

Portfolio Holder (Safeguarding, Early Intervention and Schools) Decision Making Session

Expansion of The Willows CE Primary School, Stratford Upon Avon

Recommendation

That the Portfolio Holder approves the expansion of The Willows CE Primary School as detailed in the report.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 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.
- 1.2 At a meeting on 26 August 2011 the Portfolio Holder agreed to publish statutory consultation on the proposal to expand The Willows CE Primary School.

2. Statutory

- 2.1 Statutory notices were published on 15 September 2011 and the representation period finished on 13 October 2011. A copy of the statutory information for the expansion of The Willows CE Primary School is attached as **Appendix A** to this report.
- 2.2 Under the School Organisation regulations, as there have been no objections to the proposal, the matter can be determined by the County Council as the 'Decision Maker' up to the period of two months following the completion of statutory notices, which expires on 13 December 2011.

3. Confirmation of Decision

- 3.1 Given that there have been no objections to this statutory proposal the Portfolio Holder is now asked to consider approving the proposal to expand The Willows CE Primary school with effect from 1 September 2012.
- 3.2 Equality issues will be considered as part of the on-going process.

Background Papers

- School Organisation Framework Document 2005/10
- Portfolio Holder Report 26.07.11

- Cabinet Report 16.12.10
- Formal Consultation Paper

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PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS OTHER THAN FOUNDATION PROPOSALS: Information to be included in a complete proposal

Extract of Part 1 of Schedule 3 and Part 1 of Schedule 5 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended):

In respect of a Governing Body Proposal: School and governing body's details

1. The name, address and category of the school for which the governing body are publishing the proposals.

N/A – Local Authority proposal

In respect of an LEA Proposal: School and local education authority details

1. The name, address and category of the school.

Warwickshire County Council
Children, Young People and Families Directorate
Learning and Achievement
Saltisford Office Park
Ansell way
Warwick
CV34 4UL

The Willows C of E Primary School
The Willows North
Stratford upon Avon
Warwickshire
CV37 9QN

Church of England Controlled School

Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation

2. The date on which the proposals are planned to be implemented, and if they are to be implemented in stages, a description of what is planned for each stage, and the number of stages intended and the dates of each stage.

Increase in the published admission number from 45 to 60 at reception from September 2012 admissions.

The increased PAN will then feed through the school one year group at a time.

Objections and comments

3. A statement explaining the procedure for making representations, including —
- (a) the date prescribed in accordance with paragraph 29 of Schedule 3 (GB proposals)/Schedule 5 (LA proposals) of The School Organisation (Prescribed

- Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), by which objections or comments should be sent to the local education authority; and
- (b) the address of the authority to which objections or comments should be sent.

A Statutory Notice comprising an extract from these Proposals will be published by the Local Authority allowing for comments or objections to be made within a period of 4 weeks from the date of publication of the Statutory Notice. The Notice will state that comments or objections are to be sent to

Warwickshire County Council
Children, Young People and Families Directorate
Access and Organisation (Ref JAN)
Learning and Achievement
Saltisford Office Park
Ansell Way
Warwick
CV34 4UL

Alteration description

4. A description of the proposed alteration and in the case of special school proposals, a description of the current special needs provision.

The proposal is to increase the Published Admission Number and to build at the school to support the additional numbers.

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.

School capacity

- 5.—(1) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1 to 4, 8, 9 and 12-14 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/paragraphs 1-4, 7, 8, 18, 19 and 21 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), the proposals must also include —

- (a) details of the current capacity of the school and, where the proposals will alter the capacity of the school, the proposed capacity of the school after the alteration;

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

- (b) details of the current number of pupils admitted to the school in each relevant age group, and where this number is to change, the proposed number of pupils to be admitted in each relevant age group in the first school year in which the proposals will have been implemented;

The current 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.

- (c) where it is intended that proposals should be implemented in stages, the number of pupils to be admitted to the school in the first school year in which each stage will have been implemented;

With effect from September 2012 admissions, the PAN will be 60 at reception. The PAN in other year groups for September 2012 will remain at 45. The increased PAN will then apply for reception feeding through the school one year group at a time.

- (d) where the number of pupils in any relevant age group is lower than the indicated admission number for that relevant age group a statement to this effect and details of the indicated admission number in question.

Current pupil numbers show that the school is full or above capacity in most year groups.

(2) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1, 2, 9, 12 and 13 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals) /paragraphs 1, 2, 8, 18 and 19 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), a statement of the number of pupils at the school at the time of the publication of the proposals.

Number on roll August 2011

R	1	2	3	4	5	6	total
45	45	46	49	43	42	48	

Implementation

6. Where the proposals relate to a foundation or voluntary controlled school a statement as to whether the proposals are to be implemented by the local education authority or by the governing body, and, if the proposals are to be implemented by both, a statement as to the extent to which they are to be implemented by each body.

The proposals will be implemented by the Local Authority with the cost of building work being met from the Council's Capital Programme.

The Local Authority and the school are working together to agree the lay-out and size of the new accommodation.

