

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Officer Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Peter Colenutt
<b>Title:</b>	Head of Strategic Development
<b>Date:</b>	11 April 2016
<b>Reference:</b>	7432

**Tel:** 01962 845746

**Email:** martin.shefferd@hants.gov.uk

#### 1. The decision:

- 1.1. That unconditional approval be given to the following proposal; the publication of a public notice under Section 19 (1) of the Education and inspections Act 2006:

**To make a prescribed alteration to Cornerstone CE (Aided) Primary School, Bader Way, Whiteley, Fareham PO15 7JH by relocating the school to enlarged premises, with effect from 1 September 2018.**

#### 2. Reason(s) for the decision:

- 2.1. Following local consultation, Hampshire County Council received 10 written comments regarding the proposal to relocate and enlarge the school. In considering the responses Hampshire County Council has to consider its statutory duty of providing sufficient school places and that the comments received did not represent sufficient concern to prevent the proposal to relocate and enlarge the school. The proposal to enlarge Cornerstone CE (Aided) Primary School from 210 to 630 places, with effect from 1 September 2018, should proceed to the next stage of the process.

#### 3. Consultation

- 3.1. Formal consultation took place between 25 January 2016 and 4 March 2016. A letter was sent to consultees and a drop-in session was held at Cornerstone CE (Aided) Primary School on 28 January 2016. The proposal was also included on the County Council's consultation website. A copy of the consultation letter is attached.

#### 3.2. Letters were sent to:

- Parents of children attending Cornerstone CE (Aided) Primary School
- Headteacher

- Chair of Governors
- School staff
- Headteachers and Chairs of Governors at all schools within 2 miles
- Chief Executive of Fareham Borough Council
- Chief Executive of Winchester City Council
- Staff union representatives
- MPs – George Hollingbery & Mark Hoban
- HCC Elected members – Councillors Patricia Stallard and Sean Woodward
- Early Years Development and Childcare – Tracey Sanders

#### **4. Comments on consultation responses received**

- 4.1. A number of comments received highlighted the issue of parking at the new school. Parking for drop-off and pick-up would not be provided on site but solutions are being sought for these two activities to happen outside the school site either on the road or by the use of the car parks to be constructed as part of the local centres. The School Travel Plan Team is also involved in developing a new School Travel Plan. This is a long-term document produced by the whole school and community and looks at how pupils travel to school at present and how to encourage changes to this pattern and get more pupils travelling to school other than by car.
- 4.2. Two comments raised concern about the traffic in the area of the existing school. In this instance colleagues in Highways are aware of the position and are working to find a solution to reduce the use of Leafy Lane and other roads in the area to stop this being used as an access to the Whiteley Business Park. A further comment suggested that the moving of the school to a new site will improve the road safety in the Leafy Lane area.
- 4.3. Another comment suggested that the new school site should be permeable to allow multiple entrances for pedestrians and that the footpaths in the area of the new school be provided to allow people to walk to the school. The developers of North Whiteley are proposing to provide footpaths throughout the development to provide the links to the school.
- 4.4. One suggestion was to provide bike and scooter racks at the new school to encourage more pupils to travel to school using these means of transport. The architect working on the new school has already identified this need with the school and has identified where these racks can be provided to provide secure storage.

#### **5. Conclusion:**

- 5.1. New housing development within North Whiteley is driving the need for the expansion of Cornerstone CE (Aided) Primary School. In order to meet the County Council's statutory duty to ensure sufficiency of school places and this school requires relocation and expansion.
- 5.2. The comments received during the consultation process will be considered through the development of the new School Travel Plan. In considering the responses received it is felt that the comments received did not represent sufficient concern to prevent proceeding with the relocation and enlargement of the school.

**6. Other options considered and rejected:**

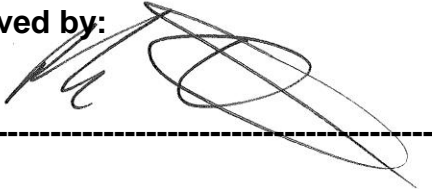
- 6.1. Not to approve the proposal would mean that there are insufficient primary school places available to meet the demand from the new development.

