

PPP DATA SHEET

EAST RENFREWSHIRE SCHOOLS



Background

In 1997, East Renfrewshire Council recognised that the increase in pupil numbers identified by a review of the school rolls could not be accommodated properly within the existing facilities. Projections indicated that within 5 years Mearns Primary School and St. Ninian's High School would both be more than 50% over capacity. Additionally, the buildings at Mearns Primary did not meet the standards required for the provision of a modern educational service. The original building was built in 1876, and the second building in 1961.

At St. Ninian's High, built in 1984, there was a dearth of suitable accommodation to meet the rising school roll. Significant constraints included insufficient specialist facilities for music, physical education, science and information technology, as well as a lack of interview rooms for guidance, learning support and senior staff.

For some years, both schools had been using temporary classroom huts to alleviate overcrowding in the main buildings. Therefore, the Council prepared and evaluated a range of options to address this situation. It was decided to renew the facilities, and the Private Finance Initiative was the chosen procurement method. Accordingly, bids were invited from the private sector.



Scottish Executive Private Finance Unit:

contract with East Renfrewshire School Services Ltd. The contract was for design, construction, financing, maintenance and operation of the facilities for 25 years. Construction work started on both sites in April 2000, and the schools opened in August 2001.

Features

The facilities comprise a new four stream primary school, including a 50/50 place nursery, on a greenfield site to replace the existing Mearns Primary. The existing St. Ninian's High School has been extended to include 29 classrooms, and a free-standing sports hall.

Benefits

The Council believe they have gained the following benefits:

- **School site and facilities**
Scope for expansion, ease of access, flexible accommodation, security, maintenance, price certainty.
- **Educational**
Specialist rooms, curricular expansion, special needs, future needs, sports.
- **Community**
Sports, meetings, exhibitions, theatre.

Facts

Sponsor: East Renfrewshire Council

Contact: J McKinney (0141 577 3059)

Constructor: Jarvis Special Projects

Legal Advisers: Burness

Contractor: Jarvis Construction (UK) Ltd

Service Providers: Jarvis Workspace FM

Design: Keppie Design with McLay Collier, Blyth & Blyth, and Hirst.

Debt Financing: Barclays Bank plc

Contact Signed: 20 April 2000

Capital Cost: £14.2m

Contract Length: 25 years

Status: Operational

Advisers to the Council

Financial: PricewaterhouseCoopers

Legal: Shepherd & Wedderburn

Technical: Mackenzie Partnership

Status: Operational

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