Additional Site

7.— (1) A statement as to whether any new or additional site will be required if proposals are implemented and if so the location of the site if the school is to occupy a split site.

Not applicable – additional accommodation will be provided on the existing site.

(2) Where proposals relate to a foundation or voluntary school a statement as to who will provide any additional site required, together with details of the tenure (freehold or leasehold) on which the site of the school will be held, and if the site is to be held on a lease, details of the proposed lease.

Not applicable.

Changes in boarding arrangements

8.—(1) Where the proposals are for the introduction or removal of boarding provision, or the alteration of existing boarding provision such as is mentioned in paragraph 8 or 21 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/7 or 14 of Schedule 4 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended) —

- (a) the number of pupils for whom it is intended that boarding provision will be made if the proposals are approved;

Not applicable.

- (b) the arrangements for safeguarding the welfare of children at the school;

Not applicable.

- (c) the current number of pupils for whom boarding provision can be made and a description of the boarding provision; and

Not applicable.

- (d) except where the proposals are to introduce boarding provision, a description of the existing boarding provision.

Not applicable.

(2) Where the proposals are for the removal of boarding provisions or an alteration to reduce boarding provision such as is mentioned in paragraph 8 or 21 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/7 or 14 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended) —

- (a) the number of pupils for whom boarding provision will be removed if the proposals are approved; and

Not applicable.

- (b) a statement as to the use to which the former boarding accommodation will be put if the proposals are approved.

Not applicable.

Transfer to new site

9. Where the proposals are to transfer a school to a new site the following information—

- (a) the location of the proposed site (including details of whether the school is to occupy a single or split site), and including where appropriate the postal address;

Not applicable.

- (b) the distance between the proposed and current site;

Not applicable.

- (c) the reason for the choice of proposed site;

Not applicable.

- (d) the accessibility of the proposed site or sites;

Not applicable.

- (e) the proposed arrangements for transport of pupils to the school on its new site; and

Not applicable.

- (f) a statement about other sustainable transport alternatives where pupils are not using transport provided, and how car use in the school area will be discouraged.

Not applicable.

Objectives

10. The objectives of the proposals.

To provide additional spaces at KS1 and KS2 to ensure that the County Council is able to fulfil its statutory duty to provide sufficient school places.

Consultation

11. Evidence of the consultation before the proposals were published including—

- (a) a list of persons who were consulted;
- (b) minutes of all public consultation meetings;
- (c) the views of the persons consulted;
- (d) a statement to the effect that all applicable statutory requirements in relation to the proposals to consult were complied with; and
- (e) copies of all consultation documents and a statement on how these documents were made available.

Formal consultation took place between 6th June and 15th July 2011.

Consultation documents were produced and sent to;

- Parents of current and prospective pupils at the school.
- Staff and Governors
- County, District and Parish Councillors
- Chief Executive and Planning Officer at Stratford District Council

- The Diocesan Bodies
- The Early Years Partnership
- Local Member of Parliament
- All neighbouring schools
- The Admissions Forum
- Teaching and Non-teaching union representatives.

In addition copies of the consultation document were made available in the local library.

In addition to a copy of the consultation document there is also a copy of the report to the Portfolio Holder for Child Safeguarding, Early Intervention and Schools Decision Making session. This report gives details of the response to the formal consultation process. A copy of the draft minutes authorising the publication of statutory notices is attached.

Project costs

12. A statement of the estimated total capital cost of the proposals and the breakdown of the costs that are to be met by the governing body, the local education authority, and any other party.

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

13. A copy of confirmation from the Secretary of State, local education authority and the Learning and Skills Council for England (as the case may be) that funds will be made available (including costs to cover any necessary site purchase).

Not applicable

Age range

14. Where the proposals relate to a change in age range, the current age range for the school.

Not applicable

Early years provision

15. Where the proposals are to alter the lower age limit of a mainstream school so that it provides for pupils aged between 2 and 5—

- (a) details of the early years provision, including the number of full-time and part-time pupils, the number and length of sessions in each week, and the services for disabled children that will be offered;

Not applicable

- (b) how the school will integrate the early years provision with childcare services and how the proposals are consistent with the integration of early years provision for childcare;

Not applicable

- (c) evidence of parental demand for additional provision of early years provision;

Not applicable

- (d) assessment of capacity, quality and sustainability of provision in schools and in establishments other than schools who deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within 3 miles of the school; and

Not applicable

- (e) reasons why such schools and establishments who have spare capacity cannot make provision for any forecast increase in the number of such provision.

Not applicable

Changes to sixth form provision

16. (a) Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school provides sixth form education or additional sixth form education, a statement of how the proposals will—

- (i) improve the educational or training achievements;
- (ii) increase participation in education or training; and
- (iii) expand the range of educational or training opportunities for 16-19 year olds in the area;

Not applicable

- (b) A statement as to how the new places will fit within the 16-19 organisation in an area;

Not applicable

- (c) Evidence —

- (i) of the local collaboration in drawing up the proposals; and
- (ii) that the proposals are likely to lead to higher standards and better progression at the school;

Not applicable

- (d) The proposed number of sixth form places to be provided.

