
From: Correspondence Unit <education-correspondenceunit@corr.cloud.gov.ie>
Sent: Wednesday, January 17, 2024 11:57 AM
To: Susan Sinclair <ssinclair@sdublincoco.ie>
Subject: DES-CU-05163-2023

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Ms. Susan Sinclair

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Our Ref: DES-CU-05163-2023

Dear Ms. Sinclair ,

I refer to your recent correspondence to the Minister for Education, Ms. Norma Foley TD.

I wish to advise that requirements for school places is kept under on-going review in the context of available information on population, enrolments and residential development activity.

In order to plan for school provision and analyse the relevant demographic data, the Department divides the country into 314 school planning areas and uses a Geographical Information System, using data from a range of sources, including CSO Census data, Child Benefit and school enrolment data, to identify where the pressure for school places across the country will arise and where additional school accommodation is needed at primary and post-primary level.

Major new residential developments have the potential to alter the demand for school places at a local level. In that regard, as part of the demographic demand analysis, the Department monitors planning and construction activity in the residential sector. This involves the analysis of data sources from Local Authorities and the CSO along with the engagement with local authorities and the construction sector.

In this way, up-to-date information on significant new residential developments is obtained and factored into the demographic analysis exercise. This is necessary to ensure that schools infrastructure planning is keeping pace with demographic changes, at a local level,

where there is a constantly evolving picture with planned new residential development.

Where demographic data indicates that additional provision is required, the delivery of such additional provision is dependent on the particular circumstances of each case and may, be provided through:

• Utilising existing unused capacity within a school or schools,

• Extending the capacity of a school or schools,

• Provision of a new school or schools.

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• There are two primary school projects in the school planning area and when completed, will cater for the demand for school places in the area:

Adamstown Castle Educate Together National School (Roll No: 20268H) Brief: 32x General classrooms ,to create 4 Classroom SEN base. Stage 1: Stage 1 is the Preliminary Design Stage where the Design Team in conjunction with the school authorities, will analyse all the constraints of the site, develop a preferred design option and ensure that the preferred option is the best option for the delivery of the brief.

St. Andrews NS (Roll No: 12014D) - Brief: 1 x 100m2 SEN modular classroom. Stage 4: Stage 4 is the signing of the letter of acceptance to the successful contractor and commencement on site.

There are six post primary school projects in the school planning area and when completed, will cater for the demand for school places in the area:

Griffen Community College (Roll No: 76454S) Brief: New School Building. Project to provide long term projected enrolments of 1000 plus 4 Special Education Needs base. Stage 3: Stage 3 is the instruction for the project to proceed to Tender

Lucan Community College (Roll No: 70080T)- Brief: extension to cater for long term projected enrolments of 1000 plus 2 Special Education Needs Base. Stage 3: Stage 3 is the instruction for the project to proceed to Tender

St. Joseph's College (Roll No. 60263V)- Brief: extension and refurbishment to cater for long term projected enrolments of 1000. Stage 4: Stage 4 is the signing of the letter of acceptance to the successful contractor and commencement on site.

Colaiste Phadraig CBS (60264A)- Brief: refurbishment for Home Economics. Stage 4.

St. Kevin's Community College (70042L)- Brief: 3 general classrooms (prefab replacements) and 2 classroom Special education needs base and ancillary. Stage 1: Stage 1 is the Preliminary Design Stage where the Design Team in conjunction with the school authorities, will analyse all the constraints of the site, develop a preferred design option

and ensure that the preferred option is the best option for the delivery of the brief.

Colaiste Cois Life (76065H) â€“Brief: refurbishment works to create 4 teaching spaces. Two storey modular unit - 7 X 49sqm General Classrooms, 1 X 100sqm Science Room & Prep Area, 1 X 120Sqm Technology Room, 2 Stair Block incl platform lift, male, female & disabled toilets on each floor & circulation space. Both of these projects are at Stage 5: Stage 5 is final handover of the school building to the Patron/Board of Management.

The Department is not in a position to meet with the committee at this time but will continue to liaise and meet with South Dublin County Council in respect of their County Development Plan and any associated Local Area Plans with a view to identifying any potential long-term school accommodation requirements across school planning areas.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Oâ€™Brien

Private Secretary