

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
<b>Date:</b>	28 January 2011
<b>Title:</b>	The Wavell School, Farnborough. Establishment of resourced provision for pupils with a specific learning disability (SpLD)
<b>Reference:</b>	2395
<b>Report From:</b>	John Coughlan, Deputy Chief Executive & Director of Children's Services

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#### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this paper is to seek approval for public notices to be published of Hampshire County Council's intention to effect a 'prescribed alteration' of The Wavell School by the establishment of a resourced provision for up to twenty pupils of secondary school age with a specific learning difficulty (SpLD) with effect from 1 September 2011.
- 1.2. This report explains the background to the proposal to establish the resourced provision, summarises the consultation undertaken with relevant stakeholders and details the financial implications.

#### 2. Contextual information

- 2.1. Resourced provision for pupils with SpLD in the north-east of the county is currently located at Oak Farm Community School (OFCS) Farnborough. In April 2009 the County Council's Cabinet decided that OFCS will close with effect from 31 August 2011. At that time it was decided that no further placements to the SpLD resourced provision would be made and consideration would be given to the need for such provision in the future.
- 2.2. There is a lack of alternative maintained provision for pupils with SpLD in this area of the county and a continued demand. As such it is intended to establish SpLD resourced provision at The Wavell School, Farnborough.

### **3. Consultation**

- 3.1. Consultations have taken place with the governing body, staff and parents of The Wavell School and other interested parties on the proposal to establish a resourced provision for pupils with a specific learning difficulty (SpLD) at the school.
- 3.2. Formal consultation letters have been sent to parents of all pupils currently attending The Wavell School, plus all local maintained primary and secondary schools and other interested parties. Please see Appendix 1 for a full list of recipients of the consultation letter. A meeting was held at The Wavell School on Thursday 11 November for staff, parents and governors of The Wavell School, and responses to the written consultation letter are summarised at Appendix 2.
- 3.3. All responses were positive and supportive of the proposal of the establishment of a resourced provision at The Wavell School.

### **4. Financial implications**

- 4.1. The resourced provision is to be housed within current school accommodation. The modifications necessary are to be funded from the targeted capital funding programme. The estimated cost of these modifications is £110,000.
- 4.2. Approval was given by the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services on 11 March 2010 to part of the funding earmarked through the Targeted Capital Fund (TCF) to be used to address high priority SEN projects. The relocation of the SpLD provision is one of those priorities for which funding is available subject to the approval of the Children's Services Capital Programme report elsewhere on this agenda. Subject to that approval, the Director of Property Business and IT will produce a detailed feasibility study with a view to works starting in summer 2011. Approval is being sought elsewhere on this agenda.
- 4.3. Revenue funding will be through the school's budget and at current (10/11) costs will be £7,843 per place per annum, giving a total of £78,430 for ten pupils.
- 4.4. It is envisaged that some of the specialist equipment currently used by the SpLD resourced provision at Oak Farm School will be transferred to the new provision, but in addition to this there is likely to be some initial expenditure, including some personal computers and laptops for the pupils with SpLD who will be accessing the resourced provision. Some of these costs will be met from monies which will be made available through the standard setting up rate payable for new resourced provisions.
- 4.5. Any refurbishment or new building work that needs to be carried out will have due regard to the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 to increase the accessibility of schools for disabled people and to prepare accessibility strategies in line with the school's disability equality scheme.

4.6. The Wavell School is 2 miles away from the site of the current resourced provision for pupils with SpLD at Oak Farm School, so the impact on transport costs for pupils accessing provision from the North East area of Hampshire is negligible.

Staffing implications

It is expected that The Wavell School will recruit an additional member of staff who has the relevant teaching and specialist qualifications in SpLD. This teacher will manage the resourced provision on a day to day basis, and will provide the intensive teaching and focussed interventions that the pupils with SpLD will require. The school will also recruit additional Support staff in order to ensure the pupils receive the support they need when in mainstream classes.

**5. Pupil performance**

5.1. The pupils allocated places at the resourced provision will have their performance tracked to ensure they are achieving appropriate outcomes, and that the specialist interventions made available for these pupils can be evidenced through measurable gains.

**6. Other key issues**

6.1. Hampshire has 6 resourced provisions for children of secondary school age with an identified specific learning difficulty (SpLD):

School:	Eggar's	Applemore	Fort Hill	Oak Farm	Crestwood	Cowplain
Area served:	Alton area	West Hampshire	Basingstoke	North East Hampshire	West Hampshire	South Hampshire
Number of pupils in the resourced provision	18	18	20	1	18	29

6.2. The number of places being accessed at the Oak Farm Community School resourced provision has reduced over the last few years, partly in line with the number on roll in the school, and additionally the local authority has not placed children in the resourced provision since the decision was made for the school to close.

6.3. There is a necessity to have a SpLD resourced provision in a well regarded secondary school in the north east area of the county so that we are able to offer high quality provision in the maintained sector.

6.4. Pupils who have a specific learning difficulty and who are due for secondary transfer are identified during year 5, so that careful transition plans can be put in place, including consideration being given to which of

these pupils will need a place in one of the local authority's resourced provisions for pupils with a specific learning difficulty. Each year a panel meets to discuss these pupils and decisions are made as to which children require a place according to published criteria. In the autumn term 2010, 27 year 5 pupils were brought to this panel seeking places in the resourced provisions, of which 21 were allocated a place.

