

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Education
<b>Date:</b>	11 November 2016
<b>Title:</b>	Enlargement of Pilgrims Cross CE (Aided) Primary School, Andover
<b>Reference:</b>	7865
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Children's Services

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### 1. Executive Summary

1.1. The purpose of this paper is to seek approval to publish a public notice under Section 19 (1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006:

**To make a prescribed alteration to Pilgrims Cross CE (Aided) Primary School, Picket Twenty Way, Andover, Hampshire SP11 6TY by enlarging the premises of the school with effect from 1 September 2018.**

### 2. Contextual information

- 2.1. Pilgrims Cross CE (Aided) Primary School serves the Picket Twenty development in Andover. The housing development has been brought forward in phases, but the finished size of the school was always anticipated to be a 2 forms of entry (fe), 420 place primary school, and places at the school have been provided as the development has been built out.
- 2.2. The school was originally built as a 1fe (210 place) primary school with 2fe infrastructure provided as appropriate and was originally opened on 1 September 2013.
- 2.3. The school was expanded to a 1.5fe (315 place) primary school from 1 September 2015.
- 2.4. It is now proposed to expand the school to a 2fe (420 place) primary school with effect from 1 September 2018.

### 3. Consultation:

- 3.1. Formal consultation on the principle of expansion of Pilgrims Cross CE (Aided) Primary School took place between 12 September 2016 and 7

October 2016. A letter was sent to consultees and a consultation session was held at the school on 29 September 2016. The proposal was also included on the County Council's website. A copy of the consultation letter is attached.

3.2. Letters were sent to:

- Parents of children attending Pilgrims Cross CE (Aided) Primary School
- Headteacher
- Chair of Governors
- School staff
- Portsmouth and Winchester CE Dioceses
- Portsmouth RC Diocese
- Headteachers and Chairs of Governors at all schools within 2 miles
- Staff union representatives
- MP – Kit Malthouse
- HCC elected member – Councillor Rolt
- Chief Executive of Test Valley Borough Council
- District Councillors
- Andover Town Council
- Parish Council
- Early Years Development and Childcare – Tracey Messer
- Sure Start Manager Acorns Children Centre

**4. Issues raised by consultees (consultees comments shown as C and County Council response shown as R):**

4.1. Following local consultation, Hampshire County Council, received comments from three people regarding the proposal to enlarge the school.

4.2. C – Two consultees commented on the access to the school by pupils through their road.

R - There is a school access through Quicksilver Crescent to allow pupils from that side of the housing development to get to school by the shortest distance and this access forms part of the footpath route to the school.

4.3. C – Is the school site large enough for the size of the school now being proposed and asked why the school had been expanded in phases rather than built as a single school in the first place.

R - The existing site is large enough for a 2fe primary school and the school was designed to be built in phases as the housing development was built.

4.4. C - One comment raised an issue with additional noise pollution during the times when pupils are outside the building and suggested that this will further disrupt local residents.

R – It is accepted that there will be more pupils at the school but the timing of when the pupils will be outside will not change.

4.5. C - One comment raised the position with regard to the amount of staff parking and that there was no apparent room to allow for the increased number of staff.

R - The expansion plans show additional car parking spaces for the staff in line with the County Council's adopted car parking policy.

4.6. C - All three consultees commented on the lack of car parking for drop-off and pick-up by parents.

R - A new school travel plan is being produced to encourage parents to travel to school with their children by means other than the car. As the new housing estate is built pupils attending the school are likely to be close enough to the school to use more sustainable ways of getting to school.

4.7. C - One consultee suggested that this proposal is a quick fix for the County Council rather than having a robust strategy for dealing with rising pupil numbers across the county.

R - As stated above in 2.1 the school was always proposed as a 2fe primary school but the build out of the housing has required the County Council to expand the school in phases.

4.8. One consultee has **objected** to the proposed expansion citing the following reasons:

C - Residents causing obstructions on the bus route which is exacerbated by parents parking to drop-off their children at the school.

R - The new school travel plan for the school will seek to change the driving habits of the parents in dropping off their children and the school has recently sent a letter home to parents in which it requests that parents use the car park adjacent to the front of the school for drop-off and pick-up. However, it is not possible through this expansion process to stop residents parking in the road.

4.9. C – Were other primary schools in Andover better placed to be expanded as they are easier to get to?

R - This approach would mean that the County Council would not be providing local places for local children as was always proposed for this development. It would also mean that parents would have to drive their children to the other schools.

4.10. C - The consultee also expressed a wish that the developers stood by their promises to build a shop, pub and chemist as laid in out in their original proposal.

R - The provision of such facilities is for Test Valley Borough Council to enforce and this has been raised with them.

4.11. C - The final comment was that the council should look to adopt the main route through the development and put in double yellow lines. Test Valley Borough Council has been contacted about the proposal for the provision of yellow lines.

R - Again, this is not an issue for the determination of the expansion of the school.

## **5. Recommendation**

5.1. That the Executive Member for Education give approval to the publication of a Public Notice under Section 19 (1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006:

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

<b>Hampshire safer and more secure for all:</b>	yes
<b>Maximising well-being:</b>	yes
<b>Enhancing our quality of place:</b>	yes

**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.)**

Document

Location

## **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.