**7. Conflicts of interest:**

- 7.1. Conflict of interest declared by an Executive Member who is consulted by the officer which relates to the decision:

None

**Approved by:**



**Date:**

**11 April 2016**

**Peter Colenutt, Head of strategic Development**

**On behalf of the Director of Children's Services**

## Appendix I – Consultation Letter



**Hampshire**  
County Council

*Children's Services Department  
Elizabeth II Court North,  
Winchester  
Hampshire SO23 8UG*

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*Enquiries to* **Martin Shefferd**

*My reference*

*Direct Line* **01962 845746**

*Your reference*

*Date* **25 January 2016**

*E-mail* [strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk](mailto:strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk)

Dear Consultee

### **Enlargement of Cornerstone C of E (Aided) Primary School – Consultation**

I am writing to invite your views in respect of Hampshire County Council's proposal to relocate and permanently enlarge the premises of Cornerstone C of E (Aided) Primary School.

Hampshire County Council is proposing to increase the physical capacity to allow them to offer 90 places for Year R (age 4+). This expansion will allow the school to cater for 630 pupils.

The demand for school places is a result of the proposed new housing development in North Whiteley. It is intended that permanent facilities will be available from September 2018.

### **Reason for proposal**

Hampshire County Council has a statutory duty to provide school places. Owing to an increase in the number of children in the school's catchment area, and in particular demand for Year R places, there is a need for additional school places to be provided.

Where a Local Authority proposes to permanently enlarge a school's capacity by 25% or more it must follow a procedure set out by the Department for Education. This information and some frequently asked questions are available on the following website;

<http://consultations.hants.gov.uk/active.aspx>

*Interim Director of Children's Services*  
**Steve Crocker**

### **The Consultation**

The primary purpose of this consultation is to seek the view of consultees on the principle of enlarging the schools to meet the demand for additional school places in the local area. We understand that you may have some questions regarding how the school buildings will be expanded to accommodate additional pupils and whether there will be an impact on travel to and from the school as a result of accommodating additional pupils. Both of these aspects are important but at this stage these details will not be available as we need to obtain approval to the expansion before detailed work commences. It is important to hear your views at this stage so we can consider them as part of the detailed work to be undertaken should approval to the enlargement be obtained.

This consultation will run from 25 January to 4 March 2016. Officers will then take into consideration all the consultation responses received before deciding whether the proposal should continue to the formal publication stage.

If so, a statutory Public Notice will be published, setting out Hampshire County Council's intent to enlarge the school. It is anticipated that this will be published in April 2016.

After the date of publication there will be a four week period in which any representations can be made to the local authority. After the conclusion of this period the County Council will decide whether or not to proceed with the proposal. It is anticipated that a decision will be made by the end of the summer.

### **Further Information**

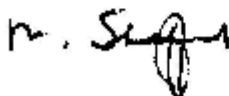
A drop-in session where you will be able to discuss the proposal with County Council officers and representatives from Portsmouth Diocese will take place on **Thursday 28 January** at **Cornerstone C of E (Aided) Primary School** between 3pm and 6pm.

A website has also been set up with the details of the consultation which includes some 'Frequently Asked Questions' that may address any queries you have. The link is shown above.

The current proposed building plans are being developed with the Headteacher and governing body. The plans will be posted on the school website once they have been developed and agreed with the school. There will be a further opportunity to discuss the plans in detail at a pre-planning application consultation and we will notify you of the details once arranged.

If you are unable to attend this session or visit the above website and wish to make a comment then please write to Martin Shefferd, Strategic Development Officer, Children's Services Department, Ell Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG or e-mail [strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk](mailto:strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk) by Friday 4 March 2016.

Yours sincerely



**Martin Shefferd**  
**Strategic Development Officer**  
**Children's Services Department**