

Monthly Bulletin 20 on BSF Programme: April 2007

Main developments since the last monthly bulletin are as follows:

Willowfield School:

It has now become clear that the recent changes in planning regulations made by Government at a national level have made it most unlikely if not impossible for the Council to gain planning permission for a new school on part of the Douglas Eyre playing fields. This is a great disappointment, both in terms of the benefits of the new site for the school but also in terms of the benefits offered to users of the playing fields.

Officers are now reconsidering alternatives.

Progress towards "Financial Close"

Work towards reaching Financial Close (i.e. signing all contracts and establishing a Local Education Partnership) with the Bouygues Partnership for Education and Community has proceeded throughout the month, with a target date for completion now the second half of May.

Cabinet has now formally agreed to proceed with Bouygues as the Councils partner in the LEP, and the details of the designs for the 3 sample schemes and on the wider ICT offer for Walthamstow secondary schools have now been agreed. The focus of remaining work is on outstanding contractual documentation.

Kelmscott and Frederick Bremmer Schools

Work has been proceeding at both Kelmscott and on the new Bremmer School, under what is called an "Early Works Agreement", which has allowed a start on site before the main contractual agreements have been reached with Bouygues.

Simon Newland