

Bath & North East Somerset Council

DECISION MAKER:	Cllr Chris Watt, Cabinet Member for Children's Service		
DECISION DATE:	On or after 15 th January 2011	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:	
		E	2225
TITLE:	Publication of Statutory Notice to enlarge Bathampton Primary School.		
WARD:	All but specifically Bathavon North, Bathwick, Lambridge, Walcot.		
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM			
List of attachments to this report: Bathampton consultation document			

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 A consultation document has been circulated by the Local Authority to seek the views of interested parties on the proposal to permanently expand Bathampton Primary School. The consultation has now been completed and the Cabinet Member is being asked to decide if the Statutory Notice can be published.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet member is asked to agree that:

2.1 The necessary statutory notice for the expansion of Bathampton Primary School can be published.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The capital required for the necessary building work can be met from existing Basic Need Funding for provision of additional pupil places provided by Government funding.

4 CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- Improving school buildings
- Sustainable growth

5 THE REPORT

- 5.1 The school was enlarged on a temporary basis by the addition of a temporary building to the school site in 2008 and the Planned Admission Number (PAN) of the school was increased from 15 for admissions in 2008 to 20 for admissions in 2009 to 22 for admissions in 2010.
- 5.2 The additional accommodation and the higher PAN has increased the Net Capacity – the size of the school - from a 105 place school with four classes to a 149 place school with five classes.
- 5.3 As pupil numbers in the city of Bath have risen in recent years, the additional places created temporarily are now needed permanently. It is therefore proposed to make this temporary enlargement permanent which will result in a school that has a Net Capacity of 149, a PAN of 22 and five classes. A permanent building will replace the temporary building.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 The report author and Cabinet member have fully reviewed the risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

7 EQUALITIES

- 7.1 A proportionate equalities impact assessment has been carried out using corporate guidelines.

8 RATIONALE

- 8.1 Nine responses were received during the consultation period - seven of these were in support of the proposal, one made some general observations and one was not in support of the proposal.
- 8.2 The school was enlarged on a temporary basis in 2008 by the addition of a temporary building to the school site. A condition of the planning permission granted at that time was that the temporary building would either need to be removed or replaced with a permanent structure after three years. Births and pupil numbers in the city of Bath have risen in recent years and pupil forecasts indicate that the additional places created temporarily will continue to be needed in the future and therefore cannot be removed and must be made permanent.

8.3 Before the enlargement can be made permanent, a Statutory Notice must be published as the enlargement of the premises of the school would increase the capacity of the school by both more than 30 pupils and by 25%.

8.4 The proposal has the support of the Governing Body who wish to be able to continue to provide this number of places to serve the local community.

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 The option to remove the temporary building and for it not to be replaced with permanent so that the school reverts to its original size prior to the temporary enlargement, was rejected as the additional places created are projected to be required to accommodate pupils in the future.

10 CONSULTATION

10.1 Ward Councillor; Parish Council; Trades Unions; Staff; Other B&NES Services; Service Users; Stakeholders/Partners; Other Public Sector Bodies; Section 151 Finance Officer; Chief Executive; Monitoring Officer

10.2 Paper copies of the consultation document were delivered to the school who were asked to give a copy to every member of staff both teaching and non-teaching, to the governing body and to every pupil to take home with them for their parents/carers. The school were also asked to consult with pupils via the School Council. The consultation document was also emailed to the two neighbouring Local Authorities, local Ward Councillors, union representatives, Bathampton Parish Council, the two MPs for Bath and Bath and North East Somerset, the local Church of England Diocese, the governing bodies, teachers and staff at other local primary schools, the Chief Executive and other B&NES officers.

10.3 Notification of the consultation was also placed on the Council’s electronic consultation system E consult.

11 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

11.1 Social Inclusion; Sustainability; Property; Young People; Human Rights; Impact on Staff; Other Legal Considerations.

12 ADVICE SOUGHT

12.1 The Council's Monitoring Officer (Divisional Director – Legal and Democratic Services) and Section 151 Officer (Divisional Director - Finance) have had the opportunity to input to this report and have cleared it for publication.

Contact person	Helen Hoynes 01225 395169
Background papers	None
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	