

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

<i>Decision making session</i>	Portfolio Holder (Children, Young People and Families) Decision Making Session
<i>Date of Decision</i>	25 March 2010
<i>Report Title</i>	Increase in the Admission Number of The Dasset C of E (Controlled) Primary School in Stratford-on-Avon
<i>Summary</i>	This report gives details of responses to consultation on the proposal to increase the admission number of The Dasset C of E (Controlled) Primary School.
<i>For further information please contact:</i>	Phil Astle Assistant Head of Service – Service Planning Tel: 01926 742166 philastle@warwickshire.gov.uk
<i>Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework?</i>	No
<i>Background papers</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Organisation Framework Document 2005/10 • Portfolio Holder Report 04.12.09 • Stratford-on-Avon Area Committee 17.03.10 • Formal Consultation Paper
CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- Details to be specified	
Other Committees	<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> Portfolio Holder Report 04.12.09 Stratford-on-Avon Area Committee 17.03.10
Local Member(s)	<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> Cllr Chris Williams
Other Elected Members	<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> CYP&F O&S Chair and Vice-Chair for information: Cllr John Ross Cllr Carolyn Robbins CYP&F O&S Spokespersons for information: Cllr Jerry Roodhouse (on behalf of Cllr Balaam) Cllr Peter Balaam " <i>I have no worries about the Dasset school proposals</i> " Cllr Carolyn Robbins Cllr Tim Naylor
Cabinet Member	<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> Cllr Izzi Seccombe (Decision Maker)
Chief Executive	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legal	<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> Fay Ford " <i>comments incorporated into the report</i> "

- Finance David Clarke, Strategic Director of Resources “no comments”
- Other Chief Officers
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals

FINAL DECISION Yes

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

**Portfolio Holder (Children, Young People and Families)
Decision Making Session**

25 March 2010

**Increase in the Admission Number of The Dasset C of E
(Controlled) Primary School in Stratford-on-Avon**

**Report of Strategic Director for Children,
Young People and Families**

Recommendations

That the Portfolio Holder:

- i) considers the response to formal consultation on proposals to increase the admission number of The Dasset C of E (Controlled) Primary School from 25 to 30 places per year with effect from 1 September 2011;
- ii) approves the proposal.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 On 4 December 2009 the Portfolio Holder agreed to the Strategic Director carrying out formal consultation with stakeholders on proposals to increase the admission number of The Dasset C of E (Controlled) Primary School from 25 to 30 places per year with effect from September 2011. The proposal follows a request by Governing Body of the school.

2. Background

- 2.1 The school currently has a capacity of 175 pupils with 177 pupils on roll. The school traditionally takes 92% of its intake from its own priority area and pupil numbers in the area are forecast to be stable over the current planning period.

*Table 1
Total number of pupils on roll at The Dasset CE (Controlled) Primary School*

Year	Jan 2008	Jan 2009	Autumn 2009	Capacity
Pupils on roll	173	170	177	175

- 2.2 The Dasset school is a popular and oversubscribed school and believes that it can accommodate 30 pupils in each class. There is a housing development of some 18 homes planned for the village. An intake of 30 pupils per year could assist the school in accommodating the additional pupils from this development and provide additional income for the school to fund its current class organisation.

3. What will be the Impact of the Change?

- 3.1 For The Dasset School the proposal may assist the school in funding its existing class organisation and ensure it can continue to meet the demand for places from its priority area. There appears to be little evidence of the school attracting many pupils from outside its priority area and no significant numbers from any single local school. The number of births in the area is forecast to be stable. If there is a delay in the new housing in the village being built there is always a possibility that the number of pupils from outside the school's priority area could increase in the short term. Although the increase in the admission number is only 5 pupils per year, this could be significant in the short term if all of the additional pupils were attracted from outside the school's priority area. This possibility has to be set against the longer term situation and the benefits to The Dasset School.

4. Building and Finance Issues

- 4.1 There are no plans to increase the size of the school's accommodation at this point and the proposal is made on the assumption no additional accommodation is provided. No capital funding has been prioritised for this project.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 Formal consultations with stakeholders took place between 4 January and 28 February 2010. A consultation paper was sent to all parents, to prospective parents, staff, the Governing Body and the Pupil School Council of The Dasset C of E (Controlled) Primary School, schools in South Warwickshire, Stratford-on-Avon District Council and Parish Councils in Stratford-on-Avon District Council, Diocesan Education Authorities, admission authorities and neighbouring Local Education Authorities and the local Member of Parliament.
- 5.2 A summary of responses received with comments is set out below received to date. Copies of all responses have been placed in the Members' Group Rooms.

Fenny Compton Parish Council and Warmington & Arlescote Parish Council

These two Parish Councils support the proposal.

District Councillor – Simon Jackson – Burton Dasset Ward

No objection.

Governor of Tysoe School

Supports the proposal.

Six Parents of the Dasset School

Commented as below:

- Will enable funding of existing class organisation which is important.
- With new housing in the village it will help enable local children to attend their local school.
- More pupils will dilute the focus on each child.
- Space at the school is significantly restricted, with some rooms having a dual use and a limit on the number of parents able to attend school productions, etc.

Comment

The school has no intention of increasing class sizes above 30. The school believes that classrooms are large enough for the class organisation, as is the school hall. The additional funding will help the school to maintain current staffing ratios.

Church of England – Coventry Diocesan Board of Education

Fully support the proposal which.

- Will more accurately reflect current pupil numbers on roll.
- Will provide enhanced opportunity to protect the school's funding and therefore maximise outcomes for pupils.

5.3 Any comments forwarded from Stratford-on-Avon Area Committee, which is due to consider this matter at its meeting on 17 March 2010, will be reported verbally to the Portfolio Holder.

6. Summary

6.1 The report gives details of responses to consultation on the proposal to increase the admission number of The Dasset C of E (Controlled) Primary School. The proposal followed an approach by the Governing Body of The Dasset School. The Coventry Church of England Diocesan Board of Education supports the proposal and some parental respondents have raised a small number of concerns mainly relating to the impact on class size and space. The school is confident that it can admit up to 30 pupils per class and that this will have a positive affect on funding which will benefit all pupils. Some parents have also stressed the benefits of the proposal. The Portfolio Holder is asked to consider approving what is a relatively small increase in the admission number of this school on the basis that this school has a very good reputation and feels the change would benefit the school without any detriment to pupils or other local schools.

MARION DAVIS

Strategic Director for Children, Young People and Families

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11 March 2010