Portfolio Holder (Children and Schools) Decision Making Session

21 December 2012

Proposal to Increase the Published Admission Number of Coten End Primary School.

Recommendation

That the Strategic Director for People Group be authorised to consult on a proposal to increase the Published Admission Number (PAN) of Coten End Primary School from 60 to 90 with effect from September 2014 admissions.

1.0 Key Issues

- 1.1 The Warwick area has seen a significant increase in the birth rate over recent years and this has resulted in pressure on existing primary school places. Cabinet have already agreed to increase the capacity of Emscote Infant School by half a form of entry with effect from September 2013 admissions. This will provide an additional 15 places per year group. It is proposed that All Saint's CE Junior School will also be expanded by half a form of entry. It should be noted that none of the primary schools in Warwick Town have proposed conversion to become Academy schools at present.
- 1.2 Coten End Primary is a popular, over-subscribed school and has been deemed to be outstanding by Ofsted (December 2011).
- 1.3 Latest information from colleagues in Health suggests that the number of live births within the Warwick area is still increasing. The table below shows the number of pre-school age children currently living within the priority areas of the primary schools in Warwick.

			Pupils due to start school in			
Primary School Priority Area			Sept	Sept	Sept	Sept
	PAN	Capacity	2012	2013	2014	2015
Coten End Primary	60	420	75	66	86	71
Emscote Infant/All Saint's CE Junior	75 / 60	225 / 240	61	61	56	60
Newburgh Primary	60	420	97	92	101	106
Westgate Primary	30	210	58	64	73	74
Woodloes Primary	60	420	39	48	48	65
Total	285 / 270	1935	330	331	364	376

Latest data suggests the need for additional capacity within Warwick by September 2014.

2.0 Proposal

- 2.1 The Local Authority has a statutory responsibility to ensure a sufficiency of school places.
- 2.2 Discussions have taken place with the Head and Governors of Coten End Primary and they are supportive of consulting on a proposal to increase the School and the opportunities this will bring.
- 2.3 To ensure there are sufficient places in the area longer term, the Local Authority is seeking to consult on a proposal to increase the PAN of Coten End Primary School from 60 to 90 with effect from September 2014.
- 2.4 It should be noted that £2,800,000 has been identified in the 2012/13 capital programme to support the expansion of Coten End Primary School.

3.0 Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

- 3.1 If permission is given to consult on a proposal to increase the PAN of the school, formal consultation would take place during January and February 2013.
- 3.2 A report detailing the findings of the consultation would be presented to Cabinet in March 2013. If Members were supportive of the proposal, statutory notices would have to be issued.
- 3.3 The outcome of the statutory consultation would be considered by Members for final decision by June or July 2013.
- 3.4 At the same time as the statutory consultation process regarding the proposed increase, discussions would take place with the school to consider design options to accommodate the proposed increase.
- 3.5 The increase, if approved, would be introduced with effect from September 2014.

Background papers

- 1. Cabinet Report 14 July 2011, School Capital Programme 2011/12
- 2 Cabinet Report 25 January 2012, Primary Expansion Programme
- 3. Cabinet Report 22 November 2012, Peoples Group, Learning and Achievement (Schools) Capital Programme 2012-2013

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