Not applicable

17. Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school ceases to provide sixth form education, a statement of the effect on the supply of 16-19 places in the area.

Not applicable

Special educational needs

18. Where the proposals are to establish or change provision for special educational needs—

- (a) a description of the proposed types of learning difficulties in respect of which education will be provided and, where provision for special educational needs already exists, the current type of provision;

Not applicable

(b) any additional specialist features will be provided;

Not applicable

(c) the proposed numbers of pupils for which the provision is to be made;

Not applicable

(d) details of how the provision will be funded;

Not applicable

(e) a statement as to whether the education will be provided for children with special educational needs who are not registered pupils at the school to which the proposals relate;

Not applicable

(f) a statement as to whether the expenses of the provision will be met from the school's delegated budget;

Not applicable

(g) the location of the provision if it is not to be established on the existing site of the school;

Not applicable

(h) where the provision will replace existing educational provision for children with special educational needs, a statement as to how the local education authority believes that the new provision is likely to lead to improvement in the standard, quality and range of the educational provision for such children; and

Not applicable

(i) the number of places reserved for children with special educational needs, and where this number is to change, the proposed number of such places.

Not applicable

19. Where the proposals are to discontinue provision for special educational needs—

(a) details of alternative provision for pupils for whom the provision is currently made;

Not applicable

- (b) details of the number of pupils for whom provision is made that is recognised by the local education authority as reserved for children with special educational needs during each of the 4 school years preceding the current school year;

Not applicable

- (c) details of provision made outside the area of the local education authority for pupils whose needs will not be able to be met in the area of the authority as a result of the discontinuance of the provision; and

Not applicable

- (d) a statement as to how the proposer believes that the proposals are likely to lead to improvement in the standard, quality and range of the educational provision for such children.

Not applicable

20. Where the proposals will lead to alternative provision for children with special educational needs, as a result of the establishment, alteration or discontinuance of existing provision, the specific educational benefits that will flow from the proposals in terms of—

- (a) improved access to education and associated services including the curriculum, wider school activities, facilities and equipment with reference to the local education authority's Accessibility Strategy;
- (b) improved access to specialist staff, both educational and other professionals, including any external support and outreach services;
- (c) improved access to suitable accommodation; and
- (d) improved supply of suitable places.

Not applicable

Sex of pupils

21. Where the proposals are to make an alteration to provide that a school which was an establishment which admitted pupils of one sex only becomes an establishment which admits pupils of both sexes—

- (a) details of the likely effect which the alteration will have on the balance of the provision of single sex-education in the area;

Not applicable

- (b) evidence of local demand for single-sex education; and

Not applicable

- (c) details of any transitional period which the body making the proposals wishes specified in a transitional exemption order (within the meaning of section 27 of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975).

Not applicable

22. Where the proposals are to make an alteration to a school to provide that a school which was an establishment which admitted pupils of both sexes becomes an establishment which admits pupils of one sex only—

- (a) details of the likely effect which the alteration will have on the balance of the provision of single-sex education in the area; and

Not applicable

- (b) evidence of local demand for single-sex education.

Not applicable

Extended services

23. If the proposed alterations affect the provision of the school's extended services, details of the current extended services the school is offering and details of any proposed change as a result of the alterations.

Extended services provision will continue to be offered at the school.

Need or demand for additional places

24. If the proposals involve adding places—

- (a) a statement and supporting evidence of the need or demand for the particular places in the area;

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.

- (b) where the school has a religious character, a statement and supporting evidence of the demand in the area for education in accordance with the tenets of the religion or religious denomination;

The Willows is a Church of England Controlled Primary School. The school is extremely

popular and is repeatedly over-subscribed.

- (c) where the school adheres to a particular philosophy, evidence of the demand for education in accordance with the philosophy in question and any associated change to the admission arrangements for the school.

Not applicable

25. If the proposals involve removing places—

- (a) a statement and supporting evidence of the reasons for the removal, including an assessment of the impact on parental choice; and

Not applicable

- (b) a statement on the local capacity to accommodate displaced pupils.

Not applicable.

Expansion of successful and popular schools

25A. (1) Proposals must include a statement of whether the proposer considers that the presumption for the expansion of successful and popular schools should apply, and where the governing body consider the presumption applies, evidence to support this.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) applies to expansion proposals in respect of primary and secondary schools, (except for grammar schools), i.e. falling within:

(a) (for proposals published by the governing body) paragraph 1 of Part 1 to Schedule 2 or paragraph 12 of Part 2 to Schedule 2;

(b) (for proposals published by the LA) paragraph 1 of Part 1 to Schedule 4 or 18 of Part 4 to Schedule 4

of the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended).

The Willows C of E Primary School was last inspected by Ofsted in June 2007. Inspectors deemed the school to be good.

The school is an extremely popular school and has agreed to take additional numbers this year to help with the shortage of places in the town. The school have agreed to take 58 pupils into reception but this still leaves 9 children on their waiting list.

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