- 6.5. The SpLD resourced provision will ensure that pupils in the north east area of the county will be enabled to attend a school with skilled staff able to provide high quality specialised teaching and a personalised curriculum differentiated according to their specific needs which enables them to learn and make measurable progress.

## **7. Recommendation(s)**

- 7.1. It is recommended that the Executive Member for Education approves the publication of a public notice in accordance with section 19 of the Education and Inspection Act 2006 for the establishment of resourced specialist provision for up to twenty pupils with specific learning difficulties (SpLD) at The Wavell School in Farnborough with effect from 1 September 2011.

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

<b>Hampshire safer and more secure for all:</b>	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number :CIP1	
<b>Maximising well-being:</b>	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number:CIP2 CIP3	
<b>Enhancing our quality of place:</b>	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number : CIP2	

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
Formal consultation on Specific Learning Difficulty resourced provision for the North East area of Hampshire	1445	31 March 2010
Oak Farm Community School, Farnborough – approval to discontinue the school with effect from 31 August 2011.	631	27 April 2009
<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>		
<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.)

DocumentLocation

None

**IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:**

**1. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

1.1.

**2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:**

2.1.

**3. Climate Change:**

- a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?
- b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

## Appendix 1

Director of Children's Services	Surrey County Council
Director of Children's Services	West Sussex County Council
Chief Executive	Rushmoor & Hart District Council
Katrina Percy	Area Director of Care Services, Hampshire PCT, Harness House, Aldermaston Road, Thatchbury Mount, Calmore, Southampton SO40 2RZ
Keith Douglas	Area Director for Commissioning (West Hampshire) Hampshire PCT, 8 Sterne Road, Thatchbury Mount, Calmore, Southampton SO40 2RZ
Headteacher and Chair of Governors of all primary, secondary and special schools in <b>Rushmoor</b>	Belle Vue Infant School
	Cove Infant School
	Farnborough Grange Nursery/Infant Community School
	Manor Infant School
	Marlborough Infant School
	North Farnborough Infant School
	Parsonage Farm Nursery and Infant School
	Pinewood Infant School
	South Farnborough Infant School
	Southwood Infant School
	St Michael's C of E(Controlled) Infant School
	Talavera Infant School
	West End Infant School
	Cherrywood Community Primary School
	Fernhill Primary School

Park Primary School

St Bernadette's Catholic voluntary Aided  
Primary School

St Joseph's Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary  
School, Aldershot

St Mark's CofE (Aided) Primary School,  
Farnborough

St Patrick's Catholic Voluntary Aided  
Primary School

Tower Hill Primary School

Beaumont Junior School

Cove Junior School

Grange community Junior School

Guillemont Junior School

Manor Junior School

Newport Junior School

South Farnborough Junior School

St Michael's Cof E(Aided) Junior School

Talavera Junior School

The Connaught School

Cove School

Ferhill School & Language College

Oak Farm Community School

Henry Tyndale School

The Samuel Cody School

The Linden Education Centre

Headteacher and Chair of Governors of  
primary, secondary and special schools in  
**Hart** area:

Buryfields Infant School  
Crookham CE (Aided) Infant School  
Fleet Infant School  
Frogmore Infant School  
Heatherside Infant School  
Hook Infant School  
Oakwood Infant School  
Tavistock Infant School  
Tweseldown Infant School  
Westfields Infant School  
Charles Kingsley's CofE Primary School  
Cranford Park Cof E Primary  
Crandall Primary School  
Dogmersfield CofE (Aided) primary School  
Elvetham Heath Primary School  
Hawley Primary School  
Long Sutton CofE Primary School  
Newlands Primary School  
Potley Hill Primary School  
Whitewater Cof E Primary School  
All Saints CofE (Aided) Junior School  
Church Crookham Junior School  
Frogmore Junior School  
Greenfields Junior School  
Heatherside Junior School  
Hook Junior School

Mayhill Junior School  
Velmead Junior School  
Westfields Junior School  
Calthorpe Park School  
Court Moor School  
Frogmore Community College  
Robert May's School  
Yateley School

**Copies to:**

**Rushmoor & Hart area:**

Gerald Howarth MP

Aldershot constituency

James Arbuthnot MP

North East Hampshire constituency

**Hart division:**

Councillor Jenny Radley

Church Crookham and Ewshot

Sharyn Wheale

Fleet

David Simpson

Hartley Wintney, Eversley and Yateley West

Jonathan Glen

Odiham

Adrian Collett

Yateley East, Blackwater and Ancells

**Rushmoor division:**

Councillor Eric Neal

Aldershot East

Councillor Roger Kimber

Aldershot West

Councillor Roz Muschamp

Farnborough North

Councillor John Wall

Farnborough South

Councillor Carol Leversha

Farnborough West

Kate Hart

Area Director (Children & Families) North

David Hardcastle

Area Director (Education & Inclusion)

Dr Phil Stringer

County Services Manager, Educational  
Psychology, Behaviour Support and School  
Counselling

Steve Crocker

Deputy Director Child Services (Children &  
Families)

Vanessa Courtney

Head of County Services

Trade Union representatives at Wavell  
School

## Summary of responses

Parental responses	4
Responses from other LAs, MPs, Councillors, Health Authorities, Schools, Headteachers and Chair of Governors and other consultees	6
Total no:	10