

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Education and Communities Committee with an update on progress with the following:
 - consultations with the community with a view to establishing a constituted management committee for the Grieve Road Community Centre;
 - progress with the potential for reconfiguring the facilities at the Centre and carrying out internal decoration works;
 - discussions which have taken place with Oak Tree Housing Association regarding a potential future asset transfer of the Paton Street facility

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 After extensive community engagement a decision was taken to close both the Fancy Farm and Paton Street Community Facilities leaving Grieve Road as the only Community Facility in Ward 7.
- 2.2 At the September 2018 Education and Communities Committee, officers were remitted to take forward several actions linked to the closure of the facilities and the refurbishment of Grieve Road.
- 2.3 Officers contacted community members who were interested in supporting the new Ward 7 Community Facility (Grieve Road) to invite them to an initial meeting to see who would be interested in becoming members of the facilities management committee.
- 2.4 Ward Councillors and Council Officers met to discuss modernising the internal layout of Grieve Road with the opportunity for community members to have a say in developing this.
- 2.5 Officers have been in discussion with Oak Tree Housing Association regarding a future potential asset transfer of the Paton Street facility.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Members are asked to note the progress made to date in regard to:
 - a. establishing a management committee for Grieve Road Community Facility;
 - b. reconfiguring the layout of Grieve Road Community Facility; and
 - c. discussions with Oak Tree Housing Association regarding a future potential asset transfer of Paton Street Community Facility.

Grant McGovern Head of Inclusive Education, Culture and Communities

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Community Facilities Review recommended the closure of a number of community facilities including across Inverclyde. The recommendations of the review were based upon a number of criteria including footfall and usage, the proximity of alternative facilities for lets, including those within the school estate. The review also included an assessment of the projected longer term capital costs in connection with building maintenance and elemental lifecycle replacement of the community facilities based on property condition surveys.
- 4.2 While the review had recommended the closure of some community facilities in Ward 7, Paton Street Community Hub has remained closed following a fire in December 2016 pending a decision on the overall savings proposal. A decision was taken at the September Education and Communities Committee to close both the Paton Street and Fancy Farm facilities and to retain Grieve Road as a community facility.

5.0 PROGRESS TO DATE

- 5.1 A meeting was held on 26 September 2018 with all members of the community who would be interested in establishing a management committee for Grieve Road. Unfortunately the meeting was very poorly attended as those invited following their expression of interest in the recent community consultation did not attend. CLD Officers, who also attended the meeting, will contact the community members to ascertain whether they remain interested in becoming part of the management committee or to be involved in the Centre at any level.
- 5.2 Following in-depth discussions with the community members who attended the meeting, the view from them was that they were severely disappointed by the lack of support they were given by the wider community and are concerned about how to take this forward. The community members have agreed to attend another meeting on 8 October within the Grieve Road facility; this will be communicated to the wider community.
- 5.3 Community events were suggested by the group to make the wider community aware of the new facility and encourage wider participation e.g. Halloween Party, Open Days, Christmas Fayre. An action plan will be set up with the support of a CLD Worker who will support and work closely with the group to facilitate these events. This will not include any additional funding out with the current Council grant allocation to the facility.
- 5.4 At the meeting, several options for reconfiguration were shared with members of the community. The reconfiguration depends on proposed future use but the current preference is to have smaller multi-use rooms to allow flexibility of use. The preferred option from the meeting is shown in Appendix 1. While the proposals contained in Appendix 1 remain as options at a high level it is not possible to give detailed costing at this stage.
- 5.5 Continuing consultation with the community and any future management committee will allow a focus on preferred options for the reconfiguration and redecoration of the building to then enable more detailed costings. Those costings will include the creation of car parking spaces.
- 5.6 Initial discussions have taken place with Oak Tree Housing Association who have indicated that it is now unlikely that they will take this forward at the present stage due to the need to refurbish Paton Street Facility and they feel this is outwith their financial scope.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

Finance

6.1

Financial Implications:

One off Costs

Cost Centre	•	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

Legal

6.2 None.

Human Resources

6.3 None.

Equalities

6.4 Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?



