

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 19 October 2011	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Sub- Committee
<b>Report title:</b>		Southwark Schools for the Future: New School Rotherhithe	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Sam Fowler, Project Director Southwark Schools for the Future	

## RECOMMENDATION

1. That Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee note the briefing provided below.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. In 2007 Southwark's Outline Business Case (OBC) established the case for a new 5 form entry (750 place) secondary school with a further 150 place sixth form to meet the needs of an expanding population in Bermondsey and Rotherhithe that would be delivered as part of Phase 3 of Southwark's Building Schools for the Future (BSF).
3. In April 2010 Partnerships for Schools provisionally allocated £19.6m to fund the delivery of a new school in Rotherhithe.
4. In July 2010 Southwark was informed that all our projects, including New School Rotherhithe, were unaffected by the cuts to the BSF programme that were announced.
5. In October 2010 Partnerships for Schools (PfS) informed the council that projects referred to as 'unaffected' in July would be subject to a value for money review to be carried out on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE).
6. In November 2010 the DfE wrote to the council advising us of their decision to no longer support New School Rotherhithe. The Council continued to argue the case to the DfE and PfS that there was a need to deliver the New School Rotherhithe to meet current local demand and anticipated future boroughwide need.
7. In April 2011 Southwark was invited by PfS to submit revised and current Pupil Place Planning data. This submission was made on the 18 April 2011 and it reiterated the need for investment to create new places in Rotherhithe.
8. This Pupil Place Planning submission concluded that new Year 7 places will be required boroughwide from September 2016, with 5 FE (forms of entry) required by 2019/20 – 150 Year 7 places. It is considered by the Council that these places should be provided in SE16 to respond to and support the ongoing regeneration in the area.

## UPDATE

9. On 10 October 2011 the DfE advised that a 700 place University Technical College (UTC) for 14-19 year olds based at Southwark College's Bermondsey site will proceed to the pre-opening stage of the UTC development process with a view to it being open in September 2012.
10. We understand that a UTC will have a sub-regional catchment area and will draw pupils in from beyond Southwark. It is unclear therefore the number of places that will be taken up by Southwark pupils and the affect on general outstanding demand.
11. The DfE further advised that a Compass School application for a 700 place mixed secondary school will also proceed to the next stage of the free schools process. Compass' proposed location within the borough for this school is unknown and the letter advised that the applicant will now 'begin the task of converting their vision into a reality'. Neither the DfE or applicant have, to date, shared the detail of their proposals with the council.
12. It is not known as to the implications of these decisions on the funding available through BSF and the Council will be actively seeking further clarity from the DfE and the applicant groups as to their proposals and the implications thereof. Neither proposal fully responds to the identified need.

## AUDIT TRAIL

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<b>Report Author</b>	Sam Fowler, Project Director Southwark Schools for the Future	
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<b>Dated</b>	11 October 2011	
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No	
<b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER</b>		
<b>Officer Title</b>	<b>Comments Sought</b>	<b>Comments included</b>
Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	No	No
Finance Director	No	No
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	No	No
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