

Decision Record –The Willows CE Primary School, Stratford - Expansion

Cabinet Portfolio Holder taking decision: *name and portfolio*

Councillor Heather Timms, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Child Safeguarding, Early Intervention and Schools

Date of Decision: (NOT BEFORE 25 November 2011)

28.11.11

Decision taken

I, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Child Safeguarding, Early Intervention and Schools, approve the expansion of The Willows CE Primary School, Stratford as set out in the report and statutory notice (appendix A of the report and summarised below).

Reasons for Decisions

The rise in the birth rate will have a significant impact on some areas of the county from 2011 in some cases and from 2012 in others.

There are 8 primary schools serving Stratford Town. Steps have already been taken to increase the capacity of two of these in the past but pressure on places is still evident.

From September 2011 the total reception capacity in the area is 295. The most recent pupil forecasts show numbers living in the area and likely to be looking to secure places in reception are as shown below.

September 2012	311
September 2013	309
September 2014	295

These figures do not include the impact of possible housing developments currently being considered for planning permission by the District Council.

Clearly, to do nothing will result in insufficient places being available in Stratford Town for the children who live in the area. The Willows is a Church of England Controlled Primary School. The school is extremely popular and is repeatedly over-subscribed. The school has agreed to take additional numbers this year to help with the shortage of places in the town..

To increase the PAN at the Willows C of E Primary School will support the Government's policy of expanding good and popular schools.

Background Information/ factors considered in arriving at these decisions - (set out below or attach officer report):

Background

On 16 December 2010 the WCC Cabinet agreed to the Strategic Director carrying out formal consultation with stakeholders on proposals to expand The Willows CE Primary School. Formal consultations with stakeholders took place between 6 June and 15 July 2011.

At a meeting on 26 August 2011 the Portfolio Holder agreed to publish statutory consultation on the proposal to expand the School.

The current capacity is 315. The prescribed alteration would see the capacity increase to 420.

The current Pupil Admission Number (PAN) is 45 with up to 45 children being admitted in each year group. The proposal is to increase the school from 1.5 FE to 2 FE and a PAN of 60. In September 2012 we would look to see up to 60 children admitted into reception. The increased PAN will then feed through the school year on year with 60 being taken in to reception each September thereafter.

The proposal will require the provision of an additional four classrooms, additional group and practical space: an additional studio hall to facilitate PE; an extension to the existing school dining hall to accommodate additional numbers and to allow whole school assemblies and act of collective worship. It is also proposed to integrate a pre-school/nursery as part of the development.

This is a significant amount of work on a constrained occupied site and will be delivered in phases to obviate the need for temporary accommodation.

Financial and Legal Implications

The estimated cost of the expansion is 2,600,000. the costs will be met from the Warwickshire Schools Capital Programme

Report Author:	Janet Neale
Head of Service:	Mark Gore
Strategic Director:	Wendy Fabbro
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Heather Timms

Checklist

Urgent matter: yes/no*

No

Confidential or Exempt (state category of exempt information)

No

Is the decision contrary to the budget and policy framework

No

List of Reports considered [please attach or forward a copy]

As published

List of Background Papers [please include directorate contact names and numbers for access to background papers]

- School Organisation Framework Document 2005/10
 - Portfolio Holder Report 26.07.11
 - Cabinet Report 16.12.10
 - Formal Consultation Paper – Janet Neale

Any members and officers consulted or informed and any comments given.

Cllr Heather Timms – Decision Maker
Local member: Cllr Ron Cockings and Cllr Kate Rolfe
Legal: Naomi Bentley Lawson, Victoria Gould, Fay Ford
Property: Steve Smith
Finance: Chris Norton

For information: Cllrs Tandy, Ross, Balaam, Rickhards., Cllr Robbins