES COMMENTS

N/A

4. HEAD OF FINANCE'S COMMENTS

The grant of £3,000 to William Howard School to facilitate the achievement of specialist school status can be funded from within the existing Community Support budgets in 2002/03.'

5. LEGAL COMMENTS

N/A

6. CORPORATE COMMENTS

N/A

7. RISK MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT

N/A

8. EQUALITY ISSUES

N/A

9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

10. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

N/A

11. RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 Members are requested to consider the request and approve a grant of £3,000

12. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

12.1 To support the bid for specialist school status in view of the benefits such status would bring not only to the school and its pupils, but also to the local community generally.

C Elliot

Head of Economic & Community Development Services

26th February 2003

11 FEB 2003

WILLIAM HOWARD SCHOOL



Longtown Road Brampton Cumbria CA8 1AR

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Headteacher R T Alston BA

10 February 2003

ali/rta/specialist/citycouncil

Mr Rob Burns
Community Support Manager
Carlisle City Council
Civic Centre
CARLISLE
CA3 8QG

Dear Rob

Specialist School Status

As you know, we are currently designing a bid for Specialist School Status in Science. This will be submitted for October 2003.

The bid is in two parts. The first concerns developments in the school in Science, Maths and ICT and includes targets for participation, range of courses on offer, and outcomes in terms of success in external examinations. The second part is focused on "community". Here we will look to increase opportunity and achievement in local primary schools, and also to provide broadly scientific opportunities for the wider community.

One of the community initiatives will be the provision of a wildlife and nature reserve. We have a piece of land earmarked for this on our school site. We plan to create a water environment using the stream which flows through the area and also to plant trees, shrubs and other plants – creating a space which will attract birds, insects and small mammals. Access will be provided for the public with special facilities for people with disabilities.

We should be grateful if you were able to support our application for specialist school status. We would welcome both your "blessing" on our bid and financial help where possible. We must raise £50,000 in order to attract £100,000 of government funding to go with it. This sum must be used for capital projects. In addition we would gain additional revenue of around £120 per pupil per year. We are discussing this issue with other sponsors and ask that you consider contributing. A sum of £5,000 would be very welcome (obviously), but we know how constrained budgets are and a contribution of less than this would be gratefully received.

Please tell me if you or elected members would like further information about our application and the benefits we believe our plan will bring to the wider community in Brampton and its surrounding areas.

Yours sincerely

Roger Alston

Roger Alston
Headteacher

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