

# 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 Emsworth Primary School, Victoria Road, Emsworth, PO10 7LX (category of school – Community) by enlarging the premises of the school, with effect from 1 September 2018.**

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

- 2.1. Following local consultation, the County Council received five written comments regarding the proposal to enlarge the school. In considering the responses received the County Council felt that the provision of additional school places was necessary and that comments received did not represent sufficient concern to prevent proceeding with the enlargement. The proposal to enlarge Emsworth Primary School from 315 to 420 places, with effect from September 2018, should proceed to the next stage of the process.

### 3. Consultation

- 3.1. Formal consultation took place between 22 February and 1 April 2016. A letter was sent to consultees as detailed below and a drop-in session was held at Emsworth Primary School on 2 March. 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 Emsworth Primary School
- Headteacher, school staff and Governing Body of Emsworth Primary School

- Headteachers and Chairs of Governors of neighbouring schools
- Havant Borough Council – Chief Executive
- Trade union representatives
- Local Dioceses
- MP – Right Honourable Alan Mak
- HCC Elected Member – Councillor Ray Bolton
- Tracey Sanders – Manager, Services for Young Children
- Residents within 50 metres of the school boundary (140 letters sent)

#### **4. Consultation responses received**

4.1. A total of 5 written comments were received. The key issues raised by consultees can be summarised as follows;

- They expressed concerns regarding parking on roads by parents around the school at the beginning and end of the school day. In particular, parking by parents obstructing the residents of the blocks of flats on Victoria Road, adjacent to the school entrance. What improvements to accessing the school are planned to alleviate this issue?
- Inconsiderate parking on the part of parents creates a significant road safety risk. Are there plans to improve road safety as part of the scheme?
- Parking for staff and parents on the school site is currently inadequate. Are there plans to provide additional parking as part of the scheme?
- With the increase in pupil numbers, the school hall will be insufficient for full school assemblies. Are there plans to extend the hall?
- The previous enlargement removed a significant portion of the playground. Are there plans to enlarge the playground as part of this scheme?

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

5.1. With respect to the five comments received around parking, there is a process that will be followed to identify issues and seek solutions. As part of the consultation process, officers from Hampshire County Council attended the consultation drop-in session to explain the process in developing a School Travel Plan (STP) and to seek the community's views and concerns over parking, travel and transport that exist. These concerns have been captured through a feedback response form whereby consultees categorised their position within the community and the comments that they have.

5.2. Once the consultation forms have been collated and summarised, the school with the support of the School Travel Planning Team, will then survey pupils, parents and staff as to how they travel, the barriers that they may encounter,

and suggestions as to improvements. Using the results of this along with responses from the principle to expand consultation the issues will be classified on behalf of the whole school community along with possible solutions.

- 5.3. The school and STP team will subsequently work with the various key stakeholders to develop an action plan to target the issues that are preventing pupils, parents and staff from using alternatives to the car.
- 5.4. The suggested proposals will be taken back to the school community at the pre planning consultation event for further discussion, and possible adjustment, prior to submission of the planning application.
- 5.5. Additional parking will be provided for staff and visitors on the school site.
- 5.6. As part of this scheme, there are no plans to increase the size of the school hall.
- 5.7. The current plans aim to replace the loss of playground by providing additional new playground space.

## **6. Conclusion**

- 6.1. Pupil forecasts for the Emsworth area show numbers growing as a result of increased demand for school places from within the school's catchment area. In order to meet the County Council's statutory duty to ensure a sufficiency of school places, this school needs to be expanded.
- 6.2. The comments received during the consultation will be considered through the development of the school travel plan, the design process for the new school building and as part of the planning application process. In considering the responses received, the County Council felt that the provision of additional school places was necessary and that comments received did not represent sufficient concern to prevent proceeding with the enlargement.

## **7. Other options considered and rejected:**

- 7.1. Not to approve the proposal would mean that there are insufficient primary school places available in the school to meet the demand from within the catchment area.

## **8. Conflicts of interest:**

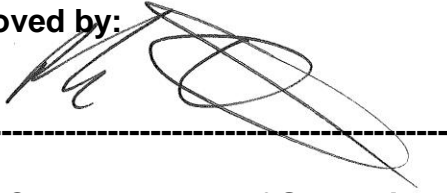
- 8.1. Conflict of interest declared by an Executive Member who is consulted by the officer which relates to the decision:

None

**9. Dispensation granted by the Head of Paid Service:**

None

**Approved by:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Colenutt', written over a horizontal dashed line.

**Date:**

**11 April 2016**

**Peter Colenutt, Head of Strategic Development**

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

## Appendix I – Consultation Letter



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

*Telephone 01962 841841  
Fax 01962 842355  
Textphone 0845 603 5625*

*Enquiries to* **Martin Shefferd**

*My reference*

*Direct Line* **01962 845746**

*Your reference*

*Date* **22 February 2016**

*E-mail* **strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk**

Dear Consultee

### **Enlargement of Emsworth Primary School – Consultation**

I am writing to invite your views in respect of Hampshire County Council's proposal to permanently enlarge the premises of Emsworth Primary School.

Hampshire County Council are proposing to increase the physical capacity of Emsworth Primary School to allow them to offer 60 places for Year R (age 4+). This expansion will allow the school to cater for 420 pupils.

The demand for school places is a result of a rise in the number of births in the area and new housing development. It is intended that permanent facilities would 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. Further information and 'Frequently Asked Questions' is 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 22 February to 1 April 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.

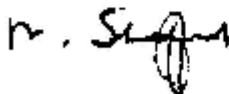
### **Further Information**

A drop-in session where you will be able to discuss the proposal with County Council officers will take place on 2 March 2016 at Emsworth Primary School between 3pm and 6pm.

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, Eil Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG or e-mail [strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk](mailto:strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk) by 1 April 2016.

Yours sincerely



Martin Shefferd  
Strategic Development Officer  
Children's Services Department