See attached appendix



This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Repopulation

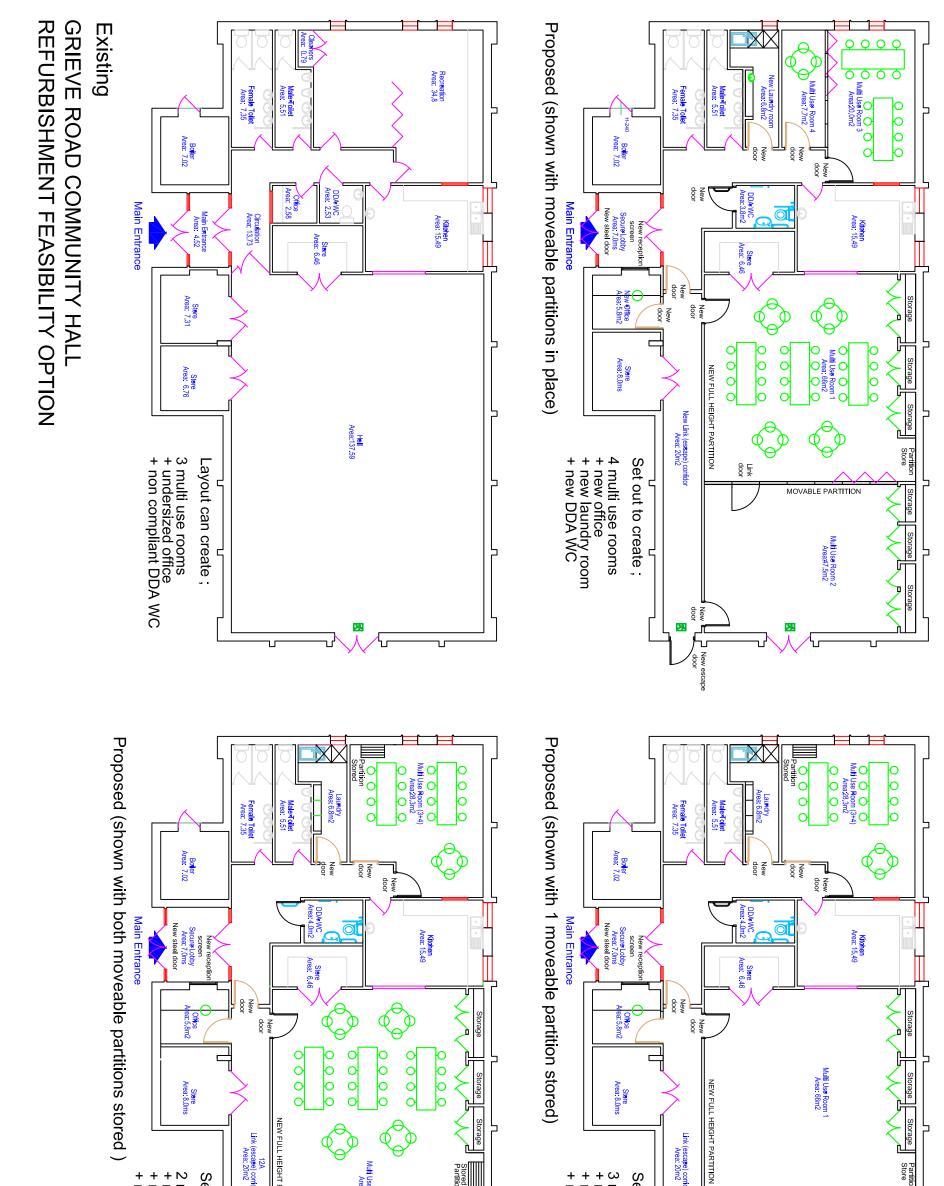
6.5 None.

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 We have consulted with the local community, Ward Councillors and colleagues across Property Services.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 N/A.



	ear item? (1+2) PARTITION Iter of the create ; multi use rooms new laundry room new DDA WC	et out to create ; new office new laundry room new DA WC	ntor New e
DWG. TITLE INTERNAL ALTERATIONS FEASIBILITY OPTION Drawn Checked Date		REV Description Date	