

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Decision Report**

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Education
Date:	24 October 2013
Title:	School enlargement proposals and closure of Hamble College 6 th Form
Reference:	5191
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1.** The purpose of this paper is to seek authority to carry out statutory consultations on the enlargement of a number of primary schools, designed to ensure a sufficiency of school places in areas of the county where there is a sustained need for additional primary phase places.
- 1.2.** This paper also seeks authority to carry out a statutory consultation on the closure of the sixth form at Hamble Community Sports College.
- 1.3.** This paper sets out the back ground to the issues, identifies the schools concerned, explains why statutory consultation is necessary and the process to be followed.

2. Contextual information

- 2.1.** In line with national trends Hampshire is experiencing an increase in demand for primary school places, particularly for admission at 4+ (Year R).
- 2.2.** The rise in births in Hampshire, coupled with housing development and in-migration has led to a number of areas in the County where there is pressure on primary school places, necessitating the need for additional provision at existing schools. In some cases this is as a result of a temporary bulge in pupil numbers, in others there is a long term sustained need. The additional provision is achieved either through a reconfiguration of existing accommodation, or through the provision of additional accommodation in either temporary or permanent construction.
- 2.3.** In the case of long term sustained need for additional accommodation, and where that need would be met by an enlargement of the premises of the school which would increase the capacity of the school by both more than 30

pupils and by 25% of the capacity of the school or 200 pupils (whichever is the lesser) then statutory proposals are required.

2.4. There are five statutory stages for this type of statutory proposal, as set out below:

Consultation – 4 weeks

Publication of notices – 1 day

Representation – during the notice period comments and/or objections to the proposal can be made

Decision – the local authority must decide the proposals within two months of the expiry of the public notice

(If there are objections to any of the proposals the decision whether or not to enlarge All Saints Primary or the Riders primary provision or close the sixth form at Hamble Community Sports College falls to the Executive Member for Children’s Services. If there are no objections the decision falls to the Director of Children’s Services).

Implementation – no prescribed timetable but must be as specified in the published notice.

A number of such statutory consultations have already been undertaken, or are underway, in several areas of the county including Fleet, Winchester, Farnborough, Emsworth, Eastleigh, Bramley and Overton.

3. Schools proposed for enlargement

3.1. The table below identifies the schools proposed for enlargement (growing schools) and sets out present capacities, proposed capacities, and the number of additional places this represents:

Table 1

School	Present capacity	Proposed capacity	Number of additional places
All Saints Primary, Winchester	140	210	70
Riders Infant and Junior Schools, Havant	420	630	210

4. Proposed closure of Hamble Sports Community College sixth form provision

4.1. Hamble Community Sports College secured funding from the former Learning and Skills Council to provide a sixth form at the college catering for up to 300 students and the sixth form opened in September 2010. Revenue funding was initially modelled on 180 places with 90 funded in year 1 (year 12 year groups only). The take up of places at the sixth form has been very disappointing with only 14 students in Year 12 and 14 students in Year 13 in

the 2012/13 academic year. This excludes students from Fareham College (approximately 100) who utilised the sports facilities at the site although this has not continued in the 2013/14 academic year.

- 4.2. Despite significant efforts from all parties the school's sixth form, which was developed as a result of the last government's post 16 presumption policy, failed to attract sufficient numbers of learners, 16-18, to make the operation viable.
- 4.3. Learners in Hamble and the western wards of Eastleigh/eastern wards of Southampton have a wide range of established and high quality post 16 options available within a reasonable travel to learn area. The decision will not likely impact on young people's participation in the Hamble area.
- 4.4. The governing body has agreed with the Education Funding Agency (EFA) that the funding that was to be allocated to the college for the 2013/14 academic year be diverted to Fareham College so that the college can accommodate the students and allow them to finish their course.

5. Finance

5.1. Revenue

There are provisions within the existing Schools Forum arrangements and mechanisms to support a growing school defined as: "A school where the capacity has been increased, with planned expenditure on buildings, which has been agreed by the County Council". Should the proposed enlargement of All Saints Primary School and the Riders pair of schools be agreed then capital funding to provide the additional accommodation would be forthcoming (see 5.2 below).

In the case of Hamble Community Sports College the governing body agreed with the EFA that the funding to be allocated to them for the 2013/14 and subsequent academic years be diverted to Fareham College to allow their sixth form students to complete their courses they began at Hamble. The EFA have acceded to the request and Hamble Community Sports College will have no post-16 learners on site for the 2013/14 academic year. Should the proposal to close the sixth form at Hamble be approved no post-16 learners will begin a course in subsequent academic years.

5.2. Capital

Resources for school enlargements in 2013/14 to 2015/16 were reported as part of the Children's Services Capital Programme report to the Elected Lead Member for Children's Services on 23 January 2013. The proposed enlargements identified in Table 1 above represent a capital investment of around £3.5m. It is important to note that each of the proposals is a stand-alone one and will be subject to individual and separate timeframes, consultations and decisions.

The Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services is producing costed feasibility studies, where appropriate, for each of the projects. Where possible implementation costs will be reduced by focusing on efficiencies in design, procurement and delivery of new school buildings, extensions and

refurbishment projects. Options are being considered for better design templates, more off-site and standardisation of building construction, and aggregation savings through supply chain management and through continued development of our joint cluster working arrangements with neighbouring authorities. If resources are insufficient to provide the additional places in permanent construction then temporary accommodation may need to be considered as an option.

6. Recommendation(s)

6.1. That approval be given to statutory consultations taking place with:

the governing bodies, parents, pupils and staff of the schools listed in table 1 above, together with the governing bodies, staff and parents of any other schools that may be affected, trade unions, diocesan authorities, MPs, district, borough and parish councils, neighbouring local authorities and any other interested parties.

6.2. That approval be given to statutory consultations taking place with the governing body, parents, pupils and staff of Hamble Sports Community College, together with the governing bodies, staff and parents of any other schools that may be affected, trade unions, diocesan authorities, MPs, district, borough and parish councils, neighbouring local authorities and any other interested parties.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	yes/no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	yes/no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	yes/no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
OR	
This proposal does not link to the Corporate Strategy but, nevertheless, requires a decision because:	
<i>NB: Only complete this section if you have not completed any of the Corporate Strategy tick boxes above. If it is not applicable, please delete.</i>	

NB: If the 'Other significant links' section below is not applicable, please delete it.

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

- 1.1. Race and equality impact assessment has been considered in the development of this report and no adverse impact has been identified.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

- 2.1. No impact has been identified.

3. Climate Change:

- a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

When the Children's Services Capital programme invests in new build, replacement or refurbishment works, Property Services colleagues include an assessment of reductions in energy consumption (carbon use) in the design. In all new buildings, and in the majority of refurbishment type investments, the latest technologies and materials are specified in order to maximise the impact on reducing carbon consumption. Many projects are also able to employ passive design approaches, including natural ventilation and improved insulation to actively reduce consumption in summer and winter conditions.

- b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

The proposals seek to provide compact and energy efficient building envelopes. Any new build or extensions will meet current building regulation standards for thermal performance. Where possible, appropriate sustainable materials will be employed to reduce the environmental impact of the proposals.