

## Condition of School Buildings

### Overall Position

The cost of rectifying school condition and suitability across the estate would total £51.5m and realistically could not be tackled in the short term neither does it need to be. Some items which need to be addressed are long term objectives according to the categorisation of priorities.

Barking & Dagenham have continued to use the priorities and categories indicated by the DfE in its original Asset Management Plan guidance. The information held on the school estate is held as a database and is made up of surveyed data identified against building elements with costs attached and a large number of plans and photographs.

### Overall the identified costs are as follows:

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Priority One - requires immediate attention | Nil      |
| Priority Two - essential                    | £36.929m |
| Priority Three - desirable                  | £12.903m |
| Priority Four - long term                   | £1.674m  |

Priority one projects are those which have to be dealt with immediately otherwise there is a closure – this is why there are no priority ones. When these are identified resources are directed to address the matters.

There are a number of schools in the Borough which need repairs to ensure that we avoid closures. The approach taken is to work in partnership with schools to jointly address the most pressing items.

The school building stock in Barking & Dagenham have a number of similar characteristics as many are of similar design and were constructed between the first and second wars last century (1920's -1930's). As a consequence we have a number of schools in similar condition but also with issues around suitability.

In terms of investment, last year 2010/11 the figures was around £3m and this year is set to be £3.8m. This is supplemented by school contributions.