

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Decision Report**

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Education
Date:	26 March 2014
Title:	Enlargement of Marnel Infant and Junior Schools, Basingstoke
Reference:	5618
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

Contact name: Glenn Parkinson

Tel: 01962 846664

Email: glenn.parkinson@hants.gov.uk

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1.** The purpose of this paper is to seek authority to carry out statutory consultation on the proposal to enlarge the premises of Marnel Infant and Junior Schools.
- 1.2.** This paper sets out the background to the proposal and explains the necessary statutory consultation process to be followed.

2. Contextual information

- 2.1.** Hampshire has, in keeping with the national picture, seen a significant increase in the number of births in the last 10 years. This, together with new housing development and in-migration in several parts of the County has increased the pressure on primary school places.
- 2.2.** Basingstoke has seen an increase in births and significant levels of new housing which had resulted in additional primary places being provided in recent years and more places being required in forthcoming years.
- 2.3.** New housing development is underway in the Popley area of Basingstoke on sites at Merton Rise (up to 950 dwellings) and the former John Hunt of Everest Secondary School site (up to 350 dwellings). Further development is proposed at Marnel Park for 450 new dwellings which recently received planning approval on appeal and is situated close to the Marnel Schools. This development will be included in the catchment area of Marnel Infant and Junior Schools due to its close proximity to the schools.
- 2.4.** The Marnel Park development is expected to start in summer 2014 with first completions expected in early 2015. This will create additional pressure for places in the Marnel Schools necessitating the provision of additional places. It is proposed to expand the schools by one form of entry, providing

an additional 90 places at the Infant School and 120 places at the Junior School, making each school 4 forms of entry. The current pupil forecasts for the schools are detailed below.

- 2.5.** The development at Marnel Park is not included in the forecasts with additional pupil numbers expected to increase demand for places at the Infant School, by one form of entry, from as early as 2015. It is intended that the schools are expanded in permanent facilities from September 2016 with a review undertaken as to the need for temporary modular classrooms for September 2015. The pressure for places is expected initially at the Infant School which will feed through to the Junior School with effect from 2018.

		Forecast number on roll				
School	Current capacity	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Marnel Infant	270	274	287	305	306	307
Marnel Junior	360	309	320	326	339	347

- 2.6.** There are four stages to this type of statutory proposal as set out below;

Consultation – whilst new guidance on School Organisation has no prescribed ‘pre-publication’ consultation period, six weeks is felt to be appropriate

Publication of notice – 1 day (notice to run for 4 weeks)

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

- 2.6 This recommendation is to commence the first of these stages

3. Finance

Capital

- 3.1.** A project to provide an additional primary places in the Popley area was included in the 2015/16 Children’s Services Capital Programme which was agreed by the Executive Lead Member for Children’s Services on 22 January 2014 (and approved by the County Council on 20 February 2014). The Marnel Schools were not specifically named in that report, as work has only recently been completed to establish the school place planning strategy in the area.
- 3.2.** The estimated cost of the project to provide a one form of entry expansion at these schools is £3.6m

Revenue

- 3.3.** There are provisions within existing Schools Forum arrangements and mechanisms to support growing schools defined as “A school where the

capacity has been increased, with planned expenditure on buildings, which has been agreed by the County Council.” The Marnel Schools will be eligible for additional revenue support from the growth fund should the proposal to expand the schools proceed.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1. That approval be given to statutory consultations being undertaken on the proposal to increase the capacity of Marnel Infant School from 270 to 360 places and Marnel Junior School from 360 to 480 places with effect from September 2016.**

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

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
OR	
This proposal does not link to the Corporate Strategy but, nevertheless, requires a decision because:	

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.)

DocumentLocation

None

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

- 1.1. An impact equalities assessment will be undertaken in conjunction with any authorised consultation process.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

- 2.1. The proposal has no impact on crime and disorder.

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 regulations standards for thermal performance. Where possible, appropriate sustainable materials will be employed to reduce the environmental impact of the proposals.